

# Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission

## Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Hanna Boys Center
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Robert Faux, Eve Goldberg
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	March 21, 2019
Date of Last Inspection	January 10, 2018
C.C.L. Contact	Megan Mullen
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	November 14, 2018

*\*S= Satisfactory or exceeds \*N.I. = Needs Improvement/corrective Action*

INSPECTION	S	N.I.	Comments (required if "N.I." is checked)
Grounds	X		Grounds are spacious, attractive and very well maintained. There are 2 types of living quarters: group homes for older, responsible boys, and cottages for younger boys needing more direct supervision. There is an academic building for classes, a manual arts facility, playgrounds and a chapel for church services.
Building Exterior	X		Exteriors are well maintained; staff contact indicated some roof leaks that are being addressed. Some students have jobs maintaining exteriors areas of living quarters.
Living Room	X		Cottages and group homes all were clean, neat with nice furniture. Students have jobs for maintaining living quarters in good condition.
Kitchen	X		Very clean main kitchen; house kitchens were clean and appropriate for use.
Bedrooms	X		2 boys per room; plenty of room; decoration and attention to organization varied.
Bathrooms	X		All clean; each house had an ADA shower. Privacy for showers provided.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers	X		Overhead sprinklers in all places. Fire Department inspection September 2018.
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms	X		On ceilings in all places.
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan	X		Posted in all quarters near front entrance.
Food	X		Varied, rotating menu. Group homes do own dinners. Boys participate in shopping and preparing food under supervision. Well-stocked pantry. Cottages take meals at dining hall, but have kitchenettes for occasional use. Weekend "continental" breakfast in own quarters, then brunch.
Emergency Supplies	X		
Health Services	X		Medical doctor, dentist, psychiatrist all available as needed, Annual exams. For

			mental health issues, there are a MFT and LCSW on staff, with a psychiatrist available for additional services.
Medications	X		17% on psychotropic meds; type varies, no single one predominant.
Recreation (on site)	X		Gym, pool, recreation hall, weight rooms; 75% on organized sports teams. Hanna teams participate in the Bridge League of small schools.
Outings (off site)	X		Hiking, camping.
Education & Classrooms	X		Standard high school academic program. Students graduate with a diploma from Hanna High School. All graduates get a diploma. Usually 7-8 in a class with teacher. New Principal has adopted a “no homework” curriculum based on competency based progress of each student at own pace. Some vocational certificates available through off-site through trade groups. Music instruction available. Manual Arts program now has a welding component in addition to woodworking.
Mail/Phone	X		Kids have access to phones for communication with family.
Discipline	X		Main issue is substance abuse. If there is a positive test based on reasonable suspicion, student is put through Matrix program of education until tests are clean. Another problem is bullying, which is dealt with by staff interaction with perpetrator and victim on concepts of restorative questions and responses. Allowance for “gang” colors clothing has not resulted in gang v. gang assaults. Fights based on individual disputes.
Library	X		School and living quarters age appropriate. Computers in living quarters available for individual research.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** Hanna has taken its recent problems of sexual abuse seriously. They now have all have new students go through a program “Enough is Enough” for a month to educate them about signs and actions of sexual abuse, along with reporting methods. Staff also goes through similar training from the same person. GPS placed in all vehicles, with a staff monitor for staff going off campus with students. Like VOMCC and Juvenile Hall, Hanna has introduced a system of Trauma Informed Care, with Dr. Robert Macey. The entire staff had been trained in this method of working with children.

#### **YOUTH INTERVIEW(S)**

**# Of Youth Interviewed: Two**

BOY #1, a 15-year-old, has been at Hanna since last summer. He hopes to transfer out after this year to be with his dad. He likes the educational program, in particular history and math with

good teachers and individual attention. He also appreciates the spiritual structure of Hanna, particularly chapel where he feels connected to his mother, who died two years ago. He also likes working in the campus ministry program, preparing food and clothes for a local homeless shelter. He feels isolated from his family, since all his siblings are older and living in other places. He likes the structure of Hanna, particularly the responsibility of jobs in the living quarters. He has a job off campus doing landscaping work. He only gives the food a 4 out of 10, wishing that there was more Asian food like chow mein and curries. He has developed an interest in music, piano in particular, through the help of the Hanna music teacher. He is glad that he can play a piano in his cottage.

BOY #2 is a 16-year-old who loves music. He plans to stay at Hanna through high school graduation. He says that Hanna has been good for him because it is a “change of scenery” from his original home environment. He likes school – particularly music, English, and math. He thinks both the Hanna school and the teachers are “amazing.” Prior to coming to Hanna he did not plan to attend college; now he plans to go to college, possibly to study music theory. He wishes Hanna could have a real audio recording studio. He likes the food, but wishes there was a bit more variety. This boy stated that at Hanna, “you can find your thing that makes you happy. It’s a great place.” He also wanted people to know that, “I feel there’s a stigma on Hanna boys. We’re not bad people. We’re here cuz we want to get better.”

**INSPECTION SUMMARY:**

Hanna Boys Center provides an excellent environment for boys who may be in need of direction and support when coming from troubled backgrounds. The facility is overall modern and spacious, with many activities available for the residents. There are always some live-in staff in all living quarters for supervision and access. The staff-to-student ration is excellent at 1:6, 24x7. There is a stigma in the Sonoma Valley that the students are “bad” kids and some efforts have been made to connect better to the local community through St. Francis Church, and it would be preferable if more could be done.

**Robert Faux**

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Inspection Commissioner

**Next Inspection Recommended:** \_\_\_\_\_ **or**   X   **Annual Inspection**

Eve Goldberg

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Inspection Commissioner

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Inspection Commissioner

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Mary Cone, Chair/Report Review

cc: Honorable Judge of the Sonoma County Superior Court  
Commissioner of the Juvenile Court  
Probation Department, Chief of Probation  
Sonoma County Family Youth & Children's Services  
State of California, Community Care Licensing  
Facility Inspected

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