



Licensed Child Caring Agency Unannounced Site Visit Report

Licensee: Douglas Co. Juvenile Department

Executive Director: Aric Fromdahl

Program Director(s): Rob Salerno

Date of Unannounced: 10/08/2021

Licensing Coordinator: Mary Torres Oregon Department of Human Services - Child Welfare Treatment Services

Other Regulatory or Accrediting Agencies: Child Welfare Treatment Services, Joint Commission Accreditation

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
413-215-0511 Physical Plant Requirements (c) All areas of buildings where children in care are present must be kept clean and in good repair. Major appliances and heating, ventilation, plumbing, and electrical systems must be functional and in good repair	Yes ☐ No ☒	The dishwasher and water heater in River Rock require repair or replacement. These appliances have been repaired and are in working order.

New Findings from Site Visit	Comments
413-215-0551 Medication (Technical Amended 01/13/20) (10) Medication records. A written record must be kept for each child in care listing all medications, both prescription and over the counter, that are administered. The record must include all of the following: (d) A record of missed dosages.	River Rock - The medication administration record for one youth did not have a documented reason for an entire day's missed medication. Please remind staff to document all required information in the medication administration record from this point forward.

413-215-0511 Physical Plant Requirements (Technical Amended 01/13/20) (2) A residential care agency must meet all of the following requirements: (c) All areas of buildings where children in care are present must be kept clean and in good repair. Major appliances and heating, ventilation, plumbing, and electrical systems must be functional and in good repair.	Rising Light - Room #2 – paint peeling from the wall at the head of the bed. Repaint peeling area. River Rock - Armoire in resident AR's room, is broken. Replace or remove this piece of furniture. - Profanity found written in JD's armoire. Remove or cover up areas where profanity is displayed. Foundations - Room (possibly #8) - ceiling tiles are being held together or up by duct tape. Replace broken tiles. - Railing on back deck has profanity written on it. Remove the profanity or cover it up. - Carpet on stairway needs cleaning. Deep clean this area. - Upstairs shower takes a long time for hot water to run, then is too hot. Evaluate this situation and repair what is needed.
413-215-0218 Room and Space Requirements (3) Bedrooms. Bedrooms for children in care may not be exposed to drafts, odors, or noises that interfere with the health or safety of the occupants. Each bedroom must comply with all of the following requirements: (g) Have permanently wired light fixtures located and maintained so as to give adequate light to all parts of the room. (4) Bathrooms. (a) Bathrooms must be provided and be conveniently located in each building containing a child in care's bedroom, and must have all of the following: (H) Permanently wired light fixtures located and maintained so as to give adequate light to all parts of the room. (I) Adequate ventilation.	Foundations - Room #6 – has no working lights. Determine cause and repair/replace what is necessary. River Rock - Shower room has a light out. Replace light bulb. - Shower room has no existing ventilation (neither a vent nor a window). Work with Facilities to explore ventilation options for this room.

Interview Summary

Dan Carr, who previously served as the Juvenile Services and Development Manager for the program, assisted with the initial tour of Rising Light. The two remaining buildings, River Rock and Foundations were toured with Executive Director, Aric Fromdahl. During the tours, this coordinator was able to speak to the program's executive director, Rising Light's supervisor, Samantha Swearingen, and various direct care staff. At the conclusion of the tour, two youth were interviewed. The majority of the youth were attending school off site and were unavailable.

Rising Light is currently serving 5 youths. Although referrals continue to come in, many of the youth seeking placement have displayed recent incidents of violence towards peers and/or adults. Recent incidents of aggression are currently a disqualifying factor for youth looking to be served by Douglas Co

Juvenile Department. The program was recently able to update an enclosed courtyard. The courtyard is now utilized as an extra outdoor seating area where youth can read, take space, or visit with peers. There are live plants, rugs, outdoor furniture, umbrellas, and lights that make the space warm and welcoming. Youth are taking advantage of fresh air in a serene setting. A local realty business took the project on and covered much of the cost. Youth in this facility are back to attending school within the community. Youth attend class separate from the mainstream school population and are not sharing classroom space with male peers. This has been helpful for youth to remain focused on their studies and has decreased negative behaviors. The facility's supervisor reports an atmosphere where staff and youth interact positively. Staff are invested in the care of the youth and the youth themselves, and, for the most part, are getting along with one another. Programming emphasizes "community based" services and staff model expectations and positive behaviors for youth. Youth find that completing the level system is an accomplishment and work hard to graduate. Over the last few weeks, Rising Light has experienced 3-4 graduations. The facility recently served a pregnant teen, engaging her quickly into prenatal care and helping her maintain her sobriety. The facility recently hired a second mental health counselor. The two counselors are on site and will each be assigned 4 youth to serve.

River Rock is also currently serving 5 residents. During the tour, all youth were attending school off site. The executive director reports a recent site visit by the County Commissioner. The Commissioner was direct with his recommendation of renovating River Rock while resident numbers in this building are low.

Foundations is currently housing 6 youths. One resident has recently graduated and is working full time in the community. Staff provide this youth's transportation to and from work. The facility's back deck was recently repaired and replaced with all-weather composite decking.

In interviewing two youths from different facilities, both report feeling safe in their current placements. While one youth denies ever feeling unsafe, the other admits that fights among peers leave the youth feeling unsafe. In this situation, the youth reports quick and effective staff intervention. Both youths were able to list various staff members whom they would reach out to with concerns or problems. Staff are reportedly good at listening to a youth's concern and/or providing them with a grievance form. Each resident had a good understanding of their treatment goals and report staff assisting them in measuring their progress. Positives identified about the program include staff helping youth change without youth realizing it and staff helping youth identify emotions. Areas for improvement were related to the overall tidiness of the facility where it was reported that youth are not completing their chores and there is no follow through by staff and staff being "more reasonable" regarding tablet use. Contact with family members is abundant, occurring daily.

Observations

River Rock is the last of the three facilities that has yet to be renovated. The building and its furnishings are showing signs of significant wear and tear. The two other buildings remain in good condition. Licensing encouraged the executive director to follow the Commissioner's recommendation to renovate the building while there is a low number of youths.

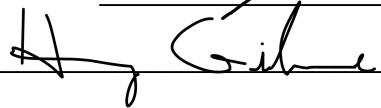
Corrective Actions and Timeframes:

Please submit the following to verify compliance.

Within 45 days of receipt of this report **Agency Name** 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 **Licensing Coordinator email address** or sent by regular mail to the following address:

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

Licensing Coordinator's Signature:  Date: 10/28/2021
Manager Review:  Date: 10-28-2021