



STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
744 P STREET, MS 8-3-54  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814



September 22, 2014

SUMMIT ACADEMY- 602300080  
839 HERMAN ROAD  
HERMAN, PA 16039

**SUBJECT : Initial Certification by the California Department of Social Services**

Capacity : 353 Males, Ages 14 -17

Pursuant to California Family Code Section 7911 et al., this is official notification that certification for the Summit Academy located at the address referenced above is approved.

Certification will be re-reviewed annually or more often should non-compliance with California Title 22 licensing standards as they apply to California group homes become questionable or at issue. Additionally, serious incidents must be reported to the CDSS Out-of-State Placement Policy Unit for each child in care regardless of whether he or she is a California placement. Incident reporting shall include the following:

- a. Deaths
- b. Suicide attempts
- c. Suspected physical, sexual, or psychological abuse
- d. Epidemic outbreaks and catastrophes
- e. Injuries and illnesses that require hospitalization or medical treatment (beyond first-aid)
- f. Use of restraint (whether or not they result in an injury to a child)
- g. Any unusual incident or absence that threatens the health or safety of a child

While certified, we will continue to follow our Department policy which authorizes us to inspect facilities with or without an appointment as necessary.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 651-5380; or certification analyst Carol Lancaster at (916) 838-5751.

Sincerely,

  
MARISA SANCHEZ, Manager I  
Children's Residential Program  
Community Care Licensing

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA CHILD CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
COMMUNITY CARE LICENSING DIVISION  
CCLD Regional Office, 744 P STREET, MS 8-3-54  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

**FACILITY NAME:** SUMMIT ACADEMY  
**ADMINISTRATOR:** COLLEEN URISH  
**ADDRESS:** 839 HERMAN ROAD  
**CITY:** HERMAN  
**CAPACITY:** 353  
**TYPE OF VISIT:** Case Management - *Initial Cert.*  
**MET WITH:** John McCloud; Steve Shear; Ron Fuchs; Joseph Marak

**FACILITY NUMBER:** 602300080  
**FACILITY TYPE:** 731  
**TELEPHONE:** (724) 282-1995  
**ZIP CODE:** 16039  
**STATE:** PA  
**CENSUS:** 201  
**ANNOUNCED**  
**DATE:** 09/10/2014  
**TIME BEGAN:** 10:14 AM  
**TIME COMPLETED:** 03:45 PM

**NARRATIVE**

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PURPOSE OF VISIT:

As mandated by California law, this initial on-site visit was performed on September 10, 2014 by the undersigned analyst in order to assess and determine Summit Academy's eligibility and suitability to be certified as an out-of-state group home provider by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS.) To become certified, an out-of-state group home must:

1. be in substantial compliance with California's Title 22 licensing regulations which apply to children's group homes in California; as well as
2. be licensed and in good standing with the licensing laws of the state the facility is located in - - in this case the state of Pennsylvania.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION / APPLICATION HISTORY:

In a letter dated July 21, 2014, the San Francisco County Probation Department requested CDSS certification of Summit Academy.

A letter of intent and application material was received from the facility on August 11, 2014.

FACILITY INFORMATION AND PROGRAMMING:

The Summit Academy is a 353-bed residential treatment program for male juvenile offenders located in rural Butler County, Pennsylvania, approximately 60 miles northeast from Pittsburgh International Airport. A non-profit, private service provider with specialized experience and skills in treating delinquent youth, the facility began operating in 1996, offering residential care and treatment to male youth ages 14-18 from numerous Pennsylvania counties and several surrounding states based on adjudication of delinquency by a juvenile court judge.

**SUPERVISOR'S NAME:** *Marisa Sanchez*

**TELEPHONE:** (916) *651-5380*

**LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME:** Carol Lancaster

**TELEPHONE:** (916) 838-5751

**LICENSING EVALUATOR SIGNATURE:**

**DATE:** 09/22/2014

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

**FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:**

**DATE:** 09/22/2014

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

**FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)**CCLD Regional Office, 744 P STREET, MS 8-3-54  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

FACILITY NAME: SUMMIT ACADEMY

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300080

VISIT DATE: 09/10/2014

**NARRATIVE**1  
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32**FACILITY INFORMATION AND PROGRAMMING:** (Continued)

Buildings and grounds include 180,000 square feet of interior space within buildings that have four stories plus basement situated on 122 acres. The campus is equipped with an academic building, five college-style dormitories, library, auditorium, commercial cafeteria and dining amenities, medical/nursing office, space for individual and group therapy, administrative and staff offices, two gymnasiums, outdoor pool, recreational areas and a spacious athletic field. The facility is a staff secure operation without locks or delayed egress on doors.

Most student bedrooms are single rooms and contain a bed, a wardrobe (closet), a dresser and desk.

Staff to client ratio at the Summit Academy is 1:8 during daytime programming and 1:16 during sleeping hours (awake night staff.)

The premise on which the Summit Academy is founded is ..... The only true growth is self-growth". The program is designed to support and promote the Balanced Approach to Restorative Justice (BARJ) -- the goal being to help students experience a process of self-growth, achievement and accomplishment and apply those strategies on both a daily and long-term basis when they return to their homes and communities.

Length of stay varies on a case by case basis but is generally 6 to 9 months. The facility does not operate on a standardized point or level system. As the majority of youth placed at the facility have been determined to have a medical necessity for substance abuse or addiction therapy, and are ordered by the juvenile court to complete a drug and alcohol treatment program, the facility is able to meet that requirement, as in addition to being licensed for general residential treatment and services, they are also licensed by the State of Pennsylvania, Department of Health, as an Inpatient, Non-Hospital Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program.

The facility offers the following evidence-based programming in the respective areas:

**Education**

Summit Academy's licensed private academic school is regulated by the PA Department of Education for grades 9 through 12 and follows School District of Philadelphia curriculum through their Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, including:

SUPERVISOR'S NAME *Marisa Sanchez*TELEPHONE: (916) *651-5880*

LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME: Carol Lancaster

TELEPHONE: (916) 838-5751

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DATE: 09/22/2014

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FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:

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# FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

FACILITY NAME: SUMMIT ACADEMY

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300080

VISIT DATE: 09/10/2014

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**Education** (continued)

- Core curriculum instruction
- Daily supplemental math and English instruction
- Special Education

Also offered is *College Within the High School*, credentialed by Butler County Community College with full-transferable college credits and, for students with a diploma or GED, online college courses through Butler County Community College.

Summit utilizes the **Ansell Casey Life Skills** assessments within their life skills classes. The curriculum, which is incorporated into the academic day, focuses on topics from money management to self care.

In the area of drug and alcohol education, **A New Direction: A Cognitive Behavioral Curriculum** is offered. This curriculum is the educational component of the Hazelden curriculum utilized in their inpatient program.

**Counseling**

**Aggression Replacement Training: A Comprehensive Intervention for Aggressive Youth** is a 10-week group counseling curriculum which focuses on the coordinated components of social skill training, anger management and moral reason.

**Victim Awareness Counseling: Advancing Accountability, Moving Toward Victim Restoration** is designed to enhance the student understanding of the impact of crime, guide them in writing apologies, ensure that provisions are made for restitution (when possible,) and reinforce the concept of accountability for wrongful actions.

**Thanking for a Change (T4C)** is an integrated, cognitive behavioral change program for offenders, which includes cognitive restructuring, social skills development and development of problem-solving skills.

**SA Gun Violence Education (SAGE)** is a group counseling curriculum offered by Summit Academy which incorporates two evidence-based components: **Get Real About Violence (GRAV)** is designed to address a wide range of violent behavior and is used in conjunction with the PA DPW *Gun Violence Prevention* workbook.

SUPERVISOR'S NAME: *Marisa Sanchez*

TELEPHONE: (916) *657-1580*

LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME: Carol Lancaster

TELEPHONE: (916) 838-5751

LICENSING EVALUATOR SIGNATURE:

DATE: 09/22/2014

*Carol Lancaster*

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# FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)

FACILITY NAME: SUMMIT ACADEMY

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300080

VISIT DATE: 09/10/2014

## NARRATIVE

1 FACILITY INFORMATION AND PROGRAMING: (Continued)

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3 **Inpatient Drug & Alcohol Treatment**

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5 Summit Academy's non-hospital, inpatient program is:

- 6 ● accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)
- 7 ● licensed by the PA Department of Public Welfare and Department of Health
- 8 ● contracted with PA Managed Care Organizations

9  
10 Summit employs several evidence-based modalities within drug and alcohol treatment:

- 11 ● Hazelden New Directions: A Cognitive Behavior-Based Treatment (CBT) Curriculum
- 12 ● Hazelden Adolescent Co-Occurring Disorders (CBT) Series
  - 13 ● Substance use and anxiety disorders
  - 14 ● Substance use and mood disorders

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16 **Specialized Behavioral Health Counseling**

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18 Several evidence-based treatment modalities are employed within the mental health program:

- 19 ● Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)
- 20 ● Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)
- 21 ● Motivational Interviewing

22  
23 Summit Academy counselors and therapists are trained in Trauma-Informed Care. Additionally, staff  
24 members have participated in the Signs & Symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Training.

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26 **Industrial Trade Training:**

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28 Summit's PACTT-Affiliated Trades program offers theory and hands-on instruction in a variety of trades  
29 areas.

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31 The curriculum for each trade is based on the PA Department of Education, Students *Occupationally and*  
32 *Academically Ready* (SOAR) framework.

SUPERVISOR'S NAME: *Marisa Sanchez*

TELEPHONE: (916) 651-5390

LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME: Carol Lancaster

TELEPHONE: (916) 838-5751

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FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:

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**FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)**

**FACILITY NAME:** SUMMIT ACADEMY

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**Industrial Trade Training:** (Continued)

Summit offers the **ServSafe Food Safety Management Certification** course.

Additional evidence-based curriculum incorporated into Summit's Trade Training includes:

- Youth Workforce Development System Competencies
- SkillsUSA Professional Development Program
- Academic Standards for Career, Education & Work through PA Department of Education.

PA STATE LICENSING INFORMATION:

The facility is licensed by the state of Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Human Services Licensing, to provide institutional based residential services for 353 dependent and delinquent youth (License/facility number 472040.) Its current license is good for the period August 1, 2014 through August 1, 2015.

The facility is subject to visits at least annually; the most recent being conducted August 1, 2014. The facility's licensing reports can be reviewed online at [www.dpw.state.pa.us](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us). The facility is currently in good standing with PA licensing authorities and no administrative actions are pending.

FIRE CLEARANCE:

Records provided in the facility's application reflect that a fire safety inspection was last conducted August 15, 2013. The facility has been asked to provide more specific information relative to fire safety authorities who are tasked with oversight in this area and how often inspections are done.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLEARANCE:

No correspondence or records were provided relative to oversight in this area, but have been requested.

**SUPERVISOR'S NAME:** *Marissa Sanchez*

**TELEPHONE:** (916) 657-5380

**LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME:** Carol Lancaster

**TELEPHONE:** (916) 838-5751

**LICENSING EVALUATOR SIGNATURE:**

**DATE:** 09/22/2014

*Carol Lancaster*

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**NARRATIVE**OTHER ACCREDITATIONS / CERTIFICATIONS:Drug and Alcohol Licensure:

As previously mentioned, in addition to residential care and services, the facility is also licensed to provide inpatient Non-Hospital Drug Free drug and alcohol treatment for up to 162 youth. (License #107029) This licensure (by PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs) is current - - for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF):

Summit Academy is CARF certified for Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs/Addictions (juvenile justice population.)

Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI)

The facility utilizes TCI - - a crisis prevention and intervention model developed in the early 1980s by Cornell University under a grant from the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect for residential child care organizations as part of the Residential Child Care Project. The TCI system assists organizations in preventing crises from occurring, de-escalating potential crises, managing acute physical behavior, reducing potential and actual injury to young people and staff, teaching young people adaptive coping skills, and developing a learning organization. This model gives organizations a framework for implementing a crisis prevention and management system that reduces the need to rely on high-risk interventions.

SCOPE OF VISIT:

- Entrance interview, discussion of application and program material, facility policy and procedures, California Licensing standards and requirements and exit interview conducted with: Program Administrators John McCloud; Steve Shear; Court Liaison Representatives Ron Fuchs and Joseph Marak
- Buildings and grounds tour.
- A sample of staff records reviewed.

Note: No client records were reviewed due to no CA foster youth currently in care and confidentiality standards relative to examining the records of non-CA foster youth.

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FINDINGS:

The following areas meet and/or exceed California group home standards; are adequately comparable or otherwise allowable with waivers:

- Buildings and grounds: Sufficient, clean, safe, sanitary and in good repair.
- Student bedrooms are of adequate space and furnishings. Remainder of facility offers plenty of educational/study, programming and recreating space.
- Facility's meal menus, cooking and serving amenities and food supply is adequate and meet federal guidelines.
- Student's health and dental needs are met through part-time employed facility physicians and contracted physicians and hospitals in the surrounding communities. Facility's ongrounds medical clinic is staffed full time with qualified nurses and EMT's. Medications are adequately stored, locked and record keeping and dispensing methods meet standards. During any off hours of nursing and EMT staff, only those staff who are adequately trained and certified in medication handling under PA DPW standards can handle medications. Student caregiving staff are first aid/CPR trained; those staff who supervise students when swimming are adequately trained in water safety and rescue.
- Staff meet comparable background check standards and procedures to California's.
- Staff are trained/certified in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention - - a nationally known crisis prevention and intervention model developed by Cornell University in the 1980's. Several facility staff are trained as trainers who train and keep existing staff certification up to date.
- Facility is in good standing PA Licensing and other oversight authorities.
- Facility's drug and alcohol and mental health services are CARF accredited.
- Facility agrees to comply with CA incident and restraint reporting requirements on all clients in care (not just CA foster placements.)

Waivers are being granted for the following areas:

- More than two to a room in those rooms which meet space requirements.
- Standardized clothing and grooming requirements (provided same are agreed upon by student and placing official as part of admission agreement.)

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TELEPHONE: (916) *657-5380*

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CCLD Regional Office, 744 P STREET, MS 8-3-54  
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CERTIFICATION DECISION:

Approve.

**SUPERVISOR'S NAME:** *Marisa Sanchez*

**TELEPHONE:** (916) *651-5880*

**LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME:** Carol Lancaster

**TELEPHONE:** (916) 838-5751

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