

Mailed 6-22-2009

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Community Care Licensing Division
Statewide Children's Residential Program
Out-of-State Certification Unit
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 ~ MS 19-50



June 22, 2009

Karen Bishop, Director
Walden School (Learning Center for the Deaf)
848 Central Street
Framingham, MA 01701

**SUBJECT: CERTIFICATION RENEWAL
WALDEN SCHOOL (LEARNING CENTER FOR THE DEAF)**

Dear Ms. Bishop:

Enclosed is Walden School's annual report for re-certification based on out-of-state certification analyst Carol Lancaster's recent on-site visit to the facility. We ask that you read and sign the bottom of each page where indicated; make a copy for your records; and return the report immediately, along with a cover letter reflecting receipt and review of the report along with a statement indicating agreement to satisfy the plan of correction by the date indicated.

Please note that in order for this year's re-certification to be approved, it will be necessary to address the area of non-compliance outlined in page four of the report by satisfying the plan of correction indicated. We ask that this be accomplished by submitting documents/procedures to the California Department of Social Services relative to this area no later than Friday, July 24, 2009. Once this is successfully accomplished, the re-certification process will be complete.

I thank you and your staff for your cooperation during this year's visit. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the report further, please contact Carol Lancaster at (916) 838-5751.

Sincerely,

MEI YUK KUNG, Program Chief

Enclosure

FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT

FACILITY NAME: WALDEN SCHOOL	FACILITY NUMBER: 602300041
ADMINISTRATOR: KAREN BISHOP	FACILITY TYPE: 731
ADDRESS: 848 CENTRAL STREET	TELEPHONE: (508) 626-8581
CITY: FRAMINGHAM	STATE: MA
CAPACITY: 40	ZIP CODE: 01701
TYPE OF VISIT: Case Management	CENSUS: 31
MET WITH: Karen Bishop, Director	UNANNOUNCED
	DATE: 06/16/2009
	TIME BEGAN: 09:30 AM
	TIME COMPLETED: 02:30 PM

NARRATIVE1 PURPOSE OF VISIT:

2

3 As mandated by California law, this annual review was performed by the undersigned analyst for the purpose
4 of re-certification by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to verify the facility continues to:

- 5 • have adequate and appropriate resources to provide safe, suitable 24-hour residential care, supervision
- 6 and treatment services to youth/clients in care.
- 7 • remain in substantial compliance with California licensing standards and regulations as well as
- 8 remaining licensed and in good standing with the licensing authorities of the state of geographical
- 9 location - - in this case, the state of Massachusetts.

10

11 CDSS CERTIFICATION HISTORY

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13 The Walden School (Learning Center for the Deaf) was first certified by the California Department of Social
14 Services (CDSS) March 6, 2007, after successfully undergoing a lengthy application process and initial site
15 visit and evaluation conducted June 29, 2006.

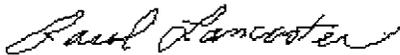
16

17 FACILITY, PHYSICAL PLANT, PROGRAM AND ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEW AND CHANGES:

18

19 The Walden School continues to operate as both a residential facility and educational program which offers
20 comprehensive treatment and educational services to deaf children and adolescents who are challenged by
21 severe social and emotional difficulties resulting from childhood trauma, mental illness and/or organic
22 dysfunction. While in care, students learn new behaviors, build self-esteem and maximize their individual
23 potential in a structured, supportive and non-punitive environment.

24

25 *(NOTE: For a complete description and overview of the Walden School and its program, purpose,
methods and goals, reference the initial certification report of June 29, 2006.)***SUPERVISOR'S NAME:** Mei Yuk Kung**TELEPHONE:** (916) 327-8763**LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME:** Carol Lancaster**TELEPHONE:** (916) 838-5751**LICENSING EVALUATOR SIGNATURE:****DATE:** 06/16/2009

I acknowledge receipt of this form and understand my licensing appeal rights as explained and received.

FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:**DATE:** 06/16/2009

This report must be available at Child Care and Group Home facilities for public review for 3 years.

FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

FACILITY NAME: WALDEN SCHOOL

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300041

VISIT DATE: 06/16/2009

NARRATIVE

1 CHILDREN IN CARE:
2
3 At the time of visit, the census was 31. No children from California were in placement - - the last CA child
4 there being discharged in April of 2008. States with children in placement included: Massachusetts, Maine,
5 New Hampshire, Maryland, Delaware, New York and Rhode Island.
6
7 LOCAL STATE LICENSING / OTHER OVERSIGHT AGENCY INFORMATION
8
9 Walden School's residential program is licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of
10 Early Education and Care. The facility has a licensing/certification capacity of 40. There are four residences
11 on the campus - - each licensed individually as Group Care Programs:
12 • Walden School (Main Building) located at 80 Kellogg Street - - Capacity: 24
13 • Green House located on campus at 830 Central Street - - Capacity 6
14 • Brown House located on campus at 320 Prospect Street - - Capacity 5
15 • Prospect House located on campus at 300 Prospect Street - - Capacity 5
16
17 The most recent licenses were issued on July 11, 2007. The licenses are good for two years - - due to expire
18 July 10, 2009. In discussing Massachusetts licensing status with Director Karen Bishop, she reported that
19 Massachusetts Licensing recently did their site evaluation May 18-19, 2009, but to date, has not issued its
20 reports in relation to that site visit. She agreed to provide such reports once received as well as copies of the
21 new licenses issued.
22
23 Health Inspection Reports issued by the Town of Framingham, Board of Health dated 3/23/2009 were also
24 provided. They reflected that all residences inspected were deemed to be in compliance with Chapter II of
25 the State Sanitary Code and other regulations pertinent to the following areas: Kitchen facility; food storage
26 and preparation; water supply; hot water temperature; bathroom areas; sewage system; lighting and electrical
27 operations; heat; ventilation; smoke detectors; exits; asbestos; garbage and rubbish disposal and storage;
28 control of insects, rodents and skunks.
29
30 Certificates of Inspection issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Framingham in accordance with the
31 Massachusetts State Building Code reflect that means of egress are sufficient for the structures on the
32 campus also. Those certificates were issued March 24, 2009, and expire on March 24, 2010.

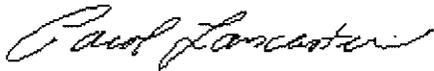
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TELEPHONE: (916) 327-8763

LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME: Carol Lancaster

TELEPHONE: (916) 838-5751

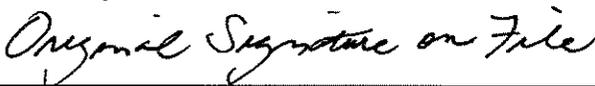
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FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

FACILITY NAME: WALDEN SCHOOL

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300041

VISIT DATE: 06/16/2009

NARRATIVE

1 The educational program operated twelve months a year at the Walden School is licensed by the
2 Massachusetts Department of Education as a special education school. Full approval to operate was last
3 granted January 15, 2008 and will continue through 2009-2010.
4
5 The Walden School is also approved by District of Columbia Public Schools as a special education
6 school/program. That approval, issued July 9, 2007, was granted for three years.
7
8 FIRE CLEARANCE:
9
10 According to fire inspection reports issued by the Framingham MA Fire Department, all group living
11 residences on campus were last inspected March 14, 2008 and these facilities were certified to be in
12 compliance with the rules and regulations of the Board of Fire Prevention.
13
14 The facility maintains a log of fire drills conducted in a computerized data base. They are required to conduct
15 fire drills on each of the three shifts twice yearly.
16
17 SCOPE OF RE-CERTIFICATION REVIEW:
18
19 • Entrance interview with Director Karen Bishop.
20 • Collection of updated and current organizational and program information material.
21 • Tour/physical inspection of facility and grounds
22 • Review and discussion of serious incident reporting, staff background checks/clearances and emergency
23 intervention procedures.
24 • Exit interview with Linda Sutton, Director of Staff Development.
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SUPERVISOR'S NAME: Mei Yuk Kung

TELEPHONE: (916) 327-8763

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FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

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FACILITY NUMBER: 602300041

VISIT DATE: 06/16/2009

NARRATIVE

FINDINGS: AREAS OF CONCERN AND/OR THOSE REQUIRING CORRECTION:

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2
3 During the last certification period, it was determined that no incident reports were being submitted to the
4 CDSS from the Walden School as is required by California Family Code Section 7911.1(a). As such, this
5 area was discussed with Director Karen Bishop during the facility visit. To come into compliance with
6 California's reporting requirements as they apply to children's group homes, the facility is being directed to
7 review the applicable requirements and standards and develop procedures accordingly that will bring the
8 facility into compliance. To assist in that end, guidelines and other correspondence relevant to the area are
9 being provided with this certification report. To satisfy this plan of correction, the facility must develop
10 incident reporting procedures and begin to submit reports on all reportable events and incidents by July 24,
11 2009.

CERTIFICATION DECISION:

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13 Re-Certification to occur upon the Walden School successfully meeting the plan of correction described
14 above by July 24, 2009.
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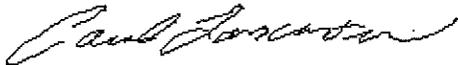
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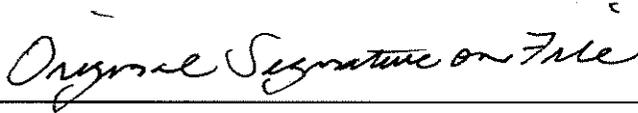
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