



County of Riverside
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJJPC)
Inspection – GROUP HOME
2022

Date	October 11, 2022
Name of Facility	Ferree's Group Home, Inc. #5
Address	860 South 22nd Street; Banning, CA 92220.
Phone	951.922.3554
Contact Person	Phillip Ferree, Executive Director
JJDPCC Inspectors	Commissioners Paul Parker and Christopher Collopy
Date of Last JJDPCC Inspection	N/A
CCL Contact Name	Unknown
Date of last CCL Inspection	Unknown

Staff Interviewed:

Name	Title	How long at GH?	Notes
Phillip Ferree	Executive Director	37 years	
Tina Willis	Supervising Manager	17 years	
Monika Torres	Mental Health	3 months	Master's candidate
Miktochia Smith	Head of Services		

Describe the following:

Population	4 (Four)
Type of Care / Treatment	STRTP (At locations #3 and #5)
Currently, what is the biggest challenge you face at the home	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Hiring and retention2. Background check delays for new hires.3. Residents not respecting authority
What is the one thing you are most proud of	No answer forthcoming

Staffing:

Total number of staff	6
Ratio of staff to youth	Day Shift: 1:2 PM Shift: 1:2 Night Shift: 1:2
Minimum educational requirement	Associate degree. Some staff grandfathered with GED.
Rate of retention for staff	10 years average. Conflicts with statement that hiring was difficult.

Training:

What is the training regimen for staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Rotate and observe on various shifts2. Observe training/use training manual
How is the staff trained for behavior issues	Monthly training is provided covering ADHD, defiance, HIPPA regulations, LGBTQIA issues.
Does training include Trauma Informed Care (TIC)	Yes, on a recurrent basis.
Human Trafficking	Yes. All staff trained to be aware of trafficking indicators.

Records/ Special Issues/ Policies:

Where are records kept	Locked cabinet in locked closet.
Special Incident Reports (SIR) in the past year	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 5x monthly; generally, fights with weapon or general fighting.2. 1x monthly: Self-harm attempts
How was it handled	Scheduled time with counselor or room detention.

How are AWOLs handled	After 30 minutes, Banning PD contacted. Frequency: 1x weekly.
Describe the Disciplinary Policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Lose Wi-Fi access2. Lose paid outing3. General loss of privileges
Cell Phone Policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Inconsistent policy. If on family's plan, residents can use it liberally.2. If using home's plan, Wi-Fi is slow and restricted after 10pm.3. Wi-Fi shut off from 10pm forward.4. Residents may use cell phones liberally.

Medical Issues:

How are medical issues and/or emergencies handled	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. All staff CPR trained.2. No 911 issues.3. Staff unaware of Narcan or its use
How is medication stored and administered	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Locked securely in the cabinet behind the locked door.2. Cubicles identified for each resident3. Accessible by all staff which JJDPC inspectors felt was problematic.
Access to:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. All staff have access. JJDPC inspectors feel this is problematic and that access should be restricted.

Programs:

Type of Program	When or How Often	Notes
Mental Health Services	Weekly therapy: Held twice weekly	
Religious Services	Will transport to local houses of worship if requested.	
Drug and Alcohol Classes	Substance abuse	
Parenting Classes	Men in Training classes	
Trauma Informed Care	Daily notes entered in log for each resident	
Human Trafficking	Men in Training	
Recreation and Physical Activities	Badly needs updating. Dated hoop standard on site. Large yard area (½ acre). No usage.	
Other Therapy Provided	Safety Group: How to stay safe.	

Community Involvement:

Volunteer Opportunities	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Limited to transportation. Neighbor takes residents to church services or to work with him.2. Unsure if the neighbor has been background checked. Liability/insurance issues.
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Education:

Describe how and where youth are educated. (Include transportation, relationship with off-site schools, Title 1 tutors, and homework routine.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. All attending high school in the area.2. Transportation provided to and from school by staff.3. 4-5pm daily: Mandatory homework time.
Who holds educational rights or attends meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Staff attend IEP meetings2. No tutors on staff or accessible3. School liaison or parent holds educational rights for residents.4. The Supervising Manager will attend meetings as needed.
Is career planning, job training or college preparation offered	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Attend THRIVE: Independent Living Skills development.

Posted Documents Required:

Facility License	Yes... Posted in the office.
Personal Community Care Licensing (CCL) Rights	Yes. Accessible to residents
Activity Schedule	Posted in Game Room
Universal Precautions Procedure	Locked in Game Room
First Aid Supplies	In the meds cabinet. Accessible to staff.
Emergency Disaster Plan	In Binder in Game Room

Interior:

	Kitchen	Notes
✓	Cleanliness	Older facility. Clean but worn appearance.
✓	Appliances	Clean and in good order.
✓	Menus posted	Yes. In Game Room and Kitchen
✓	Knives locked	Yes.
✓	Food stored properly	This issue was of major concern to the Inspectors. Little food was on hand, even for snacks. Management indicated they intended to shop that afternoon.
✓	Chemicals stored properly	Yes. Locked in the cabinet.
✓	Quantity - 1 week supply	Inadequate supply on hand for one week.
✓	Fresh fruits/ vegetables	Did not observe at all.
✓	Special Diet provisions	Yes.
✓	Fire Extinguisher	Two. Properly located.
	Bathrooms	Notes
✓	Cleanliness	
✓	Smell	Apparently, it had been freshly cleaned prior to our arrival.
✓	Mold/ Mildew	Mold and mildew observed in one bathtub area,
✓	Any safety hazards	None observed
	Bedrooms	Notes
✓	Cleanliness	Ok.
✓	Personal space	Most personal spaces were well kept. Though there is inequity in what is allowed per resident, as some had sophisticated video game and recording setup while others had nothing.
✓	Age-appropriate decor	No decor on walls
✓	Fire/Smoke alarms	Yes. Though the Supervising Manager was unaware of the last time that they had been checked for battery life.
✓	Any safety hazards	
	Common Areas	Notes
✓	Cleanliness	Ok

✓	Homelike setting	Very sterile, dark, uninviting environment.
✓	Fire/ Smoke alarms	Tested ok.
✓	Any safety hazards	Supervising Manager must be more aware of smoke alarm status as well as other issues. See conclusion.

Exterior:

	Overall	Notes
✓	Satisfactory appearance	Ok
✓	Play areas/ clear space	Plenty of open space but not prepared for play or exercise, did not appear there were any organized exercise programs.
✓	Windows	The bedrooms were dark and windowless.
✓	Any safety hazards	

Questions for the Youth: (Assume quotation marks)

Three (3) youth were interviewed: A. Charles (RivCo) 15, B. Leontae (RivCo) 17, C, Jeremy (San Berdo)17

1	How old are you	A. 15 B. 17 C. 17
2	What school do you attend	A. Banning HS B. Coombs C. Banning HS
3	What do you like about this home	A. Bullied at school, so this is a calm, haven B. Calm place C. No drama
4	What would you change about this home	A. Nothing. Just want to get back to my mother. B. Food is terrible. Staff do not know how to cook. C. Food is awful.
5	Do you have bedding, hygiene supplies, drawer, and closet space	A, B, C: Yes
6	Do you have clothes and shoes that fit	A, B, C: Yes. Receive \$75 monthly. Some save for major purchases once out of a group home.
7	Where do you keep your private property	A, B, C: Kept in bedroom. Other residents respect space.
8	What are the phone call rules	A. Inconsistently applied. If you have a personal phone and personal plan, you can use 24/7. Otherwise, access is cut off at 10pm. Some reported Wi-Fi is inaccessible after 9pm.
9	Do you have visitors	A. Yes. My Mom visits B. No C. No
10	Do you feel supported at this home	A. Yes. B. Staff is frequently angry and burnt out. C. Staff not friendly or cooperative

11	How long have you been here	A. Less than 1 month B. 7 months C. 4 months
12	Have you been in other group homes	A. Yes. B. Many C. Yes
13	Can you explain the rules, responsibilities, and grievance procedure	A, B, C: Yes.
14	How quickly do staff and/or county social workers respond to needs	A. Staff responsive. B. Staff responsive C. Very unhappy with inability to reach his social worker. Never returns calls.
15	What do you do on Sundays	A. Play video games. Call Mom B. Call Mom C. Play video games.

Evaluate overall quality of facility: 5 out of 10

IF CORRECTIVE ACTION IS REQUIRED, PLEASE PHOTOGRAPH THE ITEMS TO BE CITED

Corrective Action Notification?

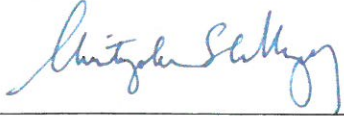
List Items to be included in Corrective Action Notification letter:

1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management and staff must be better trained on safety issues in the home, especially how to check batteries in a smoke detector. 2. Management must become more familiar with programming available to residents so they can appropriately explain options to residents. Management was unable to explain programming to JJDPC inspectors. 3. Add some decor to wall areas near bedrooms to brighten the environment. 4. Add brighter LED lighting in dark hallways. 5. Ensure staff is well versed in basic cooking skills, since all residents complained about staff's inability to prepare meals effectively. 6. Prepare and equip the yard space for recreational activities. 7. Examine Wi-Fi access policies to mitigate inequities. 8. Inspectors felt the home did not offer a welcoming environment for residents. Its dark and dank appearance inside and out was not at all inviting. 9. Very concerned about the dearth of food; fresh or frozen, to accommodate residents. Staff indicated our inspection day was their food shopping day. 10. Staff and management seemed disengaged from residents; when compared to other facilities inspected by this body. 11. JJDPC inspectors were specifically directed to inspect this home, though Ferree's runs two homes in the area, there are no RivCo youth at the other home, but it should be thoroughly inspected prior to placement of any youth. 12. The inspectors recommend that no additional Riverside County youth be placed in this facility until the corrective action items are addressed and the property reinspected.
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Have you completed the new requirements for accreditation pursuant to AB403? Unknown by staff.

If not, what is the estimated time of completion? N/A

Inspection respectfully conducted by:



Chris Collopy - Commission Chair/ Inspector

12/13/22

Date



Paul Parker - Commissioner / Inspector

12/13/22

Date

cc: Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Superior Court Director of Behavioral Health
Chief Probation Officer Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
Community Care Licensing County Executive Officer
Director of Group Home Office of Education Executive Director



County of Riverside
JUVENILE JUSTICE and DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION

Christopher Collopy, Chair
Michael Malsed, Vice-Chair
Tierra Bowen, Secretary-Treasurer

December 13., 2022

Ferree's Group Home, Inc. #5
Attn: Philip Ferree – Executive Director
860 S. 22nd Street
Banning, CA 92220

Re: 10/11/2022
JJJPC Inspection
Corrective Action Item(s)

Dear Mr. Ferree

This refers to the referenced October 11, 2022, inspection report performed by Mr. Christopher Collopy and Mr. Paul Parker on behalf of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJJPC). The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies area(s) examined during the inspection. Within these area(s), the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and agency records, observation, and interviews with personnel and youth within Ferree's Group Home, Inc. #5.

In this report, no items of noncompliance were identified during this inspection. However, several matters were identified which need immediate management attention. These items are documented in the report under List Items to be included in the Corrective Notification letter:

Corrective Action Item(s):

1. Management and staff must be better trained on safety issues in the home, especially how to check batteries in a smoke detector.
2. Management must become more familiar with programming available to residents so they can appropriately explain options to residents. Management was unable to explain the programming to the JJJPC inspectors.
3. Add some decor to wall areas near bedrooms to brighten the environment.
4. Add brighter LED lighting in dark hallways.
5. Ensure staff is well versed in basic cooking skills, since all residents complained about staff inability to prepare meals effectively.
6. Prepare and equip the yard space for recreational activities.
7. Examine Wi-Fi access policies to mitigate inequities.
8. Inspectors felt the home did not offer a welcoming environment for residents. Its dark and dank appearance inside and out was not at all inviting.
9. Very concerned about the dearth of food; fresh, or frozen, to accommodate residents. The staff indicated our inspection day was their food shopping day.
10. Staff and management seemed disengaged from residents, when compared to other facilities inspected by this body.
11. JJJPC inspectors were specifically directed to inspect this home. Although Ferree's runs two homes in the area, there are no Riverside County youth at the other home, but it should be thoroughly inspected prior to placement of any youth.

12. The inspectors recommend that no additional Riverside County youth be placed in this facility until the corrective action items are addressed and the property reinspected.

Please advise us in writing within thirty days concerning your intended action for the above item, including completion date.

Sincerely,



Christopher Collopy,
Chair, JJDP

Enclosure: 10/11/22 - JJDP Inspection Report - Ferree's Group Home, Inc. #5

cc w/encl: Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Superior Court
Chief Probation Officer
Community Care Licensing
Director of Group Home
JJDP Commission Central files

Director of Behavioral Health
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
County Executive Officer
Office of Education Executive Director