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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
MEMORANDUM

TO: Celeste Sunderland  
Group Care Coordinator  
Center: 2

DATE: May 22, 1986

FROM: Edy Noah  
Caseworker  
SUNNYSIDE CSO

SUBJECT: BOYS VILLAGE GROUP HOME  
SEATTLE

As you know, D█████ W█████ was terminated from Boys Village as of 05/21/86. Please consider this memorandum as a sort of post-placement report concerning Boys Village. I have some real concerns which I believe should be addressed by the appropriate parties in the interests of any children which may be placed there in the future.

The gist of my concern is the fact that Boys Village staff have added more failure and another negative learning experience to a young life very much in need of the opposite: failure in that D█████ is well aware that he had to leave another "home" because he was a "bad boy"; and a negative learning experience in that he has had reinforced for him the belief that if he utilizes destructive, explosive behavior, he will get what he desires.

The above reasoning, of course, is not that of Boys Village staff. They put forward the idea that D█████ was simply "too much" for their program. This reasoning, however, is not acceptable since they were clearly and thoroughly informed of what to expect from him. A suggestion, therefore, is that Boys Village staff upgrade their screening process in order to place children they truly are capable of treating positively and at least a better chance of successfully.

A further problem which lent itself to D█████'s untimely termination is poor staff organization at Boys Village. The assigned case manager for D█████ was constantly harassed by the other staff to have him removed. It seems to me if one person is assigned to a particular case and mandated to oversee that case, that person's recommendations should be respected rather than fought against simply because a child is inconvenient. If the staff there are after easy and convenient jobs, I suggest they look elsewhere.

Lastly and quite telling, when it was decided to finally terminate D█████'s placement, instead of working toward a smooth transition to his next placement, the staff wanted D█████ removed immediately. Rather than leave him with obviously hostile caretakers, he was placed back home pending his new placement, which situation is much less conducive toward D█████'s stability. In my mind, this turn of events very clearly points out that the majority of Boys Village staff are more interested in smooth sailing than the welfare of their clients.