

San Diego County Juvenile Justice Commission Pre-Inspection Worksheet

Data from Calendar Year 2020 and 2021*

Facility Name: Polinsky Children's Center	
Facility Type: Shelter Care	
Facility Address: 9400 Ruffin Court San Diego, CA 92123-5399	Date of Inspection: December 15, 2021 (By Zoom)
	JJC Chair: Yvette D. Klepin
	JJC Admin. Officer: Scott Brown JJC Admin. Assistant: Vanessa Ramirez
	CWS Director: Kimberly Giardina
	Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court: Honorable Ana España
Facility Administrator: Norma Rincon, Deputy Director	Telephone: (858) 874-1054
JJC Inspection Team: Ed Weiner, Darwin Fishman, Dayanira Heredia, Marquetta Brown and Tezeru Teshome	
Staff and Representatives Interviewed / Met with in Person: Norman Rincon, Alicia Rogers, Elizabeth Rosas and Lerone Jenkins (all from Child Welfare Services); no representatives from New Alternatives, Inc. who handle mental health, and no representatives from San Diego Unified School District.	
Overview: The Polinsky Children's Center opened in 1994 and is San Diego County's only short-term emergency shelter for abused and neglected children. Although the average length of stay is 10 days, some children have developmental issues and are not able to be placed quickly and have stayed for a year or longer. In addition, the Covid-19 pandemic has affected re-unification efforts but the large campus with separate buildings and cottages (as well as classrooms, a cafeteria, library, medical clinic, and playgrounds) makes PCC a national model. The facility also includes a baby nursery and services infants, preschoolers and K-12 students. The initial funding of \$12 million was raised by a private foundation (which continues to provide some support) but the center is chiefly operated by San Diego Child Welfare Services as well as the San Diego Unified School District with mental health services contracted to New Alternatives, Inc. (NAI)	

The San Diego County Juvenile Justice Commission is a state-mandated, court-appointed citizens' commission. Its purpose is to inquire into the administration of juvenile court law in San Diego County, to provide leadership for citizen action and to promote an effective juvenile justice system operated in an environment of credibility, dignity, fairness and respect for the youth of San Diego County

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COMMISSION COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LAST INSPECTION

On the date of inspection, there were 71 children on campus. During the time period that schools were open, 31 attended their home schools—some in person, and some virtually. Others utilized the four classrooms on site supervised by at least three certified teachers plus one special education teacher. IEPs are given priority and connected to the "home" school of the student as soon as possible. Although no teachers were part of the Juvenile Justice Commission's (JJC) Zoom inspection, the Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) staff communicated the education climate in enough detail to assure us that education in the pandemic was as good as it could be.

The fact that PCC is an open campus attributes to AWOLs being part and parcel of its operations. Staff members always follow the youth leaving the campus, talk to them about safety, and if they do AWOL, PCC will contact law enforcement. PCC continues collaborating with local law enforcement.

The PCC staff brought up the fact that written complaints by youth continue to increase as the kids are encouraged to write notes/complaints and PCC staff use these to interact with the kids and develop continuing relationships with them.

We observed staff diversity in our interviews with PCC supervisors but did not specifically discuss the diversity of new hires (noted by last year's JJC team to constitute 60 new staff)

The Pre-Inspection Worksheet for this year included a number of questions and responses about LBGTQI+ youth, entry procedures, use of proper pronouns, and safety.

We did not sense that there was a lack of activities for the youth at PCC but some staff could easily assume the role of child development leader. We did note that when the campus was open to 'pet therapy' volunteers and others (e.g. volunteer readers), there was better engagement. As the pandemic remains, perhaps Zoom sessions could include educational movies, art and music programs and other activities.

PCC has always been known for its great food and Chef Robert continues that tradition and certainly will or has prepared food (no pork, vegetarian) as requested.

PCC encourages Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) to work with the youth either visiting on campus (when not prohibited by COVID-19 protocols) or contacting the youth by Zoom or by phone. New CASA matches could be assisted by PCC staff and that could advance the Nurtured Heart and Restorative Justice approaches."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Mental Health issues were not fully discussed as the 'mental health' component provided by New Alternatives, Inc. contractors was not present during the inspection. The JJC team asked why New Alternatives replaced the prior contractor, Fred Finch Youth & Family Services, but no answer was provided except that the contract was handled by Health and Human Services staff and not by PCC staff.

Recommendation #1: The JJC recommends HHS evaluate the use of San Diego County-employed mental health clinicians in lieu of contracted mental health providers. Sometimes contractors (like NAI) are not privy to all health-related records (it is believed that NAI has no access to Special Incident Reports) within the County's auspices and the JJC believes that mental health during the pandemic is crucial and coordination with County clinicians at Polinsky is the best option for working with these abused and neglected children."

Medications, including psychotropic drugs can have an effect on youth's behavior, therefore it is important for staff to have knowledge in how to interact and engage with youth. This information is

shared during multidisciplinary team meetings. Recommendation #2: The JJC recommends that PCC continues to track and monitor children on medications, including psychotropic drugs to ensure cross-collaboration between all providers.

In discussing suicidal behavior and suicidal ideation, PCC staff stated that any suicidal manifestation would trigger a trip to Rady Children's Hospital for assessment. Also discussed was the Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS), a simple questionnaire which could be given to kids at entry to PCC. The Juvenile Probation Department agreed to utilize the C-SSRS questionnaire at entry to Juvenile detention facilities which has been beneficial for mental health staff in evaluating youth. Recommendation #3: The JJC recommends the C-SSRS to determine suicidal tendencies and to help determine whether a kid is suicidal or severely depressed.

COMMENDATIONS:

Polinsky Children's Center has gained a superlative reputation as more than just a shelter for abused and neglected children. It has evidenced a cooperative endeavor with private volunteers, educators, health providers, and law enforcement providing a spacious and wonderful campus setting allowing for coping during the pandemic. Its work with infants and pre-school children is especially noteworthy.

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE INSPECTION TEAM:

In the Zoom meeting, the Pro-ACT (Professional Assault Crisis Training) procedure was discussed. The JJC understands Pro-ACT to require up to four staff members to restrain each of a child's limbs, and this is used as a last resort. For future inspections, the JJC will be requesting data points in regards to restraints, such as how many instances, how many youth injuries, how many staff injuries, etc.

ADMINISTRATION / MANAGEMENT

Admission and Orientation:

Are minors oriented to rules and procedures? Yes No

Are minors given copies of rules and procedures? Yes No

Can minors request that rules and procedures be provided in a language other than English? Yes No

Can parents request that rules and procedures be provided in a language other than English? Yes No

Are minors required to sign a document indicating they understand rules and procedures? Yes No

Are rules and procedures posted anywhere in the facility? Yes No
If yes, please indicate the number of postings and the locations.

Number: 8

Locations: Cottages B, C, D, E, G, H and intake

Are staff trained in LGBTQI+ competency? Yes No

Has special LGBTQI+, ally and/or bystander training been implemented? Yes No

Do you ask youth their gender identity and preferred pronouns during intake? Yes No

How are LGBTQI+ youth identified upon admission to the facility?

LGBTQI+ youth are asked their preferred pronouns upon entry to Polinsky Children's Center. Staff are also made aware so that they use the youth's preferred name and pronoun.

How do you work with youth who identify as non-binary, queer, queergender, non-conforming (neither male nor female)?

Staff use preferred pronouns and youth are placed in their preferred cottage. The Special Incident Report has been updated to reflect male, female, transgender male, transgender female and other. New staff receive an all-inclusive LGBTQI+ training to have knowledge on how to meet the needs of our youth. In addition, LGBTQI+ youth are encouraged to participate in activities that support their emotional well-being such as Pride and The San Diego LGBT Community Center in Hillcrest.

What safety measures are in place to ensure that LGBTQI+ youth are safe and protected from harmful encounters?

Youth are placed in their preferred cottage. Cottage staff is vigilant and on top of any concerns. Staff meet daily during shift change to discuss any concerns regarding safety for all children and put a plan in place to keep children safe. All worries and concerns are discussed and a plan of action is put in place. LGBTQI+ youth are offered a private bedroom.

What steps are taken to ensure that minors are explained the rules and procedures in a developmentally appropriate manner?

All children over the age of six are explained the rules by a trauma informed intake worker. The child is given the PCC Resident Orientation Handbook, which details the general rules at Polinsky Children's Center. Additionally, they are given handouts with the rules and procedures listed. The children read and sign the handouts. This documentation is placed in the child's file. All children are fully orientated to procedures with age, development and appropriate language provided. Children are provided with verbal and written copies of the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing "Personal Rights of Children's Residential Facilities," and with the "Youth Complaint Form" at Intake. Additionally, "Youth Complaint Forms" and a copy of the "Foster Youth Personal Rights" are posted in each cottage and at Intake.

Personal Property and Monies:

Are personal property and monies recorded, stored, and returned upon release? Yes No

Describe the types of personal property that may be kept in sleeping rooms:

Children are allowed to keep personal items in their sleeping rooms such as jewelry, clothing, pictures, money, magazines, books, school supplies, toys, stationery and art supplies, as well as some of their hygiene items (perfume/cologne, make-up). Some of the children have their cell phones and personal electronic equipment in their sleeping rooms; others may elect to have them stored in the Polinsky Children's Center storage.

Youth Release and Transition:

Are there established protocols for transitioning youth out of the facility and into the community? * Yes No

**Please attach policy/protocol.*

Are transition concerns regarding youth relayed to assigned staff in the community? Yes No

Has the facility received any complaints from parents/guardians regarding the transition process? Yes No

If so, how many? N/A

Has the facility received any complaints from attorneys regarding the transition process? Yes No

If so, how many? N/A

Accommodations for the Disabled:

Does the facility accept youth with disabilities (Emotional, Physical, Special Needs)? Yes No

Is the facility ADA compliant? Yes No

Has the facility been found to be non-ADA compliant in the calendar year?

Yes No

Has the facility received any complaints regarding the placement of Youth with disabilities (Emotional, Physical, Special Needs)?

Yes No

Does the facility offer Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE) to Youth with Disabilities?

Yes No

SECURITY AND CONTROL

Permanent Logs:

Are there policies and procedures in place that describe the types of incidents and occurrences which must be documented on a daily basis? Yes No

Are these logs stored electronically? N/A Yes No

If logs are stored electronically, is there sufficient technical support to ensure that the electronic files that contain these logs are not compromised, corrupted, or deleted? N/A Yes No

Security Features:

Does the facility have security features (cameras, locks, alarms, etc.)? Yes No

If yes, please describe security features:

There are 50 cameras throughout the facility, which can be reviewed. In addition, there are alarms on the emergency side doors.

Are there staff members on site who have the skills to maintain security features? Yes No

Security Inspections:

Does the administrator in charge visually inspect the facility for security-related concerns? Yes No

If yes, how often: Weekly visual inspections are conducted on and around the perimeter of the Polinsky Children's Center campus. Random and as needed visual inspections are also conducted to investigate all security related- concerns.

Are random reviews of security tapes conducted? N/A Yes No
If yes, how often: Security tapes are reviewed one time per week.

Control of Dangerous Materials:

Are dangerous materials (toxins, biohazards, etc.) stored on site? Yes No

If yes:

A. What materials are stored? N/A

B. Where are materials stored? N/A

Do youth have access to the dangerous materials? Yes No

If yes, what protocols are in place to ensure Youth safety?
N/A

Non-Hazardous Furnishings:

Are mattresses and bedding fire-resistant and non-toxic? Yes No

Control of Contraband:

Are there written policies that describe contraband? Yes No

Are there written policies that describe the disposition of contraband? Yes No

Has a weapon been found in the facility during the calendar year?
If yes, where? Yes No

Has a Youth been found in possession of any illegal controlled
substance (i.e. alcohol, tobacco, or drugs) during the calendar year? Yes No

How many incidents during the calendar year: 187

Please describe the type of contraband: Most items including marijuana, cocaine, tobacco cigars & cigarettes as well as vaping devices were confiscated upon intake and before entry onto campus during a routine search of the child's personal belongings.

Resident Searches:

Do staff search sleep areas/rooms? Yes No

If staff search sleep areas/rooms, do staff search in the presence of the youth? Yes No

If staff search sleep areas/rooms, is clean bedding or clothes mixed with
soiled bedding or clothes during this process? Yes No

Accountability and Supervision:

Describe measures taken to ensure that youth are supervised in a manner that provides for youth and staff safety.

Staff to child ratio is 1:4 for children over the age of six and 1:3 for children under the age of six. In addition, children may be staffed 1:1 if needed. Staff conduct physical counts of all children in their care throughout each shift and as requested by the Duty Officer. Mandatory counts occur several times throughout the day including meal times, bath time, return to/from school, before, during, and after community outings, and at bedtime with random bed checks every 10 minutes during the overnight shift. Children under the age of 12 have been prevented from leaving campus via manual restraint when written into their Individual Needs and Services Plan for their safety and well-being.

Use of Force:

Does the facility utilize "use-of-force" techniques? Yes No

If yes, does the facility have written policies regarding use of force? N/A Yes No

Please highlight if the policy includes the following:

- A. Staff Development
 - a. Including "staff-to-staff" intervention strategies
 - b. Training (Evidenced based/Culturally Competent)
- B. Documentation Process
- C. Reporting Process
- D. Use of Force Review Process

If not, how do you ensure staff development, documentation, reporting, and review processes occur?

N/A as Use of Force is not utilized at Polinsky.

Use of Restraints:

Does the facility utilize "restraint" techniques? Yes No

If yes, does the facility have written policies regarding "use-of-restraint"? N/A Yes No *Please highlight if the policy includes the following:*

- A. Staff Development
 - a. Including "staff-to-staff" intervention strategies

- b. Training (Evidenced based/Culturally Competent)
- B. Documentation Process
- C. Reporting Process
- D. Use-of-Restraint Review Process

If not, how do you ensure staff development, documentation, reporting, and review processes occur?
N/A

Tool & Equipment Control:

- Is there a written policy to ensure the adequate control of keys? Yes No
- Is there a written policy to ensure the adequate control of tools? Yes No
- Is there a written policy to ensure the adequate control of culinary utensils and equipment? Yes No
- Is there a written policy to ensure the adequate control of medical equipment? Yes No
- Is there a written policy to ensure the adequate control of supplies? Yes No
- Is there a written policy to ensure the adequate control of vehicles? Yes No

Weapons Control:

- Are weapons of any types permitted in the facility? N/A Yes No
- Is there a weapons locker on site? N/A Yes No

Discipline:

- Does the facility have written policies that describe the discipline process? Yes No
- If yes, Do the policies include Culturally Competent and Evidence Based practices? N/A Yes No
- Are measures taken to ensure that due process is preserved? N/A Yes No
- What percentage of discipline grievances/appeals are resolved in support of the Youth? N/A%

Contingency/Emergency Plans:

Are there written plans in place for the following contingencies/emergencies? Check all that apply.

- Contagious disease outbreak (Tuberculosis, Flu, etc.)
- Earthquake
- Fire
- Power outage/failure
- Unit Disturbance or Riot
- Other: Cottage Disturbance
- Other: N/A

HOSPITALIZATION, ASSAULT AND AWOL HISTORY:

Peer-to-Peer Assaults in Calendar Year:

Total number of Peer-to-Peer Assaults: **637**
Total number of Peer-to-Peer Assaults resulting in injury requiring treatment: **83**
Total number of Peer-to-Peer Assaults resulting in referral to:
_____ Community Based Organization
_____ Social Worker
_____ Probation
43 _____ Law Enforcement
_____ Other:

Total number of Peer-to-Peer Assaults resulting in youth being removed from the facility by:
6 _____ Law Enforcement
_____ Probation
_____ Social Worker

Resident-to-Staff Assaults in Calendar Year:

Total number of Resident-to-Staff Assaults: **282**
Total number of Resident-to-Staff Assaults resulting in injury requiring treatment: **26**
Total number of Resident-to-Staff Assaults resulting in referral to:
_____ Community Based Organization
_____ Social Worker
_____ Probation
36 _____ Law Enforcement
_____ Other:

Total number of Resident-to-Staff Assaults resulting in youth being removed from the facility by:
15 _____ Law Enforcement
_____ Probation
_____ Social Worker

Please be prepared to discuss the following areas with JJC Inspection Team

Serious Incidents During the Calendar Year:

Number of suicides: **0**
Number of attempted suicides: **0**
Number of deaths from other causes: **0**

**Please provide written policies and procedures related to Suicide and Suicide Attempts.*

Hospitalizations:

Number of instances of injury that required: first aid, medical intervention, or hospitalization in Calendar Year: There were 1529 First Aid visits to Nursing, 43 visits to the Emergency Department and 11 Medical Hospitalizations.

Number of Youth Hospitalized due to Mental Health reasons in Calendar Year: **12**
Average length of stay in Hospital: **2.5 days**
Number of Youth that returned to the facility after hospitalizations: **6**

**Please provide written policies and procedures related to Youth Hospitalization.*

AWOLS

Number of Instances: **311**

Number of Youth (non-duplicated): **89**

Does the facility have written policy and procedures regarding AWOL?

Yes No

**Please provide a copy*

FACILITY_BACKGROUND

Other Inspections (please list most recent inspections and dates):

Community Care Licensing: August 2019

Fire Marshal: March 2, 2021

Department of Environmental Health:

Other: Public pool inspection November 20, 2021

Other: Food inspection June 24, 2021

Date of Last Fire Drill: July 13, 2021

Date of Last Lock Down Drill: N/A

Resident/Staff Composition and Communication:

Ratios:

Under age 6, staff to child ratio - 1:3 (24 hours per day).

Over age 6, staff to child ratio - 1:4 (24 hours per day).

Staff will recognize and respond to the inherent uniqueness of each child's situation, personality and needs while engaging each and every child. In addition there is a Resident Handbook that children receive when they go through the intake process and are fully oriented to procedures with careful attention to the age and developmental ability of every child. Intake staff also sit with each child and fill out the "All about Me" worksheet in order for Cottage Staff to learn more about each child, in their own voice. Child friendly bulletin boards with Youth Rights are posted in all cottages and Youth Complaint & Engagement boxes are easily accessible to every youth.

General Facility Condition:

The campus includes six residential home-like cottages, an infant nursery, medical clinic, school, library, cafeteria, gymnasium, two swimming pools, three playgrounds, and an athletic field. Polinsky Children's Center also boasts an expansive Intake and interactive Visitation area as well as a standalone laundry room.

Polinsky Children's Center also houses an Administrative building, serving as the operational headquarters for the campus. Adjacent to the Administration building is the Ronald McDonald Children's Charities Prevention Pavilion, which provides meetings rooms for training, volunteer coordination, and other services.

Housing/Sleeping Accommodations:

Polinsky Children's Center holds six residential cottages as well as an infant nursery. Five of the six cottages (D-H) are utilized for older children and are situated in the center of the campus. Cottages D-H have a total of 13 bedrooms and the Infant and Toddler Cottage have a total of 10 bedrooms. Each cottage has separate bedrooms, a day room, dining room, kitchen, and an outdoor patio area. Children are separated by age group. Common areas include a kitchen, phone room and living room.

Storage:

Polinsky Children's Center has multiple storage areas at its disposal. These include an upstairs closet storage area in each of the cottages as well as a personal dresser in each room for a child's personal belongings. The Polinsky Warehouse provides storage for many supplies and donations that assist with daily operations such as hygiene items and toys. Polinsky also has emergency storage container(s) throughout the campus and a storage area in the kitchen used for dry goods, pantry items as well as emergency supplies.

Facility Capacity:

Polinsky Children's Center is licensed for 204 children.

Average Length of Stay:

The Average length of stay for calendar year 2020 was 19 days.

TRAINING, PERSONNEL, AND MANAGEMENT

Child Supervision and Staffing Levels:

Staff to child ratio is 1:3 for children under the age of six and 1:4 for children over the age of six. Additional staff are available to provide 1:1 enhancement supervision for children with special needs and behavioral concerns.

Training: *[Specify types, frequency and what roles are required to attend]*

Polinsky Children's Center staff are required to complete 76 hours of initial training that includes New Staff Orientation, Children in Transition, Mandated Child Abuse Reporting, Special Incident Report Writing, Trauma Informed Practice, Workplace Violence, Nurtured Heart Approach, Pro-ACT, Food Safety, Water Safety, CPR/AED and First Aid, and Universal Safety Precautions. Staff working with children under the age of six are also required to take 48 hours of additional training to include, but not limited to the following topics: abuse, neglect and development, bonding and attachment, cultural competency, trauma and brain damage, preventative health practices, and limit setting. Refresher courses are available to staff every 1-3 years, depending on the class.

Staff Background and Reference Checks:

- Do staff members have an initial background before they are hired? Yes No
- Do staff members have reference checks before they are hired? Yes No
- Do staff members meet with a psychologist before they are hired? Yes No
- Do staff members undergo drug testing before they are hired? Yes No
- Do staff members undergo periodic criminal history checks after they are employed? Yes No

If yes, date of last periodic background check: N/A

If no, what safeguards are in place to capture staff criminal conduct?

Polinsky Children's Center receives ongoing status notifications of any criminal history or new arrests.

GRIEVANCES, REPORTING INCIDENTS AND STAFF MISCONDUCT

Problems/Complaints Affecting Facility During the Calendar Year:

Court Orders Affecting Facility (please have available, if applicable): Yes No

Pending Litigation: Yes No

Does the facility have a formal grievance policy? Yes No

Grievances:

Number of Written Complaints / Grievances Involving:

- Residents (youth): 0
- Attorneys: 0
- Family Members: 0
- Medical: 0
- Other: 0

Are written grievances reviewed daily? Yes No

Are grievances tracked in some manner that would permit facility leaders to observe trends in grievance reports? Yes No

Is there a method for youth to be able to express concerns about the facility to a staff member who is not assigned to their cottage? Yes No

Are youth made aware on a routine basis that they can express concerns about their placement to their case worker, social worker and/or attorneys? Yes No

Reporting of Incidents: *[Please be prepared to discuss with JJC Inspection Team.]*

Youth Complaint & Appeal Forms are placed in every cottage. Complaints are collected daily, logged and forwarded to Management for their review. Youth are able to appeal their grievance which can be elevated to the Director of the facility.

Staff Misconduct:

Are there written policies for addressing staff misconduct? Yes No

Have there been any allegations in the calendar year of a staff member physically assaulting a youth? Yes No

Have there been any allegations in the calendar year of staff member sexually assaulting a youth? Yes No

Have there been any allegations in the calendar year of a staff member verbally threatening a youth? Yes No

Have there been any allegations in the calendar year of a staff member touching a youth in any inappropriate way? Yes No

Have there been any allegations in the calendar year of a staff member commenting on the physical appearance of a youth in a manner that is outside the scope of the staff member's job duties? Yes No

Have there been any allegations in the calendar year of a staff member entering a youth's sleeping room for any reason that was outside the scope of the staff member's job duties?

Yes No

If the answer is yes to any of the inquiries related to allegations, is there written documentation of the incident, follow-up, and responsive action?

Yes No

Please describe the circumstances related to any of the allegations noted above: There was one personal rights allegation for sexual assault that was investigated and closed as Unsubstantiated by Community Care Licensing. There were 8 allegations made for physical abuse including, (2) for staff choking client, (1) for staff being in a physical altercation with a minor, (2) for staff hitting a foster child, (1) for staff sitting on a child causing injury, (1) for staff handling a minor in a rough manner and (1) for staff mishandling minor. 7 of the allegations were closed as Unsubstantiated and 1 was closed as Unfounded. There were 2 allegations made for verbal threats to children including staff verbally assaulting minor and staff threatening minor. Both allegations were closed as Unsubstantiated by Community Care Licensing.

CLASSIFICATION

Describe how youth are identified and appropriately placed within the facility:

**Please provide written policies and procedures*

Youth at Polinsky Children's Center are housed based on their ages. Children under the age of six are placed in Cottage B (babies) and C (toddlers). Children between the ages of 6 and 12 are housed in gender neutral cottages. Youth over the age of 12 are housed in separate cottages

COUNSELING AND CASEWORK SERVICES

Polinsky Children's Center contracts with New Alternatives, Incorporated (NAI) to provide mental health services on-site. Services are trauma informed and include crisis intervention and mental health support. A team of mental health professionals ensure that children who suffer from serious psychiatric and psychological disturbances are identified and provided appropriate mental health care at Polinsky Children's Center. When requested, NAI staff meet to assess children who may be experiencing common reactions, such as sadness and anxiety, to their new environment. Staff provide an array of mental health services including crisis intervention, psychosocial behavior health assessments, psychiatric assessments, medication support or management, individual or group therapy, case management and intensive care coordination. In addition, children receive services pursuant to their case plan as directed by their County social worker.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

School Program:

The San Diego Unified School District operates a school on site for children pre-kindergarten through high school. Children attend this school if they are unable to attend their school of origin. Bilingual assistance and special education are provided. Polinsky Children's Center and the San Diego School District coordinate the transportation of children to and from their schools of origin.

Parenting Classes:

Parenting Classes for youth at Polinsky Children's Center are not offered, however, youth can be transported to classes in the community.

Recreation and Exercise:

Polinsky Children's Center offers structured exercise activities through a contract with Healthy Adventures. Polinsky Children's Center also offers a running club, swimming at an on-site pool and a community garden. These activities are monitored by the Polinsky Recreation Coordinator.

Religious Program:

Religious services are voluntary. Polinsky Children's Center has the ability to coordinate and provide transportation for youth to go off campus to the religious program/affiliation of their choice and provides bibles upon request. Religious food restrictions are also adhered to.

Work Program/Vocational Training:

Per their request, teens are able to have a part-time job and/or attend vocational training.

Visiting:

Polinsky Children's Center offers supervised and unsupervised visits in an identified family visitation area on campus. This area provides games, books and interactive toys for our visitors to enjoy as well as an outside patio area with tables.

Correspondence:

At Polinsky Children's Center, children have the ability to receive and write letters as well as make and receive phone calls.

Access to Legal Services:

Each child is assigned an attorney through Children's Legal Services who has access to the child for visits/interviews at Polinsky Children's Center. Each child is provided a private space to speak to their attorney.

HEALTH SERVICES

MEAL SERVICE

Are kitchen staff members trained regarding sanitation and food handling procedures?

Yes No

Have kitchen staff members received any training in the calendar year other than training given to newly hired employees?

Yes No

If yes, describe what the training included:

- January: CUSTOMER SERVICE
- February: FACILITY STANDARDS
- March: OVERVIEW OF FOODBORNE MICROORGANISMS
- April: CONTROLLING FOOD COSTS
- May: PERSONAL HYGIENE
- June: PREPARATION, COOKING AND SERVING
- July: CLEANING AND SANITATION
- August: COVID -19 Precautions Food Delivery/ Handling
- September: COVID-19 Precautions Storage
- October: Maintaining Food Safety
- November: Civil Rights
- December: Dish Machine Operation/SAFE CHEMICAL USE

Do youth work in the kitchen?

Yes No

If yes above, have they been trained?

Yes No

Describe the types of work youth perform: N/A

Are meals served cafeteria style?

Yes No

Are youth permitted 20 minutes or more to eat?

Yes No

Who/what agency maintains the kitchen area? Food Management Associates

Adequate and Varied Meals:

Is there a weekly menu posted? Yes No

Does a nutritionist, dietitian, or other health professional participate in the creation of the menu? Yes No

How many calories per day does a youth who eats all of the standard meals provided consume? Calories vary for different age groups and needs

What approximate percent of calories are from the following:

Protein: 30 %

Carbohydrate: 40

% Fat: 30 %

Are weaker youths protected from having food taken from them? Yes No

Special Diets:

Can special diets be accommodated when medically necessary? Yes No

Was the facility unable to accommodate a special diet based on medical reasons during the calendar year? Yes No

If yes:

A. What accommodations was the facility unable to meet?
N/A

B. What modifications to accommodate the youth?
N/A

Can special diets be accommodated when based on a youth's religious practices or beliefs? Yes No

Was the facility unable to accommodate a special diet based on a youth's religious practices or beliefs in the calendar year? Yes No

If yes:

A. What accommodations was the facility unable to meet?
N/A

B. What modifications to accommodate the youth?
N/A

SANITATION

Clothing and Personal Hygiene:

Are youth provided with personal hygiene products upon entry to the facility? Yes No

If yes, what policies are in place to ensure Culturally sensitive products are provided accordingly?

Polinsky Children's Center offers textured hair care products for African American children. Staff are trained for specific hair care and youth are taken to specialized salons for their hair care needs.

If no, are youth provided a stipend to purchase their own products? N/A Yes No

Bedding and Linens:

How often are clean linens provided to youth? Clean linens are always available in cottages

How often are clean blankets provided to youth? Clean blankets are always available in cottage.