



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 525
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2766
PHONE: (213) 974-8301 FAX: (213) 626-5427

J. TYLER McCAULEY
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

January 29, 2004

TO: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley 
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – MCKINLEY
CHILDREN’S CENTER, NASHPORT AND MAIN CAMPUS FACILITIES**

We have completed a review of the two agencies operated by McKinley Children’s Center, Nashport and the Main Campus. Each home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Nashport is a six-bed facility, located in the Fifth Supervisorial District, which provides care for boys ages 12-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Nashport was providing services for six Los Angeles County DCFS children.

The Main Campus is an eighty-eight-bed facility located in the Fifth Supervisorial District, which provides care for boys ages 6-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, the Main Campus was providing services for sixty-nine Los Angeles County DCFS children, one Los Angeles County Probation child, four Riverside County children, and one San Bernardino County child.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review was to verify that the two agencies were providing the services outlined in their Program Statements. Additionally, the review covered basic child safety and licensing issues and included an evaluation of each home’s Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection, and interviews with two children placed in one facility and seven children placed in the other facility at the time of the review. Interviews with the residents were designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the agencies, and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

“To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service”

Summary of Findings

Generally, both homes are providing the services outlined in their Program Statement. However, we did note areas where improvements are needed.

Nashport

Nashport needs to clean the resident bathroom and the furniture in its TV room; include each resident and their placement worker in the development and modification of the Needs and Services Plan; and maintain current Quarterly Reports.

Main Campus

The Main Campus needs to make substantial repairs to its facility; include each resident's placement worker in the development and modification of the Needs and Services Plan; maintain current Quarterly Reports; and take age-appropriate residents shopping in the community on a regular basis as part of Daily Living Skills training.

Attached are detailed reports of the findings for each home.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. The Agency's management has agreed to provide DCFS with a written corrective action plan within fifteen business days from the receipt of this report. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Carla Carr at (213) 974-4225.

JTM:PM:CC

Attachment

- c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
- Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
- Public Information Office
- Audit Committee
- David Sanders, Ph.D., Director, DCFS
- Richard Shumsky, Chief Probation Officer
- Steve Young, Executive Director, McKinley Children's Center

**MCKINLEY CHILDREN'S CENTER
Nashport Group Home
1005 Nashport Street
La Verne, CA 91750
909-599-1227
License No.: 191501255
Rate Classification Level: 12**

I. FACILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

(Facility Based - No Sample)

Method of assessment – Observation

Sample size for resident interviews: Two

Comments:

Nashport is one of two facilities operated by McKinley Children's Center. The single story home, located in a residential neighborhood, blended in with other homes in the area.

The interior of the home was generally neat and clean, and the bedrooms were personalized by the residents. However two areas needed improvement.

In the resident bathroom, the shower area needed cleaning. In the TV room, the furniture required cleaning.

Nashport had age-appropriate play equipment in the home including board games, weights, video tapes, books, a TV, VCR, bicycles and swimming pool.

There was a sufficient supply of food properly stored.

Recommendations

- 1. Nashport management clean the shower area in the resident bathroom and the furniture in the TV room.**

II. PROGRAM SERVICES

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Two

Comments:

The residents met the population criteria as outlined in Nashport's program statement and had initial diagnostic assessments.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) were realistic, measurable, and time specific. However, one resident did not participate in the development and modification of his NSP and there was no indication that either resident's placement worker participated. This was discussed with management who stated that the protocol was to fax the NSPs to the placement workers for review. However, there was no documentation that the NSPs had been sent to the placement workers.

One resident had a current Quarterly Report that was comprehensive and focused on the goals of the NSP. The other resident did not have a current Quarterly Report. This was discussed with management who stated that their social worker had left the position before completing the resident's Quarterly Report.

Both residents were receiving individual and group therapy.

Recommendations

2. Nashport management:

- a. Include each resident and their placement worker in the development and modification of the Needs and Services Plan and document the participation.**
- b. Maintain current Quarterly Reports for each resident.**

III. EDUCATIONAL AND EMANCIPATION SERVICES

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Two

Comments:

The residents attended public school and their records contained report cards and/or progress reports. Each resident required and had an Individualized Education Plan. The residents reported that they were assisted with their school work and that staff was supportive of their academic progress.

Emancipation services were provided to the residents. One resident was employed during the summer and able to manage his money. Both residents were able to spend their allowances as they wanted.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. RECREATION AND ACTIVITIES

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Two

Comments:

Nashport followed a monthly activity schedule developed by staff and residents. Residents were encouraged to participate in activities that they desired and had the opportunity to watch television, play games, and read at free times during the day.

Transportation was provided to and from activities.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

There were six residents placed in Nashport at the time of the review. A review of one case file was conducted for the resident prescribed psychotropic medication.

Comments:

There was a current court authorization on file for the resident receiving psychotropic medication.

Documentation confirmed that the child was routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist for a review of medication.

Medication logs were properly maintained.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. PERSONAL RIGHTS

Method of assessment – Resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Two

Comments:

The residents were presented with the policies, rules and regulations when placed and felt that the rules were fair. Both residents reported satisfaction with the home and staff. They stated that they felt safe in the home, staff was respectful, and that a sufficient number of staff was always in the home when residents were present. The residents rated the physical facility as "good," and reported satisfaction with the food.

Resident chores included the maintenance of their rooms and common areas which the residents did not feel were too demanding.

Both residents were able to have telephone contact with their placement workers and families and reported that there was privacy during visits and telephone calls. Both indicated that they had religious freedom and that their health care needs were met.

Both residents were aware of the right to refuse medication.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. CLOTHING AND ALLOWANCE

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Two

Comments:

Nashport provided appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and allowances to the residents. Nashport supplied its residents with the required monthly clothing allowance in the amount of fifty dollars, and the residents were given the opportunity to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to the residents was of good quality and sufficient quantity.

The residents received at least the required minimum weekly allowance that they were able to increase based on the agency's behavioral system.

Nashport provided residents with adequate personal care items and sufficient, secure space to store their personal items.

Both residents had life books.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

MCKINLEY CHILDREN'S CENTER
Main Campus
762 East Cypress Street
San Dimas, CA 91773
909-599-1227
License No.: 191502075
Rate Classification Level: 12

I. FACILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

(Facility Based - No Sample)

Method of assessment – Observation

Sample size for resident interviews: Seven

Comments:

McKinley's Main Campus is one of two facilities operated by McKinley Children's Center. The campus consisted of a school, library, dining hall, residential cottages, recreation hall, and administrative offices. The exterior of the facility was nicely maintained and blended in with the other homes in the neighborhood.

The facility had eight residential cottages: Whittier, Kiwanis, Campbell, Gregory, Fox, Kingsley, Wood and Bashor. Each cottage had a multipurpose room, bathroom, living room, kitchenette, and residential bedrooms. The cottages were nicely decorated and the bedrooms were personalized by the residents. However, there were areas needing improvement.

Whittier

In the multipurpose room, the loveseat had a hole in the armrest. In bedrooms number one and two, the beds did not have a full complement of linens. In bedroom number five, a dresser drawer was rusted, and in bedroom number six, there was a hole in the blanket on one of the beds. In the bathroom, the tile/grout was dirty, the ceiling over the shower needed cleaning, and there were cracks in the tile baseboards behind the toilets. In addition, food in the kitchenette was not properly stored.

Kiwanis

Bedrooms number one, five, and six did not have a full complement of linens. In bedroom number five, there was writing on the inside of one closet, and the tile/grout in the bathroom was dirty.

Campbell

The sofa and chair in the multipurpose room were dirty. In bedrooms number one, four, and five, the carpeting was stained. In bedroom number five, one bed did not have a full complement of linens, and in bedroom number six, one bed was missing a mattress pad. The tile/grout in the bathroom was dirty.

Gregory

In the multipurpose room, the furniture needed cleaning, there was a stain on the area rug, and the entertainment center was unsteady. In the living room, the sofa and the loveseat needed cleaning and there was a tear in the arm of the loveseat. The floor in the kitchenette and dining room areas was dirty, and the sink in the kitchenette needed cleaning. In the bathroom, there was ink on the wall, chipped paint on a wall, and the tile/grout was dirty.

In bedroom number one, the carpet was dirty, a screen was hanging off of the window, and the beds did not have a full complement of linens. In bedroom number two, the vinyl baseboards were torn, and there were stains on the carpet. In bedroom number three, the carpet was stained, and there was writing on the inside of the closet. In bedroom number four, the carpet was stained and a window screen was bent. In bedroom number five one of the mattresses was torn. In bedroom number six, the carpet was stained, the vinyl baseboards were torn, and there was exposed insulation on the ceiling.

Fox

In the bathroom, floor tile was chipped, the tile and grout were dirty, the walls needed cleaning, and paint was peeling on the ceiling over the showers. In bedroom number three, the carpet was dirty and one pillow did not have a pillow case. In bedroom number four, the carpet was stained and one bed did not have a full complement of linen. In bedroom number five, there were stains on the carpet. In bedroom six, the dresser drawer was broken, and one bed did not have a full complement of linen.

Kingsley

In the multipurpose room, there was a hole in the arm of the chair and the furniture needed cleaning. In the living room, the area rug was dirty, and the carpet was stained. In the bathroom, the tile/grout was dirty, and there were stains on the hallway carpet.

There was an ink stain on a comforter in bedroom number four, and in bedroom number five, there were stains on the carpet.

Wood

In the multipurpose room, there was a stain on the ottoman and, in the living room, the loveseat was missing a leg and there were stains on the carpet. The cabinets in the kitchenette were dirty and, in the bathroom, the tile and grout were dirty. In bedroom number one, there were stains on the comforters and, in bedroom two, there were stains on the carpet. In bedroom number six, one bed did not have a mattress pad.

Bashor

In the multipurpose room, there were stains on the carpet and, in the kitchenette, the cabinets needed cleaning. The bathroom tile/grout was dirty and, in bedrooms number one and three, there were stains on the carpet.

McKinley Main Campus had age-appropriate play equipment in each of the cottages including board games, weights, video tapes, books, TVs, and VCR. There was a pool, properly gated and secured, a baseball field, a basketball court and play areas with jungle gyms, swings and slides. In the recreation hall were ping-pong tables, pool tables, foosball, air hockey and a tumbling room. Karate instruction was also offered.

Breakfast was served in the cottages. Lunch and dinner were served in the dining hall. There was a sufficient supply of food accessible and appropriately dated. However, the frozen foods were not properly stored.

Recommendations

1. **McKinley Main Campus management:**
 - a. **Clean/repair/replace the furniture in each cottage as needed.**
 - b. **Provide each resident's bed with a full complement of linens in good condition including mattress pads.**
 - c. **Clean the bathrooms in each cottage.**
 - d. **Repair the ceilings, walls, baseboards, and flooring in the cottages as needed.**
 - e. **Properly store food in the kitchenette in Whittier cottage.**
 - f. **Remove writing from the closets in the cottages as needed.**
 - g. **Clean/replace the carpet in each cottage as needed.**

- h. **Teach residents to properly care for their clothing as part of Daily Living Skills training in the Kiwanis and Fox cottages.**
- i. **Repair the entertainment center in Gregory cottage.**
- j. **Clean the floor in the dining room and kitchenette in Gregory cottage.**
- k. **Repair/ replace window screens in bedrooms number one and four in Gregory cottage.**
- l. **Cover exposed ceiling insulation in bedroom number six in Gregory cottage.**
- m. **Clean the kitchenettes in each cottage as needed.**

II. PROGRAM SERVICES

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Seven

Comments:

The residents met McKinley Main Campus' population criteria as outlined in their program statement and had initial diagnostic assessments.

The Needs and Services Plan (NSPs) were realistic, measurable, and time specific. However, the residents' placement workers did not participate in the development and the modification of the NSPs. This was discussed with management who stated that the protocol was to fax the NSPs to the placement workers for review. However, there was no documentation indicating that the NSPs had been sent to the placement workers.

One resident's Quarterly Report was not current. Management reported that it had not been completed.

The residents were receiving individual and group therapy.

Recommendations

2. McKinley Main Campus management:

- a. **Include each resident's placement worker in the development and modification of the Needs and Services Plan and document the participation.**

- b. **Maintain current Quarterly Reports for each resident.**

III. EDUCATIONAL AND EMANCIPATION SERVICES

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Seven

Comments:

The residents attended the on-ground school and their records contained report cards and/or progress reports. Each resident required and had an Individualized Education Plan. The residents reported that they were assisted with their school work and that the staff was supportive of their academic progress.

The residents were not eligible for emancipation services or vocational training programs and did not work. The residents were able to spend their allowances as they wanted.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. RECREATION AND ACTIVITIES

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Seven

Comments:

McKinley Main Campus followed a monthly and daily activity schedule developed by staff and residents. Two residents reported that they did not participate in the planning of activities. This was discussed with management who stated that during group therapy, the residents talk about what they want to do and are given choices.

Three residents did not know if they could participate in self-selected activities. This was discussed with management who reported that permission for the residents to participate in self-selected activities was given by the placement workers. In addition, if the residents expressed an interest in a particular activity, the facility would do the research for the resident to present to their placement worker. Residents had the opportunity to watch television, play games, and read at free times during the day.

Transportation was provided to and from activities.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

There were seventy-five residents placed in McKinley Main Campus at the time of the review. A review of case files was conducted for the forty-six Los Angeles (LA) County residents prescribed psychotropic medications.

Comments:

There were current court authorizations on file for the LA County residents receiving psychotropic medications.

Documentation confirmed that the children were routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist for a review of their medications.

Medication logs were properly maintained.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. PERSONAL RIGHTS

Method of assessment – Resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Seven

Comments:

The residents were presented with the policies, rules, and regulations when placed and felt that the rules were fair. The residents reported satisfaction with the home and staff.

They stated that they felt safe in the home, staff was respectful, and that a sufficient number of staff was always in the home when residents were present. The residents rated the facility from "fair" to "good," and reported satisfaction with the food.

Resident chores included the maintenance of their rooms and common areas which the residents did not feel were too demanding.

The residents were able to have telephone contact with their social worker and families and reported that there was privacy during visits and telephone calls. The residents

indicated that they had religious freedom and that their health care needs were met.

The residents were aware of their right to refuse medication.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. CLOTHING AND ALLOWANCE

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and resident interviews

Sample size for resident interviews: Seven

Comments:

McKinley Main Campus provided clothing, items of necessity, and allowances to the residents. McKinley Main Campus supplied its residents with the required monthly clothing allowance in the amount of fifty dollars, and the residents were given the opportunity to select their own clothing. The residents reported that they received clothing whenever needed.

The residents received at least the required minimum weekly allowance that they were able to increase based on the agency's behavioral system.

McKinley Main Campus provided residents with personal care items and sufficient, secure storage space.

The residents had life books.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.