Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission San Mateo County, California

Group Home Inspection

Facility Name: Canyon Oaks Youth Center	Facility Capacity: 12
Address: 400 Edmonds Rd, Redwood City, 94062	Phone Number: <u>650-839-1810</u>
Date of Inspection: 6/10/2019	Date of Last Inspection: 5/24/2018
Annual Population: Varies	
Current Population: total 10: 9 current residents; 1 r	esident recently left, but bed still allocated.
Contact Person: Victoria Valencia, Supervising Menta	al Health Clinician
Facility Commission Inspection Team: Michele Gusta	afson
School Commission Inspection Team: Melissa Wilson	n, Doug Winter, Monroe Laboisse
Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Susan Etezadi	

Facility Overview

Canyon Oaks is a co-ed residential treatment facility offering comprehensive services to youth with serious emotional and behavioral challenges. Each resident receives individual services to meet their needs and circumstances. Youth come to the facility through three different placement types:

1. voluntary placement, 2. placement through a social worker, or 3. placement through the probation department. Youth in the Canyon Oaks program can also be AB12 youth (extended foster care). The objective of the program is to help youth reduce symptoms, gain stability and transition into the least restrictive setting in which they can succeed. The typical resident spends one year at Canyon Oaks.

Observations and Commendations

Observations: Canyon Oaks is a well-run facility with well-trained staff. The facility utilizes trauma informed practices. The staff is very engaged with the youth and each other, creating a comfortable and relaxed environment. There is an extensive array of programs available to the youth. The staff seems proactive and creative in trying new activities to engage the residents. They take advantage of and draw from the many resources available in the Bay Area to develop programs.

Commendations: The staff genuinely care about the well-being of the youth in residence and work in a challenging environment with professionalism and compassion. The youth can be angry about being placed at Canyon Oaks, resentful about the rules, and because of various mental and behavioral

issues, can present their unhappiness forcefully. The staff are firm but caring and when issues about staff/youth interactions are raised by a resident, they do their best to address these.

The facility has received its STRTP license, which has involved a lot of work and effort to change practices and procedures to the newly-developed (and occasionally shifting) STRTP requirements.

Roles required to meet STRTP licensure requirements needed to be defined and assigned. More actions, events and outcomes need to be logged, recorded and reported as part of STRTP requirements to increase the completeness of records for each resident. The management and staff are to be commended on their hard work in achieving STRTP status.

Canyon Oaks recently added a layer of management positions within its staffing structure, with pay bands reflecting increased levels of responsibility. This has been a welcome change as it permits upward mobility, opportunities for management by experienced staff, and has overall increased morale and is expected to keep retention of staff at good levels at the facility.

Major Concerns and Recommendations

Concerns: Each resident has an individual needs and assessment plan, as well as individual goals to meet while they are at the facility as part of their treatment. A major problem exists when a resident's goals have been met and he/she is ready to transition out of the facility, but has nowhere to go because foster care is not available or they cannot go back to their family. Residents are usually reauthorized to remain at the facility by the IPRC (Interagency Placement Review Committee), which is composed of Probation, Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, and the San Mateo County Office of Education, that approves placements and continuations. Once a youth has reached the treatment goals but cannot move on from Canyon Oaks, the situation becomes very frustrating to the individuals and leads to problems and poor behaviors, and can often lead to justifying even longer stays.

The Canyon Oaks facility has a positive relationship with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department. The facility will call the Sheriff when they feel that a resident (or residents) are engaging in behavior that could result in harm to the resident, staff or others. The law enforcement officer does not always get involved and may only stand by for safety's sake. While understandable and even unavoidable in some cases (e.g., in the case of a 5150 hold), there are concerns about traumatizing (or retraumatizing) youth with law enforcement contact, and youth developing a negative opinion toward law enforcement. The facility is cognizant of these issues and has arranged casual events for residents to get to know the Sheriff Department staff. Some interactions with law enforcement will result in the youth being taken to Juvenile Hall or the police contact being documented, creating further negative incidents on a young person's record, which could impact them for a long time. Sometimes there are a lot of calls; sometimes fewer. The Commission did not request a number, but the impression was that calling at least once a week was not uncommon. STRTP licensing requirements include the need to fill out a special IR form when law enforcement is engaged, therefore these records should be available and reviewed in the future.

▼ Visiting

Recommendations: As part of	a larger initiative to locate a	ppropriate home-like settings for youth	in
		ed difficulty in finding foster home	
•	•	the County. The effort here is beyond t	he
facility's scope, but impacts bo	th the facility and residents t	here deeply.	
<u>-</u>	•	etion when calling law enforcement,	
		ent engagement with youth on probation	
•		with the system. Where possible, reduc	
the amount of law enforcemen	t interventions sought. Also,	it is important to note that youth that a	ire
not on probation may be bolde	er about provoking youth the	y know are on probation because they	
know the probation youth's pro	obation officer will be called	if the situation escalates. This can create	<u>e a</u>
tricky dynamic for youth on pro	bbation at the facility, but car	n likely be managed if recognized by the	
staff.			
The County should consider cle	earing brush and dead trees a	away from the Canyon Oaks facility (and	
		the fire station is comforting (they are	
adjacent) and the facility maint	ains the requisite emergency	y plan, fire danger is a concern this and	
every year.			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•	(COE) Court and Community Schools	
administration have spent part of their work week at Canyon Oaks (a few hours a day per week or			
more), which was beneficial for	r the facility since the COE ha	ad context for special challenges present	:ed
for staff related to providing ed	ducational services for reside	nts, in particular maintaining stable and	
high quality teaching and subst	itute staff. The Commission r	recommends that this close relationship	be
maintained so that administrat	ion can continue to be prese	nt on-site on a regular basis.	
Fire Inspection Report:	✓ Yes □ No Date:	: <u>3/17/2019</u>	
The hispection Report.	E les □ NO Date.	. 3/17/2013	
Miscellaneous: Minor deficien	cies noted in fire inspection.	All Corrected.	
Health Department Report:	☐ Yes ☑ No Date:	: <u>N/</u> A	
As a Community Care licensed	facility, Canyon Oaks does no	ot have a BSCC or separate health	
department inspection.			
Areas Reviewed			
Quality of Life	<u>Programs</u>	Persons Interviewed	
☑ Physical Plants	■ Education	Minors Mi	
■ Meals/Nutrition	☑ Vocational/Employabi	ility 🗵 Director	
Mental Health	☐ Community Service	Youth Supervisor/Sta	aff
☑ Physical/Dental Health	✓ Individual/Group Cou	nseling	
■ Religious Services	■ Substance Abuse	☐ Other: N/A	
☐ Volunteer Involvement	☐ Other: N/A		

General Information

Type of operating license: Canyon Oaks received a provisional STRTP license in 2018, which gave them one year to get fully accredited through CARF. Canyon Oaks was granted a full STRTP license as of May 24, 2019, with final CARF accreditation inspections occurring the week of June 17, 2019 (a week after this Commission's inspection).

License number: 415600309

Most recent licensing inspection: 8/28/18

Rating level: Transitioned from Group Home Level 14 to fully-accredited STRTP

Target population of juveniles: Severely emotionally disturbed youth with behavioral challenges.

Canyon Oaks has always been a facility providing high levels of service to meet the needs of this population. The levels of service have not changed as a result of the STRTP licensing.

Age range of juveniles: The residents can range in age from 13 to 19. Younger age is rare, but the facility can accommodate youth of that age. Youth who are 18 or 19 are eligible through AB12.

Juveniles' home counties & number of youth per county: All youth are San Mateo County residents.

Pre-Plan for Emergencies: \boxtimes Yes \square No Date of Last Drill: $\underline{5/31/19}$

Comments: Canyon Oaks maintains a log of safety drills. Drills are conducted regularly, to completely clear the facility. There is an evacuation and relocation plan with space available at an alternate site.

Three (3) county vehicles are on site to transfer residents in case of emergency.

Staffing

Describe staff specialties: There are 17 full time residential counselors, 15 relief counselors. The clinical team consists of two full time therapists, plus a full-time occupational therapist (OT), a full-time art therapist, one alcohol and drug (AOD) therapist for 20 hours a week. One psychiatrist comes in twice a week and the same psychiatrist is available 24/7 by phone.

Describe staff including numbers, background, ethnicity, language: There are 15 African Americans, eight Latinos, five Caucasians, five Filipinos, five Pacific Islanders, and two Asians. There are several bilingual (Spanish) staff members and Spanish language translations by phone are available 24/7.

Translation and interpretation services are available to clients and family by appointment.

Educational requirements for staff: A bachelor's degree is now required; several staff members have master's degrees. The clinical staff members are professionally licensed.

Training provided for staff: As an STRTP, each staff person must have 40 hours of continuing education training, including ProAct and CPR. The annual training calendar for 2019 listed monthly sessions on a wide range of topics covering those topics mandated by STRTP licensure. Training is available onsite, at county-wide sessions, and online trainings (through RELIAS -- 50% of training can

be online). Onsite topics include: medication training, substance abuse, mental illness, suicide prevention, mandated reporting, overviews to the juvenile justice system, grievance process, physical and mental wellness training for staff, how to involve law enforcement, working with the LGBTQ community, impact of trauma. The facility maintains a comprehensive binder for staff that includes written policies and procedures, program overviews, roles and training requirements. Each staff member's training for the year is logged through an online tracking system.

Staff to Minor Ratio

Awake: The staff number stays the same, regardless of the number of residents.

Currently: 17 staff, working in 8 hours shifts, to 9 residents

Sleeping: 3 staff (for current 9 residents)

How is staff backup handled during grave-yard shift? Six staff work the swing shift; 3 staff are awake all night.

Describe staff turnover, including frequency and reason: This depends on the role: staff or clinicians.

For staff counselors, turnover is low. Most staff have been at Canyon Oaks for more than 10 years.

There has been some recent turnover due to staff moving out-of-county due to extremely high costs of living in San Mateo County and higher salaries available in other counties. The addition of a management level has helped this.

There can be a lot of turnover with respect to clinicians. Many clinicians are seeking hours to finish their licensure and then after two or three years they may leave. The biggest impact on youth tends to be when social workers turn over (which is not within Canyon Oaks control).

Describe general staff and minor interactions: The staff were completely engaged with the youth; they were direct, but respectful. They are present near the youth, but not necessarily in a youth's space. When youth are frustrated or angry, they acknowledge the youth's feelings and try to manage those feelings by discussion. Some youth state that they feel like they are put on a different status (see "Discipline of Minors" for a more thorough explanation of the consequences of a status change) for expressing themselves in a way the staff consider to be disrespectful. Despite a couple of youth loudly complaining that they were not happy with Canyon Oaks (without wanting to specify reasons), the environment seemed relaxed and comfortable.

Conditions of Grounds and Building Exterior

Give a general description of the property: One-story facility in a wooded area, next to the fire station. The front gate opens into a courtyard with a poorly maintained lawn area and basketball hoop. Newly painted, bright murals by the youth line two sides. The interior consists of offices, a large dining room (doubles as activity room), newly remodeled kitchen, and living quarters. Rooms are designed for one or two youth.

Give a general description of the main facility including housekeeping and sanitation: The facility was
clean and well-organized with reasonably new carpet. The walls included some colorful artwork by the
residents. Board games and TV were available. A large board posted each individual's daily status and
weekly plans and goals.
Lawns: □ Acceptable ☑ Unacceptable: <u>Lawn is occasionally used by residents for activities, such as</u>
barefoot walking, as part of mindfulness training. However, it is not in good condition. If upgraded, it
would be more conducive to use. The facility will also be receiving a greenhouse dome (Geodome) for
youth to be able to do gardening projects. This will go behind the facility (not on the lawn, but further
back on the property).
Playing Fields. Acceptable W Unacceptable. There is one backetball been for play in the courtward
Playing Fields: ☐ Acceptable ☑ Unacceptable. <u>There is one basketball hoop for play in the courtyard</u>
the playing field (such as it is) could use some county maintenance help to make it more functional
and inviting.
Blacktop: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: Blacktop could use some resurfacing. Facility reports that
this will be resurfaced and that a mural is planned for the courtyard area.
this will be resultated and that a marans planned for the courtyard area.
Paint: ■ Acceptable □ Unacceptable Facility reports that exterior painting is coming up.
Roof: 🗷 Acceptable 🗆 Unacceptable:
Drains and Gutters: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
General Appearance: ☑ Acceptable □ Unacceptable:
Condition of Interior of Building
Walls: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Paint: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Floors: ☑ Acceptable □ Unacceptable:
Ceilings: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Drains: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Plumbing Fixtures: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Air Vents/Heating/Windows: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Smoke Alarms: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: No issues on fire report
Storage of Cleaning Fluids/Chemicals: Acceptable Unacceptable:

Recreation/Sports Equipment: 🗷 Acceptable 🗆 Unacceptable:
Hallways Clear/Doors Propped Open: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Sleeping Rooms: ☑ Acceptable □ Unacceptable:
Beds: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Art, Books, Personal Items Allowed in Rooms: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Graffiti Present: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Ample Blankets: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Study Area: Acceptable Unacceptable:
Adequate Lighting: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable:
Temperature: ☑ Acceptable □ Unacceptable:
Orientation of Minors
What is the intake process for the facility? After receiving a referral, Ms. Valencia meets with each
youth at an appropriate location. Most are resistant upon initially entering Canyon Oaks; therefore,
the staff does not impose a lot of rules. They inventory belongings with the resident and review the
Resident Handbook (available in English and Spanish), which contains extensive information including
house rules, rights and responsibilities, schedules, and a complaint form. The staff is updating the
Resident Handbook this year. Parents are also given a copy of the Resident Handbook.
Each new person meets with staff and all other residents. Each youth specifies the gender they
identify with and the section of the house where they are most comfortable. They have had
transgender residents in the past, but none at this time.
Are minors oriented to the house rules and procedures? ✓ Yes □ No Explain: See above.
Are house rules and grievance procedures posted? ✓ Yes □ No Explain: Complaint procedures,
forms, and process of follow-up are included in the Resident Handbook.
What is in place to ensure that these rules and procedures are understood by minors? Each new
resident receives the Resident Handbook and participates in an orientation session (O Rap). Each is
tested on their knowledge of the material by answering 20-25 questions. Once the resident's primary
counselor signs off on their understanding of the rules and procedures, the individual moves from an
orientation to learning program.
Are clothing and possessions inventoried on arrival and departure? How are juvenile's clothing and

possessions protected or stored? Staff inventories belongings with the resident. Residents have their

own clothing and toiletries. For other items (like cell phones or valuables), each is given a personal
storage box that is locked in the hall closet for safe keeping.
Interviewed Minors: ☑ Yes ☐ No Details: Two youth agreed to be interviewed. Other youth
provided commentary during the visit, which is also reflected in this report. One youth, who was
interviewed, "X", was a probation youth who particularly enjoyed the home visits, and stated that
home visits are his favorite part of the program. X mentioned that he felt as though the color system
was sometimes used unfairly, and particularly complained that he felt minor infractions were hard to
make up for. X also brought up that he felt as though non probation youth would pick fights with
probation youths, and he recommended that probation and non-probation youth should be kept
separately. At his request, a staff member sat in on the interview, and it is clear that X and the staff
member had a good rapport, and that he felt comfortable giving feedback.
Meals/Nutrition
Kitchen: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: Fully remodeled last year; clean; residents special needs
displayed.
Do the youth share in preparation of mode? Vec V No Detailer Youth can participate in mode
Do the youth share in preparation of meals? ☐ Yes ☑ No Details: Youth can participate in meal
preparation and the facility participates in a Supper Club.
Are meals served family style? ✓ Yes ✓ No Details: The cook prepares meals and the youth pick
them up at the kitchen window in the dining room. They share meals family style at two large tables.
them up at the kitchen window in the dining room. They share means family style at two large tables.
Are minors permitted to converse during meals? ☑ Yes ☐ No Details:
Are staff present and supervising during meals? ✓ Yes □ No Details:
Are weekly menus posted? ✓ Yes □ No Details:
Are servings ample, nutritious, appetizing? ✓ Yes □ No Details: The residents were served pizza
salad for lunch on the day we visited. The food looked appetizing and nutritious (we were too late to
join for lunch).
Weaker minors protected from having food taken from them? ✓ Yes □ No Details:
Are snacks and beverages available? ☑ Yes □ No Details: Snacks, such as fruit, yogurt, or granola
bars are available throughout the day. Youth may receive a full meal if one is missed during the
scheduled time.
How does the facility meet special nutritional needs? There is a list in the kitchen with the name of
each youth and any special dietary needs (needs could be allergy-related, vegetarian/vegan, religious
or health restricted). Staff meet with a nutritionist to plan appropriate meals for residents with special

diets. The residents don't always like	<u>e the special diets (esp</u>	ecially when the diet includes calorie/carb
restrictions for diabetes).		
Length of time allowed to eat? As r	nuch as needed.	
Mealtimes (no more than 4 hours be	etween meals, breakfa	ast to dinner, without a snack).
·	•	,
Breakfast: 8:30 before school	Lunch: <u>12:10</u>	<u>Dinner: 5:00</u>
Comments: The youth expressed in	terest in more variety	of food, feeling like there could be more
<u></u>		etc.) and less fried food. Addition of a
		n with meals, so we recommend that
produce that residents had a hand in		
•		
Personal Appearance of Minors		
Appearance: ☑ Acceptable □ Una	cceptable:	
Showers (frequency privacy super	visad): 🗷 Accentable	☐ Unacceptable: Showers are available
	•	•
		le in order to ensure the safety of the youth.
-	nower every day (eith	er in the morning or the evening), it is not
required.		
Condition of clothing (clean, fit, etc	.): ☑ Acceptable □ U	Inacceptable:
(.,	
Clothing appropriate to current wea	ather: 🗷 Acceptable	□ Unacceptable:
Comments: Vouth wear their own o	lothes at Canyon Oaks	s. There is no uniform. Some youth can have
<u></u>	•	much when they come to the facility. Staff
will buy clothing when it is needed.	ic youth do not have i	mach when they come to the facility. Stan
will buy clothing when it is needed.		
Medical and Mental Health		
_		
	•	ple: Residents receive a physical within the
	•	rvices. Where the resident has family in the
*	•	nysician. In cases of emergency, the facility
may need to call for an ambulance t	o transport youth to the	ne hospital. For non-emergent medical
treatment where the youth does no	t have a regular docto	r, the staff may take the youth to the San
Mateo Teen Clinic.		
Staff can and do distribute medication	ons to the residents. T	he facility is converting its safety room to a
		e and dispense medicines. The room will be
secured. Training is available and log		
secured. Training is available and to	Per ioi aran alabenan	is incarcations.

Access to Mental Health Services: 🗷 Acceptable 🗆 Unacceptable: Dr. Osher, the staff psychologist
for Canyon Oaks, is at the facility every Wednesday and Friday and available 24/7 by phone. If a youth
qualifies for 5150 hold, the facility calls law enforcement to assist with transport as staff is not
permitted to transport a youth that qualifies as 5150.
Individual Counseling: 🗷 Acceptable 🗆 Unacceptable: Each resident has a personal session once a
week, or more if needed. Family sessions are possible.
Group Counseling: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: <u>Two groups meet every afternoon.</u>
Substance Abuse Counseling: ☐ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: There is AOD counselor on site. The
AOD counselor has had two interns in the past, but does not have any this year. Residents may also
attend outside group sessions, such as AA. Staff will transport as needed.
Programs
riogianis
Recreation (type, amount, etc.): 区 Acceptable □ Unacceptable: A daily treatment schedule is
published that includes yoga, art, movement, and therapeutic recreation. In addition, the youth are
offered activities such as hiking or participating in a variety of outings. There are activities scheduled
throughout the afternoon that the residents can select. These have included yoga, drumming, hiking,
and library visits. Television and board games are also available. The staff also provides numerous
outing options drawing on attractions that are nearby (including, for example, the Monterey Bay
Aquarium) and try a number of different new activities to engage the youth. Internet access is not
provided.
provided.
Exercise (daily schedule, amount, etc.): 🗵 Acceptable 🗆 Unacceptable: The residents may be taken
to the park, Red Morton Center, or a track. Movement classes are offered daily and there is a
basketball hoop in the yard and a rowing machine inside the house. In interviews, a resident
expressed his desire for more exercise equipment, specifically weights.
expressed in desire for more exercise equipment, specimouny weighten
Access to Religious Services: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: Youth will be taken by staff to services
if requested. Youth have also requested someone to come in to discuss religion with. The facility does
its best to find religious counselors when the youth does not already have those resources.
Victim Awareness Classes: ✓ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: No specific class; may be part of
individual treatment plan.
Gang Awareness Classes: ☐ Yes ☑ No Details: There is access to training for gang awareness (by
staff), but gang affiliation tends not to be issue for these residents.
Sexual Harassment Classes: ☐ Yes ☑ No Details: There are no classes, but sexual harassment is
discussed on an ongoing basis.

Parenting Classes: ☐Yes ☑ No Details: When a youth is a parent, they are linked to parenting
classes offsite, as are the parents of the residents, if desired.
Vocational Classes: □ Yes ☑ No Details: <u>There are no specific classes. The occupational therapist</u>
(OT) may help connect youth with off-site programs and Workability is available through the school.
Work Program: ✓ Yes ☐ No Details: A few residents work outside of the facility. This varies
depending on who is in residence. Bus transportation is poor, so a staff member takes the youth to
and from work or a taxi voucher is provided. The staff will provide guidance to the youth for
succeeding in their jobs as they encourage preparation for transitioning out of Canyon Oaks.
<u>Programs such as Workability, Independent Living Program (ILP) are available. The OT may help with</u>
resumes, college application processes, or employment applications.
Other Programs: The staff try to be creative about other programming. Currently Canyon Oaks
participates in a Supper Club and will arrange offsite field trips.
Internet Access: Outside of the classrooms, there is no access to the internet. This is by design as
some youth have internet addictions or could use internet access to engage in unsafe behaviors. If a
youth has a cell phone, that cell phone remains with their personal possessions in the locked cabinet
unless a staff is specifically supervising use.

Discipline of Minors

Describe the discipline process of minors:

Canyon Oaks utilizes a trauma informed approach. Specific consequences do not follow inappropriate behavior; punishment is not allowed. Staff recognize the behavior, determine the underlying issue, and then determine the appropriate therapeutic intervention to get to the bottom of the issue.

Outing privileges are granted based on safety and stability. Each youth is rated every day and given a color (green means they can go out and engage in activities, blue indicates the individual must stay at Canyon Oaks, and yellow means questionable privileges, depending on situation). The day's color is posted on a board outside the dining room, along with the individual's targets for the week. All residents participate in a "check-in" every morning and afternoon. In interviews, one youth complained that he felt reasons for colors were not always clear enough.

There are no locked doors. Meltdowns are handled in a manner to keep all residents and staff safe. It necessary, a youth may be taken to the hospital for emergency mental health treatment or to YSC.

There used to be a safety room, but it was not used and is being converted into a room for medications (which will be locked to prevent unauthorized access to medications). There is still a "time out" room that is not locked where youth can go to calm down. It has couches and is a calm, quiet environment for the residents to cool off, if needed. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Department

may be called to stand by and observe for escalating situations involving aggression. This may also
result in arrest.
Criovanasa
Grievances
Grievance Process: ☑ Acceptable □ Unacceptable: The grievance process has changed due to
STRTP licensure. Each grievance is reviewed by the Office of Consumer Affairs.
To commence the grievance process, a resident fills out a form. Any grievance is sent to the staff
supervisor. It is recorded, validated with the resident and investigated. The supervisor meets with the
client and the staff involved and then meets with all parties together. They continue to meet until the
issue is resolved and then log the outcome. Actions taken and the status must be documented within
five days. The Community Care License phone number is listed for a resident to call if they find it
necessary to follow up. This has not occurred in recent years.
Number of grievances this year: One
Trends and/or Comments: Complaints are usually over an objection to a rule or an interaction with
another individual. The grievance this year involved interaction between resident and staff, resulting
in coaching for the staff member.
Correspondence / Telephone
Access US Mail? ✓ Yes □ No Details:
Postage Free? ☑ Yes □ No Details:
Incoming/Outgoing Mail (screened? Confidential?): □ Yes 区 No Details: Mail can be received from
any approved person. It is opened to ensure there is nothing inappropriate included, but the mail is
not read.
Access to Telephone? ✓ Yes ✓ No Details: Each resident has a list of approved phone contacts. This
list is not created by Canyon Oaks, rather by the social worker or probation. Staff encourage
communication to any approved person. The staff wishes the residents had more people they could
talk to.
Some residents may possess a cell phone upon coming into the facility (generally AB12 youth who are
18 or older). Cell phone use by residents in the facility is not permitted and cell phones are kept with
the youth's locked belongings. There is also no internet use permitted outside the classroom and
there are no computers available for resident use outside of school hours. This means electronic
correspondence (email, messaging, social media) is not available for residents of the facility.

Visiting

Visiting Schedule: Visitation is allowed after school hours (weekdays) and on weekends for anyone on
an approved list.
Do all minors have access to visitations? ✓ Yes □ No Details:
Under what circumstances would visitation be restricted? Visitation is never restricted at the Canyon
Oaks facility. It may be restricted outside the facility, if the safety and the stability of the youth is in
question.
Are visitation logs kept? ✓ Yes ✓ No Details: Visitation schedules are posted every week. Clinicians
always maintain logs and notes of visitation in individual client folders.
Adequate Space: Acceptable Unacceptable:
Staff Supervision: ☑ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable: Staff only generally observe visits and give the
residents and visitors privacy.
Privacy Provided: ☑ Yes ☐ No Details: Visits are not allowed in a resident's room (although a
resident is allowed to show their parents/guardians their rooms).
Games or Activities Provided: ☑ Yes □ No Details: Yes, board games are available for visits.
Signature of Commissioner(s) preparing this report:
Michele Gustafson Michele Gyfopen Date: October 29, 201