



**PLACER COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE
DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION
ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT**

2014

Welfare & Institutions Code Section 229.5

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a juvenile justice commission may inquire into the operation of any group home that serves wards or dependent children of the juvenile court and is located in the county or region the commission serves. The commission may review the safety and well-being of wards or dependent children placed in the group home and the program and services provided in relation to the home's published program statement.
- (b) In conducting its review, the commission shall respect the confidentiality of minors' records and other information protected under other provisions of law. It may review court or case records of a child provided it keeps the identities of minors named in those records confidential, and may review the financial records of a group home. However, the commission may not review the personnel records of employees or the records of donors to the group home.
- (c) The commission shall give the group home manager at least 24 hours' advance notice of a visit to a group home. If the commission believes that there is a serious violation of applicable licensing laws or regulations or that residents of a group home are in danger of physical or mental abuse, abandonment or other substantial threat to their health and safety, the commission shall notify the Community Care Licensing Division of the State Department of Social Services for appropriate action, shall consult with the presiding judge of the juvenile court and chief probation officer as to whether or not a visit is appropriate, and shall notify other juvenile justice commissions of its actions, as appropriate.
- (d) Upon the completion of a visit, if the commission finds any condition in the group home that poses a danger to its residents or otherwise violates any applicable law, ordinance, or regulation, the commission shall verbally advise the group home manager of its findings, unless it determines that the advisement could be detrimental to the children placed there, and shall send written confirmation of its findings to the group home manager within 14 days. The commission may also report its findings to the presiding judge of the juvenile court, chief probation officer, State Department of Social Services, or other juvenile justice commissions as appropriate. A group home manager may meet with the juvenile justice commission, chief probation officer, county welfare director, juvenile court, or the State Department of Social Services to resolve any problem or to submit a plan of correction.

Facility: Koinonia Group Home #4

Address: House location: Loomis, CA

Koinonia Administrative Offices:

P.O. Box 1403

5980 Webb Street

Loomis, CA 95650

Phone Number: (916) 652-0171

Department Chief: Bill Ryland

Staff Interviewed: Justin LaCass

Date of Inspection: May 14, 2014

Juvenile Justice Commission Inspection Team:

Diane Shinstock, Lead
Sam Stodolski

Supervising Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Colleen Nichols

Staffing Ratio: Awake 6/2
 Asleep 6/1

Number of suicides: 0

Number of assaults: 0

Number of runaways: 8-9 (from home and school; most terminated program by Probation)

GENERAL

Does the facility house juveniles under 601 of the W&I Code?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the facility house juveniles under 602 of the W&I Code?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are 601's and 602's separated?	N/A	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are males kept separate from females? (separate houses)	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

INTERIOR

Are sleeping rooms adequate and clean?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the interior of the house clean?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Were walls, paint, drains, plumbing, vents, windows, etc... in good working condition?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are recreational equipment and sporting equipment in good order?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are the hallways kept clear and uncluttered?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are personal possessions allowed in sleeping rooms?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is there any graffiti present?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is a study area available for residence?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is there adequate lighting in the facility?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the facility maintain an adequate temperature during seasons?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

EXTERIOR

Are outdoor common areas well maintained?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are any outdoor areas in disrepair?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

MEALS/NUTRITION

Is the kitchen clean?	YES [X]	NO []
Is staff present and supervising during meals?	YES [X]	NO []
Is a weekly menu prepared and posted?	YES [X]	NO []
Are the meals served cafeteria style? (Family Style)	YES []	NO [X]

PROGRAMS

Are minors allowed ample time for recreation of any kind?	YES [X]	NO []
Do all minors exercise daily?	YES [X]	NO []
Do minors have access to religious services?	YES [X]	NO []
Are Medical/Mental Health Services available to minors?	YES [X]	NO []
Is there counseling available to the minors?	YES [X]	NO []
Is there a family reunification plan in place for minors?	YES [X]	NO []
Is there substance Abuse counseling available for minors?	YES [X]	NO []
Are there parenting classes available?	YES [X]	NO []
Are there any vocational classes available?	YES [X]	NO []

GRIEVANCE POLICY

Are all minors oriented to the rules and procedures?	YES [X]	NO []
Are rules and grievance procedures posted and visible to minors?	YES [X]	NO []
Is there a consistent and fair discipline plan in place?	YES [X]	NO []

COMMUNICATION

Do minors have access to phones?	YES [X]	NO []
Are minors given free postage for their correspondence?	YES [X]	NO []
Is incoming and outgoing mail read by staff? (Scanned for drugs)	YES []	NO [X]
Are accommodations made for visitation?	YES [X]	NO []
Does staff supervise visits?	YES [X]	NO []

Commissioners Observations:

Are the minors in a good state of appearance?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do they appear to shower regularly and in proper hygiene?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is clothing appropriate and in good condition?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Did the minors interviewed feel they had an opportunity to express their concerns or issues with the staff?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Was a minor interviewed prior to or before the inspection?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Were any issues raised during the minor interview?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Commissioners Narrative:

The Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission of Placer County finds that Koinonia Group Home #4 is in compliance with California State Licensing Regulations. Home #4 is set in rural Loomis. It is a six bed, boys-only home that provides treatment for teenage boys who are struggling with substance abuse. Although not a requirement, all boys were on formal probation and placed by various county probation departments. Koinonia is the only treatment provider that has dual licensing in the State of California – Community Care (foster care) and AOD (substance abuse).

The inspection team found this home in good repair. Administration indicates that interior painting will be completed in the following week. Two boys share each of the three resident bedrooms. The largest bedroom is occupied by the resident leader, one boy who has achieved a higher status through proper behavior. The newest resident to the home will share this larger room with the resident leader in order to allow for a “buddy-system” of assisting the newest resident acclimate to the environment with a good role model. A chore list is posted and the chores of the household are rotated weekly for each resident to include cooking, menu planning, and cleaning. The agency receives numerous donations from local businesses including furniture and food. There was an abundance of food stored in multiple locations throughout the home.

The home also has a husband & wife volunteer mentor team who have been fingerprinted and have passed a background check. The agency offers a teaching culinary kitchen, various workshops, art programs, equine-therapy and has much support from various community agencies.

On this visit, inspectors were able to interview one particular staff member who had once been a resident at the home several years ago. He told us that he felt it was a great program and told us that it really helped him. He is now a student at a local university, does missionary work in Romania and finds great passion in helping the residents of this home.

Inspection Report completed by Commissioner: Diane Shinstock

On this date: May 30, 2014

Diane Shinstock

Signed