County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

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Chief Deputy Director

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January 6, 2015

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

WEST COVINA FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY d.b.a. HOMES OF HOPE, INCORPORATED, CASA ESPERANZA TREATMENT CENTER GROUP HOME CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Contracts Administration Division (CAD) conducted a review of West Covina Foster Family Agency d.b.a. Homes of Hope, Incorporated, Casa Esperanza Treatment Center Group Home (the Group Home) in April 2014. The Group Home has one site located in the First Supervisorial District and provides services to County of Los Angeles DCFS foster youth and Probation Department (Probation) youth. According to the Group Home's program statement, its stated purpose is "to provide quality residential foster care to minors who are unable to live with their families and instill hope, trust, joy and meaning in the lives of minors in their care."

The Group Home has one 6-bed site and is licensed to serve a capacity of six females ages 13 through 17. At the time of review, the Group Home served six placed DCFS youth. The placed children's overall average length of placement was 12 months, and their average age was 17.

SUMMARY

During CAD's review, the interviewed children generally reported: feeling safe; having been provided with good care and appropriate services; being comfortable in their environment and treated with respect and dignity.

The Group Home was in full compliance with all 10 areas of our Contract Compliance Review: Licensure/Contract Requirements; Facility and Environment; Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery; Educational and Workforce Readiness; Health and Medical Needs; Psychotropic Medication; Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being; Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being; Discharged Children; and Personnel Records.

Attached are the details of our review.

REVIEW OF REPORT

On June 17, 2014, DCFS CAD Contracts Compliance Administrator Patricia Kirkpatrick, held an Exit Conference with Sukhwinder Singh, Executive Director and Pritpal Sidhu, Program Administrator. The Group Home representatives agreed with the review findings and were receptive to ensuring continued compliance with regulatory standards.

A copy of this compliance report has been sent to the Auditor-Controller and Community Care Licensing Division.

Out-of-Home Care Management Division will provide ongoing technical assistance.

If you have any questions, your staff may contact me or Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:EM:LTI
DLF:AB:pk

Attachments

c: Sachi A. Hamai, Interim Chief Executive Officer
John Naimo, Auditor-Controller
Jerry E. Powers, Chief Probation Officer
Public Information Office
Audit Committee
Sybil Brand Commission
Sukhwinder Singh, Executive Director, Homes of Hope, Incorporated
Leonora Scott, Acting Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing Division
Lajuannah Hills, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing Division

WEST COVINA FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY dba HOMES OF HOPE
CASA ESPERANZA TREATMENT CENTER GROUP HOME
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW SUMMARY

1568 McCleod
Pomona, CA 91768
License Number: 197804217
Rate Classification Level: 11

	Contract Compliance Monitoring Review	**Findings: April 2014**
I	**Licensure/Contract Requirements** (9 Elements) 1. Timely Notification for Child's Relocation 2. Transportation Needs Met 3. Vehicle Maintained In Good Repair 4. Timely, Cross-Reported SIRs 5. Disaster Drills Conducted & Logs Maintained 6. Runaway Procedures 7. Comprehensive Monetary and Clothing Allowance Logs Maintained 8. Detailed Sign In/Out Logs for Placed Children 9. CCL Complaints on Safety/Plant Deficiencies	Full Compliance (All)
II	**Facility and Environment** (5 Elements) 1. Exterior Well Maintained 2. Common Areas Maintained 3. Children's Bedrooms Well Maintained 4. Sufficient Recreational Equipment/Educational Resources 5. Adequate Perishable and Non-Perishable Foods	Full Compliance (All)
III	**Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery** (10 Elements) 1. Child Population Consistent with Capacity and Program Statement 2. County Children's Social Worker's Authorization to Implement NSPs 3. NSPs Implemented and Discussed with Staff 4. Children Progressing Toward Meeting NSP Case Goals 5. Therapeutic Services Received 6. Recommended Assessment/Evaluations Implemented 7. County Children's Social Workers Monthly Contacts Documented 8. Children Assisted in Maintaining Important Relationships 9. Development of Timely, Comprehensive Initial	Full Compliance (All)

	NSPs with Child's Participation 10. Development of Timely, Comprehensive, Updated NSPs with Child's Participation	
IV	**Educational and Workforce Readiness** (5 Elements) 1. Children Enrolled in School Within 3 School Days 2. GH Ensured Children Attended School and Facilitated in Meeting Their Educational Goals 3. Current Report Cards Maintained 4. Children's Academic or Attendance Increased 5. GH Encouraged Children's Participation in YDS/ Vocational Programs	Full Compliance (All)
V	**Health and Medical Needs** (4 Elements) 1. Initial Medical Exams Conducted Timely 2. Follow-Up Medical Exams Conducted Timely 3. Initial Dental Exams Conducted Timely 4. Follow-Up Dental Exams Conducted Timely	Full Compliance (All)
VI	**Psychotropic Medication** (2 Elements) 1. Current Court Authorization for Administration of Psychotropic Medication 2. Current Psychiatric Evaluation Review	Full Compliance (All)
VII	**Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being** (13 Elements) 1. Children Informed of Group Home's Policies and Procedures 2. Children Feel Safe 3. Appropriate Staffing and Supervision 4. GH's Efforts to provide Meals and Snacks 5. Staff Treat Children with Respect and Dignity 6. Appropriate Rewards and Discipline System 7. Children Allowed Private Visits, Calls and Correspondence 8. Children Free to Attend or Not Attend Religious Services/Activities 9. Reasonable Chores 10. Children Informed About Their Medication and Right to Refuse Medication 11. Children Free to Receive or Reject Voluntary Medical, Dental and Psychiatric Care 12. Children Given Opportunities to Plan Activities in Extra-Curricular, Enrichment and Social Activities (GH, School, Community) 13. Children Given Opportunities to Participate in	Full Compliance (All)

	Extra-Curricular, Enrichment and Social Activities (GH, School, Community)	
VIII	**Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being** (7 Elements) 1. $50 Clothing Allowance 2. Adequate Quantity and Quality of Clothing Inventory 3. Children's Involved in Selection of Their Clothing 4. Provision of Clean Towels and Adequate Ethnic Personal Care Items 5. Minimum Monetary Allowances 6. Management of Allowance/Earnings 7. Encouragement and Assistance with Life Book/Photo Album	Full Compliance (All)
IX	**Discharged Children** (3 Elements) 1. Children Discharged According to Permanency Plan 2. Children Made Progress Toward NSP Goals 3. Attempts to Stabilize Children's Placement	Full Compliance (All)
X	**Personnel Records** (7 Elements) 1. DOJ, FBI, and CACIs Submitted Timely 2. Signed Criminal Background Statement Timely 3. Education/Experience Requirement 4. Employee Health Screening/TB Clearances Timely 5. Valid Driver's License 6. Signed Copies of Group Home Policies and Procedures 7. All Required Training	Full Compliance (All)

WEST COVINA FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY d.b.a. HOMES OF HOPE, INCORPORATED, CASA ESPERANZA TREATMENT CENTER GROUP HOME
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW
FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014

SCOPE OF REVIEW

The following report is based on a "point in time" monitoring visit. This compliance report addressed findings noted during the April 2014 review. The purpose of this review was to assess West Covina Foster Family Agency d.b.a. Homes of Hope's (the Group Home) compliance with its County contract and State regulations and included a review of the Group Home program statement, as well as internal administrative policies and procedures. The monitoring review covered the following 10 areas:

- Licensure/Contract Requirements;
- Facility and Environment;
- Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery;
- Educational and Workforce Readiness;
- Health and Medical Needs;
- Psychotropic Medication;
- Personal Rights and Social Emotional Well-Being;
- Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being:
- Discharged Children; and
- Personnel Records.

For the purpose of this review, four placed children were selected for the sample. The Contracts Administration Division (CAD) interviewed each child and reviewed their case files to assess the care and services they received. Additionally, three discharged children's files were reviewed to assess the Group Home's compliance with permanency efforts. At the time of the review, two sampled children were prescribed psychotropic medication. Their case files were reviewed to assess for timeliness of Psychotropic Medication Authorizations and to confirm the required documentation of psychiatric monitoring.

CAD reviewed all Group Home staff files for compliance with Title 22 Regulations and County contract requirements and a site visit was conducted to assess the provision of quality of care and supervision.

CONTRACTUAL COMPLIANCE

CAD found no areas out of compliance.

PRIOR YEAR FOLLOW-UP FROM DCFS OUT-OF-HOME CARE MANAGEMENT DIVISION'S (OHCMD) GROUP HOME CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW

The OHCMD's last compliance report, dated August 7, 2013, identified six recommendations.

Results

Based on CAD's follow-up, the Group Home fully implemented 6 of 6 recommendations for which they were to ensure that:

- The Group Home meets the children's transportation needs.
- All SIRs are submitted timely to all required parties.
- Children are progressing toward meeting their NSP goals.
- The Group Home staff receives NSP training.
- Necessary services are provided to assist children in improving academic performance and attendance.
- Children are allowed privacy during private telephone calls/conversations, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

MOST RECENT FISCAL REVIEW CONDUCTED BY THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

A current fiscal review of the Group Home has not been posted by the Auditor-Controller.