County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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(213) 351-5602

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November 29, 2010

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
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From: Patricia S. Ploehn, LCSW
Director

VISTA DEL MAR CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMUNITY TREATMENT FACILITY PROGRAM CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW

In accordance with your Board's April 14, 2009 motion, we are informing your Board of the results of a group home compliance review.

Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services Community Treatment Facility (Vista Del Mar CTF) is located in the 2nd Supervisorial District and provides services to Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) foster youth and Probation youth. According to Vista Del Mar CTF's program statement, the agency's stated goal is "to bring a child's psychological and behavioral conditions to a level where he/she is ready for the next developmental step in a less restrictive environment." Vista Del Mar CTF is licensed to serve a capacity of 24 children, ages 13 through 18.

The Out-of-Home Care Management Division (OHCMD) conducted a review of Vista Del Mar CTF in August 2010 at which time the agency had one 24-bed site and eight placed DCFS children. All eight children were males. For the purpose of this review, seven placed children were interviewed and their case files were reviewed. The other child had been placed with the agency for less than 30 days; therefore his file was not reviewed, and he was not interviewed. For the sampled children, their overall average length of placement was 10 months and the average age was 15. Five staff files were reviewed for compliance with Title 22 regulations and contract requirements.

Six children were on psychotropic medication. We reviewed their case files to assess timeliness of psychotropic medication authorizations and to confirm that medication logs documented correct dosages were being administered as prescribed.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

The purpose of this review was to assess Vista Del Mar CTF's compliance with the contract and State regulations. The visit included a review of Vista Del Mar CTF's program statement, administrative internal policies and procedures, seven children's case files and a random sampling of personnel files. A visit was made to the facility to assess the quality of care and supervision provided to the children, and we conducted interviews with children to assess the care and services they were receiving.

A copy of this report has been sent to the Auditor-Controller (A-C) and Community Care Licensing (CCL).

SUMMARY

Vista Del Mar CTF was providing very good quality care to DCFS placed children, and the services were provided as outlined in the agency's program statement. The children interviewed stated that they wanted to continue residing at the placement and that the staff was genuinely concerned about them.

At the time of the review, the CTF was in full compliance with all nine sections of our Contract Compliance review.

NOTABLE FINDINGS

There were no compliance deficiencies noted during our review.

The detailed report of our findings is attached.

EXIT CONFERENCE

The following are highlights from the exit conference held October 26, 2010.

In attendance:

Amy Jaffe, Senior Vice President, Intensive Intervention Programs, Vista del Mar CTF; and Scott Song, Monitor, DCFS OHCMD.

Highlights:

The Senior Vice President of Intensive Intervention Programs stated that the Vista Del Mar CTF staff work hard to comply with contract regulations and provide the children with quality services.

A written Corrective Action Plan was not required as there were no compliance deficiencies noted during our review.

If you have any further questions, please call me or your staff may contact Armand Montiel, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 351-5530.

PSP:LP:KR:
EAH:BB:ss

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Office
Wendy Watanabe, Auditor-Controller
Donald H. Blevins, Chief Probation Officer
Public Information Office
Audit Committee
Sybil Brand Commission
Elias Lefferman, Ph.D., President/Chief Executive Officer, Vista Del Mar
Carol Katzman, Chair, Board of Directors, Vista Del Mar
Jean Chen, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing
Lenora Copeland Scott, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing

VISTA DEL MAR CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
COMMUNITY TREATMENT FACILITY PROGRAM
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW

SITE LOCATION

3200 Motor Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90034
License Number: 197803679
Rate Classification Level: 14

The following report is based on a "point in time" monitoring visit and addresses findings noted during the August 2010 monitoring review.

CONTRACTUAL COMPLIANCE

Based on our review of seven children's files and five staff files, Vista Del Mar CTF was in full compliance with all nine sections of our Contract Compliance review: Licensure/Contract Requirements; Facility and Environment; Program Services; Education and Emancipation Services; Recreation and Activities; Children's Health-Related Services, Including Psychotropic Medication; Personal Rights; Clothing and Allowance; and Personnel Records.

PRIOR YEAR FOLLOW-UP FROM THE AUDITOR CONTROLLER'S REPORT

The A-C did not conduct audits of the Vista Del Mar CTF.

VISTA DEL MAR CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
COMMUNITY TREATMENT FACILITY
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW - SUMMARY

3200 Motor Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90034
License Number: 197803679
Rate Classification Level: 14

	Contract Compliance Monitoring Review	**Findings: August 2010**
I	**Licensure/Contract Requirements** (9 Elements) 1. Timely Notification for Child's Relocation 2. Stabilization to Prevent Removal of Child 3. Transportation 4. SIRs 5. Compliance with Licensed Capacity 6. Disaster Drills Conducted 7. Disaster Drill Logs Maintenance 8. Runaway Procedures 9. Allowance Logs	Full Compliance (ALL)
II	**Facility and Environment** (6 Elements) 1. Exterior Well Maintained 2. Common Areas Maintained 3. Children's Bedrooms/Interior Maintained 4. Sufficient Recreational Equipment 5. Sufficient Educational Resources 6. Adequate Perishable and Non Perishable Food	Full Compliance (ALL)
III	**Program Services** (8 Elements) 1. Child Population Consistent with Program Statement 2. DCFS CSW Authorization to Implement NSPs 3. Children's Participation in the Development of NSPs 4. NSPs Implemented and Discussed with Staff 5. Therapeutic Services Received 6. Recommended Assessments/Evaluations Implemented 7. DCFS CSWs Monthly Contacts Documented 8. Comprehensive NSPs	Full Compliance (ALL)

IV	**Educational and Emancipation Services** (4 Elements) 1. Emancipation/Vocational Programs Provided 2. ILP Emancipation Planning 3. Current IEPs Maintained 4. Current Report Cards Maintained	Full Compliance (ALL)
V	**Recreation and Activities** (3 Elements) 1. Participation in Recreational Activity Planning 2. Participation in Recreational Activities 3. Participation in Extra-Curricular, Enrichment and Social Activities	Full Compliance (ALL)
VI	**Children's Health-Related Services (including Psychotropic Medications)** (9 Elements) 1. Current Court Authorization for Administration of Psychotropic Medication 2. Current Psychiatric Evaluation Review 3. Medication Logs 4. Initial Medical Exams Conducted 5. Initial Medical Exams Timely 6. Follow-up Medical Exams Timely 7. Initial Dental Exams 8. Initial Dental Exams Timely 9. Follow-Up Dental Exams Timely	Full Compliance (ALL)
VII	**Personal Rights** (11 Elements) 1. Children Informed of Home's Policies and Procedures 2. Children Feel Safe 3. Satisfaction with Meals and Snacks 4. Staff Treatment of Children with Respect and Dignity 5. Appropriate Rewards and Discipline System 6. Children Free to Receive or Reject Voluntary Medical, Dental and Psychiatric Care 7. Children Allowed Private Visits, Calls and Correspondence 8. Children Free to Attend Religious Services/Activities 9. Reasonable Chores 10. Children Informed about Psychotropic Medication 11. Children Aware of Right to Refuse Psychotropic Medication	Full Compliance (ALL)

VIII	**Children's Clothing and Allowance** (8 Elements) 1. $50 Clothing Allowance 2. Adequate Quantity of Clothing Inventory 3. Adequate Quality of Clothing Inventory 4. Involvement in Selection of Clothing 5. Provision of Personal Care Items 6. Minimum Monetary Allowances 7. Management of Allowance 8. Encouragement and Assistance with Life Book	Full Compliance (ALL)
IX	**Personnel Records (including Staff Qualifications, Staffing Ratios, Criminal Clearances and Training)** (12 Elements) 1. Education/Experience Requirement 2. Criminal Fingerprint Cards Timely Submitted 3. CACIs Timely Submitted 4. Signed Criminal Background Statement Timely 5. Employee Health Screening Timely 6. Valid Driver's License 7. Initial Training Documentation 8. Signed Copies of GH Policies and Procedures 9. CPR Training Documentation 10. First Aid Training Documentation 11. On-going Training Documentation 12. Emergency Intervention Training Documentation	Full Compliance (ALL)