



Licensed Child Caring Agency Unannounced Site Visit Report

Licensee: Washington County Juvenile Harkins House

Executive Director: Lynne Schroeder

Program Director(s): LaRoy LaBonte

Date of Unannounced: August 5, 2021

Licensing Coordinator: Todd Cooley

Other Regulatory or Accrediting Agencies: n/a

Purpose: Per OAR 413-215-0101 (1) (b) Children's Care Licensing is required to perform at least one unannounced site visit a year where children in care reside.

Previous Findings	Repeat Findings Further Action Needed	Comments
413-215-0046(3)(a) Foster Rights Posted (if children in DHS custody)	Yes ☐ No ☒	☐ Foster Rights not posted in the program. - Foster Rights were posted in multiple easy to access locations throughout the program
New Employee Orientation – Umbrella Requirements (30 days) 413-215-0061(4) (c) Organizational lines of authority	Yes ☐ No ☒	☐ Organizational lines of authority was not documented in the New Employee Orientation. - Organizational lines of authority is displayed in the employee handbook which is provided to all new employees during orientation. Harkins House is adding a separate box to the training checklist to easily identify this requirement and acknowledge the handbook was received by the employee.
413-215-0061(5) Mandatory reporting (annually) that includes: (a) legal definition of child abuse ORS 419B.005, Oregon Laws 2016, chapter 106, section 36 (b) legal responsibility to immediately report (c) legal responsibility to report is personal to the employee	Yes ☐ No ☒	☐ There was inconsistent documentation of mandatory reporter training on an annual basis. - Annual training has not been conducted for mandatory reporting this year. Will verify at next review or unannounced visit.

	Yes ☐ No ☐	
--	--	--

New Findings from Site Visit	Comments
No new findings	

Interview Summary
Two youth were on-site and able to be interviewed at the time of the unannounced visit. Both youths had been at the program for about a month and neither had been at any other residential programs. The first youth interviewed stated they thought the program was really great. They were working on graduating a year early and are hoping to remain in the program to focus on finishing school without the distractions they have at home. This youth is exploring military options along with other higher education opportunities after graduation. The client stated they feel safe in the program and are very comfortable with all of the staff. They said the food is “so good” and that they probably eat too much because it is good. Their favorites are the tortellini and French toast. Snacks are always available and they are never hungry. Youth stated they go on outings about twice a week and do activities like fishing and swap meets. They said they enjoyed the fishing because at home they like to fly fish. They have daily recreation and all the youth like to play volleyball, so that is what they do most often. Youth said they have lots of community (church) and family support and can make daily phone calls to stay in touch. Youth had nothing negative to say about the program and said all the staff are great. They also said the groups are very helpful as they help them understand what they can be doing better. They stated they participate in two groups a day. The first is a goals group and the second rotates and could be on a variety of topics. The second youth also stated they like Harkins House very much. They love helping in the kitchen and the food is amazing. Pizza, Fish and Fried Rice are at the top of their list of favorites. There is always lots of food and snacks available. This youth stated school was good, but there are times they have a hard time processing things. Stated they participate in recreation at least three times a day and play lots of volleyball and ping pong tournaments. On outings they have enjoyed hiking and bird watching. This youth also spoke of the Summer Works program farm and said the work is hard, but they like going out there. They typically do things around the farm like clean out pig pens. Client stated they have plenty of time to talk with family, 10-minute phone calls three times a day. Also stated they appreciate getting a 2-minute warning, so they have time to say goodbyes before needing to get off the phone. Youth said staff all do a really good job of helping out and reminding them to stay on track. This client also spoke of the daily groups and thought they were really good.

Observations

A walkthrough of all shared spaces, kitchen, bathrooms/showers, bedrooms, classrooms, and outdoor spaces was conducted during this unannounced. The living spaces are always well kept and clean during unannounced visits and reviews. This was no exception. Youth have daily chores and staff do a great job of ensuring these chores are followed through on. You get the sense both youth and staff take pride in their space.

Having a full time cook in the program continues to be a positive for Harkins House. The kitchen is also in the process of getting site certified by Summer Works. Harkins House currently partners with Summer Works and Central Cultural which allows their youth to gain job skills, earn education credits, and even a stipend. This is mainly done on a local farm at the moment, but once the kitchen is certified youth will be afforded the same opportunities in program. The program appears to be very popular with those who have participated.

Corrective Actions and Timeframes:

Please submit the following to verify compliance.

Within 45 days of receipt of this report Washington County Juvenile Harkins House must submit a letter of verification indicating the agency is in compliance with the specific rules cited above and describing how compliance will be maintained going forward. Along with the letter of verification, the agency must submit any and all specific documentation requested in the body of this report. The letter of verification and any additional requested documents can be emailed directly to Todd Cooley, todd.cooley@dhsosha.state.or.us or sent by regular mail to the following address:

Department of Human Services
Children's Care Licensing Program
Attn: Todd Cooley
201 High St. SE Suite 500
Salem, OR 97301

Licensing Coordinator's Signature:  Date: 8-19-2021

Manager Review:  Date: 8-18-2021