County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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July 19, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
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Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

VISTA DEL MAR COMMUNITY TREATMENT FACILITY CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW

The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Out-of-Home Care Management Division (OHCMD) conducted a review of Vista Del Mar Community Treatment Facility (CTF) in November 2011, at which time they had one 24-bed site. At the time of the review, there were 19 placed children, all males: seven DCFS foster children, four Department of Mental Health (DMH) children, and eight Probation Department youth.

Vista Del Mar CTF is located in the Third Supervisorial District and provides services to DCFS, DMH, Probation and privately placed children. According to Vista Del Mar CTF's program statement, its stated purpose is to "serve severe emotionally disturbed, abused and/or neglected, court dependent children, males and females." Vista Del Mar CTF is licensed to serve a capacity of 24 children, ages seven through 18.

For the purpose of this review, four placed children were interviewed and their case files were reviewed. One of the children was under the joint supervision of DCFS and Probation. The placed children's overall average length of placement was 11 months, and the average age was 16. Three discharged children's files were reviewed to determine if the destination of placement was per their permanency plan and if the children were meeting their Needs and Services Plan (NSP) goals at the time of discharge. Three staff files were reviewed for compliance with Title 22 Regulations and County contract requirements.

Three sampled children were prescribed psychotropic medication. We reviewed their case files to assess timeliness of Psychotropic Medication Authorizations (PMAs) and to confirm that documentation of psychiatric monitoring was maintained as required.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

The purpose of this review was to assess Vista Del Mar CTF's compliance with the County contract and State regulations. The visit included a review of Vista Del Mar CTF's program statement, administrative internal policies and procedures, four children's case files, and a random sampling of personnel files. A visit was made to the site to assess the quality of care and supervision provided to 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

Generally, the interviewed children reported feeling safe at Vista Del Mar CTF. They also reported that they were provided with good care and appropriate services, feeling comfortable in their environment and treated with respect and dignity.

Our review of Vista Del Mar CTF identified no concerns. Therefore, no Corrective Action Plan (CAP) was required.

NOTABLE FINDINGS

- There were no notable findings.

EXIT CONFERENCE

The following are highlights from the Exit Conference held January 19, 2012

In attendance:

Amy Jaffe, Senior Vice President of Operations; Marcela Morales, Quality Assurance Manager; Lynn Cohen, Unit Director Vista Del Mar CTF; and Edward Preer, Monitor, DCFS OHCMD.

Highlights:

Amy Jaffe, Senior Vice President of Operations was in agreement with the findings.

As stated during the Exit Conference, Vista Del Mar representatives attended the January 2012 OHCMD NSP training. The Vista Del Mar CTF management continued to ensure full compliance with the County contract elements reviewed.

We will conduct our next review of Vista Del Mar CTF in Fiscal Year 2012-2013, tentatively scheduled for November 2012 to assess for continued compliance with the County contract and State regulations.

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

PLB:RRS:KR:
EAH:PBG:ep

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Wendy Watanabe, Auditor-Controller
Jerry E. Powers, Chief Probation Officer
Public Information Office
Audit Committee
Sybil Brand Commission
Dr. Elias Lefferman, Executive Director, Vista Del Mar CTF
Jean Chen, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing
Lenora Scott, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing

VISTA DEL MAR COMMUNITY TREATMENT FACILITY
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW

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

	Contract Compliance Monitoring Review	**Findings: November 2011**
I	**Licensure/Contract Requirements** (9 Elements) 1. Timely Notification for Child's Relocation 2. Transportation 3. Special Incident Reports 4. Compliance with Licensed Capacity 5. Disaster Drills Conducted & Logs Maintained 6. Runaway Procedures 7. Allowance Logs 8. CCL Citations/OHCMD Investigation Reports on Safety/Plant Deficiencies 9. Detailed Sign In/Out Logs for Placed Children	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	**Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery** (13 Elements) 1. Child Population Consistent with Program Statement 2. DCFS CSW Authorization to Implement Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) 3. Children's Participation in the Development of NSPs 4. NSPs Implemented and Discussed with Staff 5. Children Progressing Toward Meeting NSP Case Goals 6. Development of Timely Initial NSPs 7. Development of Comprehensive Initial NSPs 8. Therapeutic Services Received 9. Recommended Assessment/Evaluations Implemented 10. DCFS CSWs Monthly Contacts Documented 11. Children Assisted in Maintaining Important Relationship 12. Development of Timely Updated NSPs 13. Development of Comprehensive Updated NSPs	Full Compliance (ALL)
IV	**Education and Workforce Readiness** (8 Elements) 1. Children Enrolled in School Timely 2. Children Attending School 3. Children Facilitated in Meeting Educational Goals 4. Children's Academic or Attendance Increase 5. Current IEPs Maintained 6. Current Report Cards Maintained 7. YDS/Vocational Programs Opportunities Provided 8. Group Home Encourage Children's Participation in Youth Development Services	Full Compliance (ALL)
V	**Health And Medical Needs** (6 Elements) 1. Initial Medical Exams Conducted 2. Initial Medical Exams Timely 3. Follow-Up Medical Exams Timely 4. Initial Dental Exams Conducted 5. Initial Dental Exams Timely 6. Follow-Up Dental Exams 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** (15 Elements) 1. Children Informed of Group 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. Fair Consequences 7. Children Allowed Private Visits, Calls and Correspondence 8. Children Free to Attend Religious Services/Activities 9. Reasonable Chores 10. Children Informed About their Medication 11. Children Aware of Right to Refuse Medication 12. Children Free to Receive or Reject Voluntary Medical, Dental and Psychiatric Care 13. Children Given Opportunities to Plan Activities 14. Children Participate in Activities (GH, School, Community) 15. Children Given Opportunities to Participate in Extra-Curricular, Enrichment and Social Activities	Full Compliance (ALL)
VIII	**Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-being** (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 Ethnic Personal Care Items 6. Minimum Monetary Allowances 7. Management of Allowance/Earnings 8. Encouragement and Assistance with Life Book	Full Compliance (ALL)

IX	**Discharged Children** (3 Elements) 1. Children Discharged According to Permanency Plan 2. Children Making Progress Toward NSP Goals 3. Attempts to Stabilize Children's Placement	Full Compliance (ALL)
X	**Personnel Records (including Staff Qualifications, Staffing Ratios, Criminal Clearances and Training)** (14 Elements) 1. DOJ Submitted Timely 2. FBI Submitted Timely 3. Child Abuse Central Index's Timely Submitted 4. Signed Criminal Background Statement Timely 5. Education/Experience Requirement 6. Employee Health Screening Timely 7. Valid Driver's License 8. Signed Copies of GH Policies and Procedures 9. Initial Training Documentation 10. One-Hour Child Abuse and Reporting Training 11. CPR Training Documentation 12. First-Aid Training Documentation 13. On-going Training Documentation 14. Emergency Intervention Training Documentation	Full Compliance (ALL)

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CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW

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License Number: 197803679
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The following report is based on a "point in time" monitoring visit. This compliance report addresses findings noted during the November 2011 monitoring review.

CONTRACTUAL COMPLIANCE

Based on our review, Vista Del Mar CTF was in full compliance with all 10 sections of our contract compliance review: Licensure/Contract Requirements; Facility and Environment; Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery; Education 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.

FOLLOW-UP FROM OHCMD'S PRIOR MONITORING REVIEW

Objective

Determine the status of recommendations reported in OHCMD's last monitoring review.

Verification

We verified whether the outstanding recommendations from our prior review were implemented. The last report was issued August 10, 2010.

Results

The OHCMD's prior monitoring report contained no outstanding recommendations, as Vista Del Mar CTF was in full compliance with the DCFS contract elements reviewed.

MOST RECENT FISCAL REVIEW CONDUCTED BY THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

A fiscal review of Vista Del Mar CTF has not been posted by the A-C.