

AUDIT FINDINGS

NARRATIVE:

The Audit of the Lakeside Academy was conducted from March 3-5, 2014 by DOJ-certified auditor Steven Jett. Present during the audit were Erin Newton, the facility's PREA Compliance Manager, Sequel Corporate PREA Coordinator Sonja Schierling, Lakeside Executive Director Steve Laidacker.

For the audit, 18 residents were interviewed and 17 staff were interviewed. Sampling was used for training records, background check records and other records. In some cases, in particular the incidents of sexual contact, all available records were checked.

Most of the audit was conducted in the administrative building, but the entire facility was included in the tour. The tour of the facility was conducted by residents, with PREA Compliance Manager and Corporate PREA Coordinator Sonja Shierlling accompanying. There were plenty of opportunities for questions of the PREA Coordinator and CM out of hearing range of the resident tour guides.

For staff interviews, the agency-wide PREA Coordinator, PREA Compliance Manager, Facility Director, supervisor and 12 random staff were interviewed. For resident interviews, 17 random residents were interviewed along with 1 resident that had reported sexual harassment.

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY CHARACTERISTICS:

The Lakeside Academy is a facility run under the umbrella of Sequel Youth Services. The facility is operated on the campus of a non-profit organization in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The facility is not a secure facility, and therefore is not subject to the staff ratio of 1:8 that will become effective on October 1, 2017. However, they are held to standards that are set by the State of Michigan, and were found to be well within that ratio.

The campus is well maintained for the most part. Residents participate in some of the maintenance. A large recreation facility was in the construction phase which will handle activities and events.

The atmosphere was relaxed and comfortable. Residents spoke freely with staff as we toured the facility. Several residents were asked questions during the tour, allowing the auditor to ask candid questions outside the formal interview process.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS:

The audit visit of the Lakeside Academy in Kalamazoo, MI was completed in early March, 2014. The audit results issued on April 7 show that Lakeside was deficient in only 29 standards. Per

PREA Standards, any deficiency in compliance triggers a 180-day corrective action period, and a final deadline for completing corrective action was set at October 7, 2014.

On October 3, 2014, the last item was forwarded to the auditor. Since compliance with several of the corrective action items involved staff training, Skype interviews were held on the first available opportunity (October 10) to ascertain the effectiveness of the required training. The various staff members that were interviewed on that day were well versed on new policies and recently completed training. On that day, I contacted the several officials at Lakeside to inform them that all corrective action items had been taken care of and that the facility was compliant with the PREA Standards.

AUDITOR CERTIFICATION:

The auditor certifies that the contents of the report are accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and no conflict of interest exists with respect to his or her ability to conduct an audit of the agency under review.



Auditor Signature

November 6, 2014

Date