



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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(562) 940-2501



JERRY E. POWERS
Chief Probation Officer

May 20, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jerry E. Powers *JEP*
Chief Probation Officer

SUBJECT: **LOVING LIFE GROUP HOMES I & II CONTRACT COMPLIANCE
MONITORING REVIEW**

Board of Supervisors
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First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
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Fifth District

We have completed a review of Loving Life Group Homes I & II, operated by You Are The Difference Foundation, Inc. The Group Home contracts with the Los Angeles County Probation Department. Loving Life Group Homes consist of two (2) six-bed facilities located in the cities of Compton and Los Angeles. This agency provides care for boys, ages 12-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring review, May 1, 2012, Loving Life Group Homes I & II were providing services for 12 Los Angeles County Probation children.

For this review, five (5) case files were reviewed, and five (5) child interviews were conducted. Three (3) of discharge files were reviewed, and five (5) personnel files were reviewed. Additionally, two (2) children were taking psychotropic medications, and their files were reviewed for timely Psychotropic Medication Authorizations (PMA) and required monitoring. Loving Life Group Homes I & II are located in the Second District of Los Angeles County.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

The purpose of our review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. In addition, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights. In addition, a review of the most current Auditor Controller Fiscal Review was conducted.

SUMMARY

Based on child interviews and the contents of the Needs and Service Plans, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. However, there are numerous

deficiencies in the "Notable Findings" section that require a corrective action plan. Some of these finding can be found under "Facility and Environment", which require immediate attention, "Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery", related to Needs and Services Plans, "Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being", related to extra-curricular activities, "Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being", related to Life Books and "Personnel Records, related to missing documents in employee files.

NOTABLE FINDINGS

- There were several physical deficiencies at both Group Home sites that require repair or correction as described in the "Facility and Environment" section of the Monitoring Review; such as, in Loving Life Group Home I, driveway has a large crack in need of repair; Bedroom #1 is missing a drawer handle and has a broken outlet cover on the wall; Bedroom #2 is missing a desk drawer handle; graffiti needs to be removed off Marine Corps poster and off of the unsecured headboard; Bedroom #3 has graffiti on dresser and a missing drawer handle; den railing needs securing, remove all graffiti, outlet behind sofa cracked; main bedroom has crack on door and remove all graffiti. In Loving Life Group Home II, the telephone jack in Bedroom #1 needs to be covered, and Bedroom #2 needs touch up paint near graffiti on beds.
- There was on deficiency with the Needs and Services Plan (NSP) for one (1) child file that required correction as described in the "Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery" section of the Monitoring Review; such as, missing Probation caseworker's signature to authorize the NSP.
- There was one deficiency described in the area of "Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being" section of the Monitoring Review, in that several children reported that they are not give opportunities to participate in age-appropriate extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities.
- All children interviewed reported that they did not have Life Books, as described in the "Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being" section of the Monitoring Review.
- Some of the staff's files reviewed were missing important documents as described in detail in the "Personnel Records" section of the Monitoring Review.

EXIT CONFERENCE

In attendance:

Alice Brown, Administrator

Highlights:

The exit conference was conducted on May 30, 2012. The deficiencies were addressed at the time of the exit conference. The representative present was in agreement with the findings of the review. Administrator Brown understood the importance of compliance with the Master Agreement Contract for Group Home Foster Care Services and agreed to make all the necessary corrections in the areas of compliance, and repairs or replacements. A written

Corrective Action Plan was submitted on June 29, 2012, and has been approved. A follow-up visit was conducted on August 29, 2012, to ensure that all deficiencies have been corrected. The results for the follow up visit, which can be found on the final page of the "Compliance Monitoring Review" section, are as follows: all interior deficiencies have been corrected; such as, new cement added to the driveway, loose wires have been secured, outlet covers were replaced, graffiti has been removed from all rooms and recommended rooms were painted, Needs and Services Plans have the Probation Caseworker's signature or documentation, children are all given the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities of their interest, all children now have Life Books and all missing personnel documents have been placed in the respective employee files and have been updated.

If you need any additional information or have questions or concerns, please contact Director Lisa Campbell-Motton, Placement Permanency and Quality Assurance, at (323) 240-2435.

JEP:REB:LCM:ed

Attachments (3)

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Brence Culp, Chief Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Wendy Watanabe, Auditor-Controller
Philip L. Browning, Director, Department of Children and Family Services
Public Information Office
Audit Committee
Sybil Brand Commission
Alice Brown, Administrator, Loving Life Group Homes
Jean Chen, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing
Lenora Scott, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing
Georgia Mattera, Public Safety, Chief Executive Officer
Chief Deputies
Justice Deputies

**LOVING LIFE GROUP HOMES I & II PROGRAM CONTRACT COMPLIANCE
MONITORING REVIEW- SUMMARY**

	Contract Compliance Monitoring Review	Findings: May 2012
I	<u>Licensure/Contract Requirements</u> (9 Elements) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timely Notification for Child's Relocation 2. Transportation 3. SIRs 4. Compliance with Licensed Capacity 5. Disaster Drills Conducted/Logs Maintained 6. Runaway Procedures 7. Allowance Logs 8. CCL citations for safety/plant deficiencies 9. Detailed sign in/out log for children 	Full Compliance (All)
II	<u>Facility and Environment</u> (6 Elements) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exterior Well Maintained 2. Common Quarters Maintained 3. Children's Bedrooms/Interior Maintained 4. Sufficient Recreational Equipment 5. Sufficient Educational Resources 6. Adequate Perishable and Non Perishable Food 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Needs Improvement 2. Needs Improvement 3. Needs Improvement 4. Full Compliance 5. Full Compliance 6. Full Compliance
III	<u>Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery</u> (13 Elements) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child Population Consistent with Program Statement 2. Probation Caseworker Authorization to Implement NSPs 3. Children's Participation in the Development of NSPs 4. NSPs Implemented and Discussed with Staff/Parents 5. Sampled children progressing towards meeting the NSP case goals 6. Treatment team developed timely initial NSP with the child 7. Treatment team develop comprehensive initial NSP with the child 8. Therapeutic Services Received (individual, group, substance abuse, etc.) 9. Recommendation Assessments/Evaluations Implemented (psychological, psychiatric, medical evaluations/assessments) 10. Probation Caseworkers Monthly Contact Verified 11. Agency assist the child in maintaining important relationships 12. Treatment team develop timely updated NSP with the child 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full Compliance 2. Needs Improvement 3. Full Compliance 4. Full Compliance 5. Full Compliance 6. Full Compliance 7. Full Compliance 8. Full Compliance 9. Full Compliance 10. Full Compliance 11. Full Compliance 12. Full Compliance

	13. Treatment team develop comprehensive updated NSP with the child	13. Full Compliance
IV	<u>Education and Workforce Readiness</u> (8 Elements) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child enrolled in school within three (3) days after placement or efforts documented 2. Child attends school as required 3. Agency facilitates in meeting the child's educational goals (IEP conference, tutoring, parent/teacher conference, homework, etc.) 4. Based on services provided, has the child's academic performance and/or attendance increased (improved grades, test scores, promotion to the next level, High School graduated, IEP goals?) 5. Current IEPs maintained 6. Current copies of the child's report cards or progress cards maintained 7. Group Home provides children with opportunities to participate in age appropriate youth development services (YDS) and vocational training programs 8. Group Home encourages children's participation in YDS or equivalent programs. 	Full Compliance (All)
V	<u>Health and Medical Needs</u> (6 Elements) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initial medical examinations conducted 2. Initial medical examinations timely 3. Required follow-up medical examinations conducted timely 4. Initial dental examinations conducted 5. Initial dental examinations timely 6. Required follow-up dental examinations conducted timely 	Full Compliance (All)
VI	<u>Psychotropic Medications</u> (2 Elements) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current Court Authorization for Administration of Psychotropic Medication or document effort to obtain 2. Current Psychiatric Evaluation/Review for each child on psychotropic medication 	Full Compliance (All)
VII	<u>Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being</u> (17 Elements) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children informed of Group Home's policies and procedures 2. Children feel safe at Group Home 3. Children supervised by staff 4. Group Home provides appropriate staffing and 	1. Full Compliance 2. Full Compliance 3. Full Compliance 4. Full Compliance

	supervision 5. Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks 6. Staff treats children with respect and dignity 7. Appropriate rewards and discipline system in place 8. Consequences fair 9. Children allowed private visits, make and receive telephone calls and to send and receive unopened correspondence/mail 10. Children free to attend religious services and activities of their choice 11. Children's chores easy or hard (reasonable) 12. Children informed about their medication 13. Children aware of their right to refuse medication 14. Children free to received or reject voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care 15. Children given opportunities to participate in planning activities 16. Children participate in activities, including at the Group Home, in the community or school 17. Children given opportunities to participate age-appropriate extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest	5. Full Compliance 6. Full Compliance 7. Full Compliance 8. Full Compliance 9. Full Compliance 10. Full Compliance 11. Full Compliance 12. Full Compliance 13. Full Compliance 14. Full Compliance 15. Full Compliance 16. Full Compliance 17. Needs Improvement
VIII	<u>Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being</u> (8 Elements) 1. \$50.00 Clothing Allowance 2. Adequate Quantity Clothing Inventory 3. Adequate Quality 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	1. Full Compliance 2. Full Compliance 3. Full Compliance 4. Full Compliance 5. Full Compliance 6. Full Compliance 7. Full Compliance 8. Needs Improvement
IX	<u>Discharge Plan</u> (3 Elements) 1. Children placed at least 30 days, was the child discharged according to the permanency plan 2. Children placed at least 30 days, did the child make progress toward meeting their NSP goals 3. Group Home using available resources to attempt to stabilize the placement prior to requesting the removal of the child	Full Compliance (All)
X	<u>Personnel Records</u> (14 Elements) 1. DOJ submitted timely 2. If applicable, FBI submitted timely 3. Child Abuse Clearance Index (CACI) submitted timely 4. Appropriate employees sign a criminal background	1. Full Compliance 2. Needs Improvement 3. Needs Improvement 4. Full Compliance

	<p>statement timely</p> <p>5. Group Home staff who have direct contact with children meet the educational/experience requirements</p> <p>6. Employees received timely health screenings</p> <p>7. Required employees have a valid CA drivers license</p> <p>8. Appropriate Group Home employees signed copies of the Group Home policies and procedures</p> <p>9. Appropriate employees received the required initial training</p> <p>10. Appropriate employees received minimum one-hour training in the area of child abuse identification and reporting</p> <p>11. Appropriate employees received CPR training</p> <p>12. Appropriate employees received First-Aid training</p> <p>13. Appropriate employees received the required annual on-going training</p> <p>14. Appropriate employees received emergency intervention training per the Group Home's program statement</p>	<p>5. Full Compliance</p> <p>6. Full Compliance</p> <p>7. Needs Improvement</p> <p>8. Full Compliance</p> <p>9. Full Compliance</p> <p>10. Full Compliance</p> <p>11. Needs Improvement</p> <p>12. Full Compliance</p> <p>13. Full Compliance</p> <p>14. Needs Improvement</p>
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**LOVING LIFE GROUP HOMES I & II PROGRAM
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING REVIEW**

**Loving Life Group Home I
700 South Burris Avenue
Compton, CA 90021
License Number: 191600185
Rate Classification Level: 10**

**Loving Life Group Home II
9601 S. Hobart
Los Angeles, CA 90047
License Number: 198204496
Rate Classification Level: 10**

LICENSURE/CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Based on our review of five (5) children's files, child interviews conducted and documents provided by the agency, Loving Life Group Homes were in compliance with all nine (9) elements in the area of Licensure/Contract Requirements: The Group Home notifies all required agencies in a timely manner when a child is relocated. The Group Home takes all necessary steps to stabilize a child to prevent removal and provides the children with all their transportation needs to doctor or dental appointments, drug or alcohol treatment, and weekend activities. The Group Home completes, documents, and reports all serious incidents in a timely manner to the Officer of the Day (OD) Line via the I-track (Special Incident Reporting system), to the DPO of Record and all other appropriate parties. The Group Home is in compliance with the licensing capacity, conducts disaster drills once a month and maintains a disaster drill log. The last drill was completed on April 10, 2012. The Group Home follows runaway procedures accordingly. The Group Home maintains an allowance log that shows the children are receiving the appropriate amount on a weekly basis, which is no less than \$7.00. The allowance log also shows all allowances provided and spent. There have been no Community Care Licensing (CCL) citations within the past year for any physical plant/safety issues. The sign-in and sign-out log for children was properly maintained and utilized. The log showed that the youths were being released only to parents or guardians that have been approved.

Recommendations:

None

FACILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

Based on our walk through inspection of Loving Life Group Homes I & II, and interviews conducted with five (5) Probation placed children, Loving Life Group Homes were not in compliance with three (3) of the six (6) elements in the area of "Facility and Environment". The elements of non-compliance are "Exterior Well Maintained", "Common Quarters Maintained" and "Children's Bedrooms/Interior Maintained".

Loving Life Group Homes I & II are located in residential communities. The front exterior of the Loving Life Group Home I is well maintained and properly landscaped, with trimmed bushes, mowed lawns, and clean paint. However, numerous minor deficiencies were found as follows:

Loving Life Group Home I, Back Exterior:

- Repair driveway with new cement
- Backyard grass needs to be cut and landscaped

Loving Life Group Home I, Bedroom #1

- Replace missing drawer handle and has a
- Repair broken outlet cover on the wall

Loving Life Group Home I, Bedroom #2

- Replace missing desk drawer handle
- Remove graffiti off Marine Corps poster
- Remove graffiti off unsecured headboard

Loving Life Group Home I, Bedroom #3

- Remove graffiti on dresser
- Replace missing drawer handle

Loving Life Group Home I, Den

- Railing needs securing,
- Remove all graffiti,
- Replace outlet behind sofa

Loving Life Group Home I, Main bedroom

- Repair crack on door
- Remove all graffiti.

Loving Life Group Home II, Bedroom #1

- Telephone jack needs to be covered

Loving Life Group Home II, Bedroom #2

- Touch up paint near beds
- Remove all graffiti

All mattresses are comfortable and firm. All beds have a full complement of linens, and the sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

All Loving Life Group Homes have age-appropriate and accessible recreation equipment; such as, board games, a television, a computer, a DVD player, and gaming consoles. Some of the board games include, "Scrabble", "Connect 4", "Sequence", "Jenga", "Skip Bo", Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, and Dominoes. Multiple books and resource materials are available, such as World Book Encyclopedias and many novels, fiction and non-fiction.

All Loving Life Group Homes maintain a supply of perishable and non-perishable items; such as, sliced bread, eggs, milk, green peppers, lettuce, tortillas, hamburger patties, hamburger buns, lime punch, fruit punch, sausage, ground beef, and orange concentrate. The Group Homes each have an extra refrigerator or freezer in order to have an abundance of food for the residents. There is fresh fruit readily available in the kitchen for the residents to have any time they please. The fresh fruit present during this visit were, apples, pears, peaches, oranges, and bananas. None of the children expressed concern that they were not being fed and were very satisfied with the food.

Recommendations:

1. Loving Life Group Homes shall ensure that the aforementioned deficiencies cited will be corrected and repaired in a timely fashion in order to ensure the safety and security of all residents placed at the Group Home.
2. For the exterior of Loving Life Group Home I, the driveway needs to be repaired and the backyard needs to be cleaned and landscaped.
3. For the interiors of the Group Home sites, the group home needs to repair all damaged drawers; remove all graffiti from both homes; repair all cracks in the doors; replace or repair cracked or broken outlet covers.

MAINTENANCE OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY

Based on our review of Loving Life Group Homes, interviews conducted with five (5) Probation placed children and documentation provided by the agency, Loving Life Group Homes was in full compliance with 12 of the 13 elements in the area of "Maintenance of Required Documentation and Service Delivery." The element of non-compliance was "Probation Caseworker Authorization to Implement NSPs".

The Group Home's Program Statement is consistent with the population present in the Group Home. Of the five (5) Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) reviewed, only one (1) NSP had a Probation Officer's signature. All children participated in the development of their NSP. The NSP that was implemented was discussed with staff and parents in a timely fashion and was very comprehensive and child specific. All children sampled acknowledged progressing towards meeting their NSP case goals. All children acknowledged receiving therapeutic services; such as, one-to-one counseling with their therapist or during drug counseling, which teaches the effects of drugs on one's daily life. Of the five (5) NSPs reviewed during this monitoring visit, all NSPs were very thorough and in depth. Each NSP was in accordance to that specific child's needs. No two (2) NSPs were alike and the therapists attempted to make each NSP unique to each child's needs. The therapist made realistic goals for the child in the amount of time the child was placed at the Group Home. All children seemed to be progressing towards the goals set in their NSPs.

Recommendations:

1. Loving Life shall attempt to obtain all Probation Caseworker's or Officer's signature for each child's NSPs. If unable to obtain, document on signature page.

EDUCATIONAL AND WORKFORCE READINESS

Based on our review of Loving Life Group Homes, interviews conducted with five (5) Probation placed children and documentation provided by the agency, Loving Life Group Homes was in compliance with all of the eight (8) elements in the area of "Educational and Workforce Readiness".

The children are attending school within three (3) days after placement and are attending school as required. The Group Home facilitates in meeting the children's

educational goals, with tutors provided by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). Loving Life provides a tutoring room, in a detached garage, in order for the children to be free from distractions. The Group Home has shown that the children's attendance and academic performance has increased since being placed at the Group Home due to children stating that they now go to school on a regular basis, which in turn gives them the opportunity to learn and earn credits. One child stated that he enjoys the tutoring room because the tutors are very helpful and helps him work towards the classes that he is not doing well in. The Group Home encourages children's participation in Youth Development Services (YDS), Independent Living Program (ILP) or equivalent programs; however, at the time of this review, there were no children that were age-appropriate that met the criteria. The children reported that they are sometimes taken grocery shopping in order to be taught how to budget money. All progress reports and report cards are maintained in the child's file. At the time of this review, there were no children in need of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Recommendations:

None

HEALTH AND MEDICAL NEEDS

Based on our review of Loving Life Group Homes, interviews conducted with five (5) Probation placed children and documentation provided by the agency, Loving Life Group Homes complied with all six (6) elements in the area of "Health and Medical Needs". The Group Home had all initial medical examinations conducted within 30 days of the child's placement; in addition to any required follow-up examinations. The Group Home had all initial dental examinations completed within 30 days of the child's placement and any subsequent follow-up appointments, if necessary. All children interviewed stated they were satisfied with the medical and dental care they have received while being placed at the Group Home. All children stated that if they have a medical incident, the Group Home will take them to a doctor.

Recommendations:

None

PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION

Based on our review of Loving Life Group Homes, interviews conducted with five (5) Probation placed children and documentation provided by the agency, Loving Life Group Homes complied with both elements in the area of "Psychotropic Medication".

According to the Agency's management, there are several children taking psychotropic medications. At the time of this review, there were two (2) children taking psychotropic medication. There are current court-approved authorizations for the administration of psychotropic medication in both children's files. In addition to this, there were current psychiatric evaluations for the two (2) children taking psychotropic medications. Documentation based on the psychotropic medication review tool confirms that the children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist. This information is appropriately documented. One child interviewed, stated that he feels that the medication is helping him sleep and keep a "calm" head.

Recommendations:

None

PERSONAL RIGHTS AND SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Based on our review of Loving Life Group Homes and interviews conducted with five (5) Probation placed children, Loving Life Group Homes complied with 16 of the 17 elements in the area of "Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being". The one (1) area of non-compliance is, "Children Given Opportunities to Participate in Age-Appropriate Extra-Curricular, Enrichment and Social Activities in which they have an Interest".

The children reported that they are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures upon arrival to the Group Home. Children reported that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children reported satisfaction with meals and snacks; for example, hamburgers, lasagna, enchiladas, chicken, spaghetti, roast beef, and mashed potatoes. Children also reported that they are provided with apples, bananas, strawberries, oranges, granola bars, almonds, and chips, which are always available snacks. There is a weekly menu posted in the kitchen.

Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that overall, the facility staff treat them with respect and dignity. Children reported that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding; such as, vacuuming the living room and den, washing dishes, mopping and dusting the living room. Children reported that the discipline policies are consistently enforced, and there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior. Children reported that they will receive a Special Incident Report (SIR) or receive extra chores and a report to their Probation Officer for inappropriate behavior. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail. Several children reported that they do not attend the religious service of their choice, but also reported that they have never asked to go to a religious service. Some children reported that they do no care about going to a religious service.

Children also stated that they can receive or reject voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care. Children stated that they are all informed about psychotropic medications and their right to refuse them.

Children report that they are given the opportunity to participate in planning activities conducted at the Group Home. Several children report that they are not given the opportunity to participate in age-appropriate extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest. One child requested an opportunity to participate in an Art Class due to his interest in drawing and sketching, while several children reported that they have never asked Group Home staff to do any extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities after school such as taking a music class or art class. The children reported that the weekend activities that they do go on are enjoyable. The children reported going to the movies, the park, UCLA football games, and the museum.

Recommendations:

1. Loving Life Group Homes shall encourage and give the children an opportunity to participate in age-appropriate extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

PERSONAL NEEDS/SURVIVAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Based on our review of Loving Life Group Homes; interviews conducted with five (5) Probation placed children and documentation provided by the agency, Loving Life Group Homes was in compliance with seven (7) of the eight (8) elements in the area of "Personal Rights and Economic Well-Being". The one (1) element of non-compliance is, "Encouragement and Assistance with the Life Book".

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing items of necessity and the required \$50.00 dollar monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes and the clothing provided is of good quality and of sufficient quantity. The Group Home conducts shopping outings every three (3) months at appropriate clothing stores, such as DDs Discount or the Warehouse Shoe Sale. All children reported that they are satisfied with their choice of clothes and shoes. All clothing receipts were verified and placed in the child's files.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance of \$7 and the children spend their allowances as they choose. The children reported that they usually spend their money on snacks while out on activities or during home pass. The children reported they were given the option to save their money in a savings account. Some children chose to save their money in a savings account in order to get a "big check" upon graduating from the program.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items, such as shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrush, and toothpaste. The Group Home does not encourage or assist in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books. The children reported that they have never heard of a Life Book through the Group Home. Several children stated that they keep their own personal photo books, not provided by the Group Home.

Recommendations:

1. Loving Life Group Homes shall encourage or assist in creating and maintaining photo albums or Life Books.

DISCHARGE CHILDREN

Based on our review of three (3) discharged child files and documentation provided by the agency, Loving Life complied with all three (3) elements in the area of "Discharge Plan".

All children placed at least 30 days were discharged according to their permanency plan. All children placed had family reunification as their case plan goal and were reunified with a parent. All children placed at least 30 days were discharged towards meeting their Needs and Service Plan goals. The Group Home is using all available resources in

an attempt to stabilize the placement prior to requesting the removal of the child. The Group Home has the child speak to his therapist, Probation Officer, and the Administrator before requesting the removal of the child to see if another plan can be implemented in order for the child to remain in the Group Home.

Recommendations:

None

PERSONNEL RECORDS

Based on our review of documents in the employee files at Loving Life, the Group Home was in compliance with nine (9) of the 14 elements in the area of "Personnel Records". The five (5) elements of non-compliance are "FBI Submitted Timely"; "Child Abuse Clearance Index (CACI) Submitted Timely"; "Required Employees Have a Valid California Driver's License"; "Appropriate Employees Received CPR Training"; and "Appropriate Employees Received Emergency Intervention Training per the Group Home's Program Statement".

A review of five (5) employee records was completed. All background checks for four (4) employees reviewed were completed in a timely manner, with one (1) employee missing the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) paperwork and Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) paperwork not being submitted in a timely fashion. Among the five (5) employees sampled, all employees did receive timely health screenings. Of the five (5) employees sampled, four (4) of the five (5) employees in the sample did have copies of a valid California driver's license. One (1) of the five (5) staff sampled had no current training of CPR, but all staff sampled had current First Aid training. All employees sampled had the necessary educational requirements, as well as the necessary on-going training. Among the five (5) employees sampled, one (1) employee did not receive emergency intervention training per the Group Home's Program Statement.

Recommendations:

1. Loving Life shall immediately update all necessary documents, such as valid Driver's Licenses and FBI and CACI paperwork, and all other on-going trainings. In addition, all required documents shall be readily accessible upon request.

AUDITOR CONTROLLER FISCAL REVIEW

The most recent Fiscal Review for Loving Life Group Homes from the Department of Auditor Controller is dated May 22, 2008, for the fiscal period of January 1, 2006, to December 31, 2006. The report dated May 22, 2008, indicated that Loving Life Group Homes had questioned/disallowed costs. Loving Life Group Homes submitted a timely approved fiscal Corrective Action Plan (CAP), which is being monitored by the Department of Children and Family Services, Fiscal Monitoring Section.

Recommendations:

N/A

FOLLOW-UP VISIT

On September 6, 2012, a follow-up visit was conducted at Loving Life #1 & Loving Life #2, to verify that all recommendations had been completed.

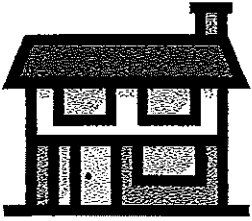
A complete follow-up walk through inspection of the interior was conducted, and all recommendations have been repaired or replaced. The interior deficiencies had been corrected. New cement has been added to the driveway. All loose wires have been secured and all cracked outlet covers have been replaced. All graffiti has been removed and all rooms needing paint have been painted. Telephone jack at Loving Life #2 Bedroom #1 has been removed.

All files have been reviewed again and all Needs and Services Plans now have the Probation Caseworker's signature or documented an attempt to obtain.

All children were interviewed again and verified that they are encouraged and given an opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities, enrichment, social activities in which they have an interest.

All children were interviewed again and verified that they have received a Life Book to document personal history and to keep important photos.

All necessary paperwork missing from the Personnel files reviewed has been updated and placed in files and all required training has been received.



LOVING LIFE HOMES

700 S. Burris Street, Compton, 90221 (310) 608-0150 Fax: (310) 608-6962
9601 Hobart Blvd, Los Angeles, 90047 (323) 757-9491 Fax: (323) 757-9191

June 29, 2012

County of Los Angeles
Department of Probation
Group Home Monitoring Review
11701 S. ALAMEDA ST.
LYNWOOD, CA 90262

Mr. J. NINO FRANCO

Below is the response and actions to our Corrective Action Plan, in response to the recent Monitoring Review of Loving Life Homes located in Compton and Los Angeles completed on or about May 30, 2012.

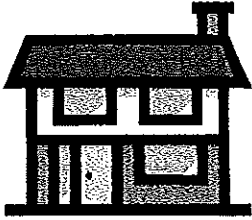
The information from the worksheet instrument has been reviewed and the findings and deficiencies have been corrected or scheduled for correction and documentation will be provided, within thirty days, to insure that both facilities remain in compliance with requirements and in accordance with the recommendation made by the Group Home Monitor.

We thank you for your visit and recommendation and we look forward to a continued relationship and collaboration.

Ms. Billie Woods/Bean

Executive Director

Attachments: pg-2-6



LOVING LIFE HOMES

The following is the list of deficiencies that have been sited, reviewed and corrected for both locations.

Loving Life 1 Group Home, Compton

I. Facility and Environment

A. Repair of driveway in backyard as stipulated on worksheet #10

- Fences and window screens were repaired
- New cement was added to repair broken area of driveway
- Backyard grass area cleaned and landscaped

B. Common Quarters as stipulated on worksheet #11

- All doors have been repaired or replaced
- Den railing was repaired/ all electrical outlets covered with new plates.
- Graffiti was removed from all furniture.

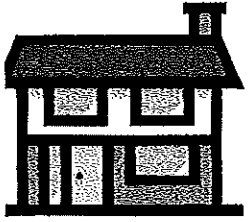
C. Are all children's bedrooms well maintained as stipulated on worksheet #12

- All walls were prepped and painted/all furniture was cleared of graffiti or replaced in bedrooms 1, 2, 3 & 4.

II. Maintenance of required documentation & service delivered

A. Did administrative staff implement a plan to ensure that Probation Case Worker signatures are always obtained in a timely matter, as stipulated on worksheet #17

- The administration sought all probation staff to sign the current Needs & Service Plan.
- Most reports are e-mailed to the Probation Officer after completion or signed during MDT or Probation visit. Administration will contact probation staff, by phone and request that the report be signed and faxed back to LLH or they will be gathered together prior to the PO visit so that the Report can be signed.



LOVING LIFE HOMES

Loving Life 1 Group Home, Compton (continued)

- This will be documented on the bottom of the Needs & Services Plan and signed by administration.

VIII. Personal Needs/Survival & Economic Well-Being

A. Children (Youth) Life-Book, as stipulated on worksheet #69

- All youth were assigned a Life-Book along with an explanation of a "life book". Youth will be encouraged to document his personal history and to place family and important photos within.

X Personnel Records

A. FBI submitted timely, as stipulated on worksheet #74

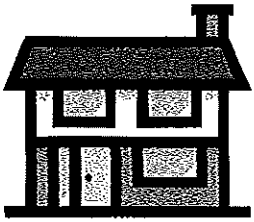
- Records were checked by Administrative Staff for FBI submission all records were found to be in order and admitted timely. The administrator or QA specialist ensures that all FBI records are submitted timely.

B. Child Abuse, as stipulated on worksheet #75

- All Child Abuse Clearance Index Records were checked by Administrative Staff and found to be timely and in order. The administrator or QA specialist will insure that all CACI records are submitted timely.

C. Driver License, as stipulated on worksheet #79

- All employees records were reviewed for a valid CA Driver License and copies were placed in all employee file records. The administrator or QA specialist will insure that all CACI records are submitted timely.



LOVING LIFE HOME

Loving Life 1 Group Home, Compton (continued)

D. CPR Training, as stipulated on worksheet #83

- All employee records were checked for current CPR Training. Current copies were placed in all employee file records.

E. Pro-Act Training, as stipulated on worksheet #86

- All employees that are due for initial and recertification Pro-Act Training are to attend classes July 2012. Sign in sheet for this training will be sent in by July 30th.

Loving Life 2 Group Home, Los Angeles

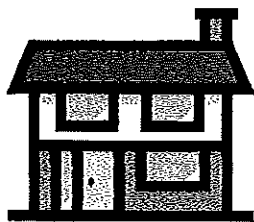
I Facility and Environment

A. Common Quarters, as stipulated on worksheet #11

- All walls were prepped and painted in common areas. All graffiti was removed from walls and furniture in common area.

B. Are all children's bedrooms well maintained, as stipulated on worksheet #12

- Telephone jack in bedroom (#1) was covered with plate. Bedroom (#2) w/as prepped and painted all graffiti was removed from beds and all furniture.



LOVING LIFE HOME

Loving Life 2 Group Home, Los Angeles (continued)

III. Maintenance of required documentation & Services delivered

- A. Did administrative staff implement a plan to ensure that Probation Case Worker signatures are always obtained in a timely matter, as stipulated on worksheet #17
- The administration sought all probation staff to sign the current Needs & Services Report.
 - Most reports are e-mailed to the Probation Officer after completion or signed during MDT or Probation visit. Administration will contact probation staff, by phone and request that the report be signed and faxed back to LLH or they will be gathered together prior to the PO visit so that the Report can be signed. This will be documented on the bottom of the Needs & Services Plan and signed by administration

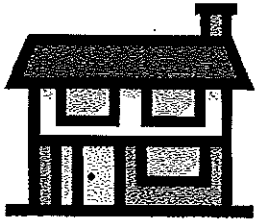
VII. Personal Rights & Social/Emotional Well-Being

- A. Are youth given opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities , Enrichment, social activities in which they have interest as stipulated on worksheet #61
- Youth are encouraged to participate in sports, art, music, drama, cooking, and other classes of their interest. Some classes are offered at the facility and others in the community.

VIII. Personal Needs/Survival & Economic Well-Being

B. Children (Youth) Life-Book, as stipulated on worksheet #69

- All youth were assigned a Life-Book along with an explanation of a "life book". Youth will be encouraged to document his personal history and to place family and important photos within.



LOVING LIFE HOME

Loving Life 2 Group Home, Los Angeles, (continued)

X. Personnel Records

A. CPR Training, as stipulated on worksheet #83

- All employee records were checked for current CPR Training. Current copies were placed in all employee file records.

B. Pro-Act Training, as stipulated on worksheet #86

- All employees that are due for initial and recertification Pro-Act Training are to attend classes July 2012. Sign in sheet for this training will be sent in by July 30th.