



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

2016

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: 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: Marsha Hesch, Facility Supervisor Assistant (FSA)

Date of Inspection: March 23, 2016

Juvenile Justice Commission Inspection Team:

Commissioner Grady Pennington, Lead

Commissioners Olivia Woodel and Brian Urquidez

Supervising Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Colleen Nichols

Staffing Ratio: juveniles/staff 5/2 awake 5/1 asleep

Number of suicides: 0 Number of assaults: 0

Number of runaways: **2 since last inspection of which 1 this calendar year**

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	no 601's during this inspection
Are males kept separate from females?	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? Roof, Septic Tank, back door alarm to be replaced;	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

MEALS/NUTRITION

Is the kitchen clean?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is staff present and supervising during meals?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is a weekly menu prepared and posted?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are the meals served cafeteria style?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

PROGRAMS

Are minors allowed ample time for recreation of any kind?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do all minors exercise daily?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do minors have access to religious services?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

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 []	NO [X]

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?	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 [X]	NO []
Do they appear to shower regularly and in proper hygiene?	YES [X]	NO []
Is clothing appropriate and in good condition?	YES [X]	NO []
Did the minors interviewed feel they had an opportunity to express their concerns or issues with the staff?	YES [X]	NO []
Was a minor interviewed prior to or before the inspection?	YES []	NO [X]
Were any issues raised during the minor interview?	YES []	NO [X]

Commissioners Narrative:

The Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission of Placer County finds that Koinonia Group Home #4 in Loomis California is in compliance with California State Licensing Regulations. There is ample space for clients to feel safe and comfortable including significant acreage around the home. The home is a six bed, boys-only home that provides substance abuse

treatment for teenage boys. Two boys share each of the three resident bedrooms that were clean and tidy. There was an abundance of food stored in multiple locations throughout the home. As mentioned in the check list above, the planned maintenance for House #4 this year which includes a new roof, septic tank and the replacement of the back door alarm. As noted above, there were 2 runaways since last inspection of which one is this calendar year.

There is a phase system that gives the residents opportunities to earn greater privileges and responsibilities through 1) Acceptance 2) Self-Control and 3) Giving back to others. Though the tiered grievance procedure is part of the orientation phase in House #4, the resident interviewed was familiar with the phase system but unfamiliar with the grievance process. It is recommended to periodically review the grievance procedure with House #4 residence. The youth interviewed is well groomed, and in clean clothing and expressed no concerns about House #4. In fact, the resident would prefer to extend his stay until he graduates. The youth interviewed expressed positive feelings about programs, activities and experiences at the home.

The Inspection Team interviewed the Facility Supervisor Assistant (FSA), Marsha Hesch. She has worked at Koinonia for twelve years and continues to be enthusiastic and caring for the youths in her charge. She is committed to the program and expressed that she loves working at Koinonia because she sees “constant effort by the staff and organization to strive for excellence”. This group home has met all the regulatory requirements, including the Fire Inspection with the appropriate postings, and items such as chemicals and cleaning agents under lock and key.

The most significant changes for this home #4 and the Koinonia's Loomis District is an on-going accreditation process through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, CARF International at www.carf.org and outlined in the Child and Youth Services Standards Manual available on site. The CARF accreditation is a comprehensive, and evidence based process designed to improve the quality of support services through recognized standards. Though Medi-Cal is a principal funding source, the agency must seek funding elsewhere for specialized programs not funded by Medi-Cal. The Biletnikoff Foundation is a significant supporter of Koinonia's Loomis District. The Department Chief, Bill Ryland, is active in seeking out new funding sources.

In summary, Koinonia House #4 is operated well by a dedicated and veteran staff. There is planned maintenance for House #4 this year which includes a new roof, septic tank and the replacement of the back door alarm. As noted above, there were 2 runaways since last inspection of which one is this calendar year. It is recommended to periodically review the grievance procedure with House #4 residence. There were no other issues found during the house inspection of March 23, 2016.

The Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission of Placer County finds that Koinonia House #4 is in compliance with California State Licensing Regulations.

Inspection Report completed by Commissioner: Grady Pennington

On this date: 3/25/2016

Signed: G. L. Pennington
