



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE  
COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF  
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS**

**DATE OF REPORT**  
9/14/2022

**DVN**  
002873421

**FACILITY NAME**

LITTLE WONDERS DAYCARE, LLC

**FACILITY ADDRESS**

10321 STATE ROAD C

**CITY**

MOKANE

**ZIP CODE**

65059-1211

**PHONE NUMBER**

(573) 220-7578

**COUNTY**

CALLAWAY

**ASSIGNED SPECIALIST**

SPAULDING, STEPHANIE

**RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)**

**VIOLATION(S)**

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)1.

Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)3.

Caregivers shall provide frequent, direct contact so children are not left unobserved on the premises.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(D)1.

Infants and toddlers shall have constant care and supervision. Home monitors or commercial devices marketed to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) shall not be used in place of supervision while children are napping or sleeping.

5 CSR 25-500.092(1)(B)1.A.

An individual cot or bed shall be provided for each child who naps or sleeps. An individually assigned sheet and blanket shall be provided for each child twelve (12) months and older who naps or sleeps. Upper levels of bunk beds shall not be used.

5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(B)

Information regarding the date and circumstance of any accident or injury shall be noted in the child's record.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(A)

Child care personnel shall be of good character and intent and shall be qualified to provide care conducive to the welfare of children.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(E)

Caregivers shall have knowledge of the needs of children and shall be sensitive to the capabilities, interests, and problems of children in care.

5 CSR 25-500.222(2)

An individual file shall be kept to identify each child and enable the provider to communicate with the parent(s), guardian or legal custodian of the child in an emergency. Records shall include:

5 CSR 25-500.222(6)

Daily staff and volunteer attendance records shall be maintained and kept on file a minimum of one (1) year.

**CONCLUSION SUMMARY**

Compliance Inspector (CI) Stephanie Spaulding investigated an allegation that on August 26th, Parent A was called and told Child A unlocked a door and a child gate and escaped from the day care and was found under a car port near a busy road with a speed limit of 55. Parent A is certain Child A cannot even turn a door knob. At this time Kathryn Vandelicht informed Parent A that she was not there but her mom, and two teenagers were in charge. She was absent most of this entire week leading up to this incident leaving an 18 year old and an even younger girl in charge.

Based on interviews with the staff of Little Wonders Daycare, LLC, Child A did get out of the facility on August 26, 2022. Therefore, this allegation is found to be substantiated and the following rule violations are being cited.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)1. - Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision.

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)3. - Caregivers shall provide frequent, direct contact so children are not left unobserved on the premises.

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(D)1. - Infants and toddlers shall have constant care and supervision. Home monitors or commercial devices marketed to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) shall not be used in place of supervision while children are napping or sleeping.

On September 14, 2022, Compliance Inspector (CI) Stephanie Spaulding observed and took photos of the premises of Little Wonders Daycare, LLC. CI Spaulding observed the classroom that Child A was in on August 26, 2022. CI Spaulding observed the bathroom area that caregiver, Ms. Hailee was in when Child A left the facility on August 26, 2022. CI Spaulding observed the kitchen area that Child A traveled through to exit the facility on August 26, 2022. CI Spaulding observed the carport area outside the facility door and the area near the neighbors house where Child A was located . CI Spaulding observed the doors of the facility and the door that Child A unlocked to exit the facility on August 26, 2022. CI Spaulding also observed the main road area adjacent to the front of the facility. CI Spaulding observed the speed limit on the main road to be 50 mph and approximately 85 feet from the door that Child A exited on August 26, 2022 as the carport leads to the main road to the front of the facility. CI Spaulding also observed the area where Child A was located on August 26, 2022. The location that Child A was retrieved from near the neighbors house, is across a gravel parking lot adjacent to the carport just outside of the facility door off of the kitchen area that Child A exited on August 26, 2022. The neighbors house is on the same side of the county road that Little Wonders Daycare, LLC is located on.

On September 14, 2022, caregiver, Abigail Middaugh stated that Child A exited the facility via the door off the kitchen area on August 26, 2022. Child A had unlocked two locks on the door off the kitchen area that exits to a carport adjacent to the gravel parking lot of the facility. She stated that she retrieved Child A near the neighbors house across the gravel parking lot area on the same side of the county road as the facility.

In addition, on September 19, 2022, during a re-interview with director, Kathryn Vandelicht. Kathryn stated that the infants are typically left in their cribs whenever the staff have to go to the kitchen to make a bottle . Therefore, there was no one in the room with four infant/toddler children on August 26, 2022 when caregiver, Abigail Middaugh went to the kitchen to make a bottle. Abigail and Hailee both stated that one caregiver was making a bottle, took the bottle down the hallway to the baby and the other caregiver was in the bathroom so therefore, supervision could not be provided of Child A on August 26, 2022.

5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(B) - Information regarding the date and circumstance of any accident or injury shall be noted in the child's record.

On September 14, 2022, director, Kathryn Vandelicht stated that no incident report or documentation was completed and placed in the file of Child A regarding him leaving the facility on August 26, 2022. In addition, caregivers, Abigail Middaugh and Hailee Potter stated that they did not complete any documentation regarding the incident involving Child A on August 26, 2022.

On September 14, 2022, director, Kathryn Vandelicht was re-interviewed and confirmed that Child A did get out of the facility on August 26, 2022. She stated that caregiver, Abigail Middaugh called her on her cell phone (because she was at the store) to inform her that Child A had gotten out of the facility . She stated that she immediately called Parent A to inform her that Child A had gotten out of the facility.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(A) - Child care personnel shall be of good character and intent and shall be qualified to provide care conducive to the welfare of children.

On September 14, 2022, director, Kathryn Vandelicht initially stated that Child A "only unlocked the doors of the facility and did not get out of the facility". Upon talking to caregivers, Abigail Middaugh and Hailee Potter, they stated that Child A did leave the facility and that director, Kathryn Vandelicht was not present at the time that Child A got out of the facility and they called her to inform her of the incident. When re-interviewed on September 14, 2022, director, Kathryn Vandelicht then made the following statement: "Child A did get out of the facility and Abigail called her because she was at the store".

CI Spaulding received conflicting information from director, Kathryn Vandelicht and caregivers, Abigail Middaugh and Hailee Potter in regards to the location of the infant children on August 26, 2022. Abigail stated that the children were in the hallway and could be observed from the hallway outside of the bathroom where Hailee was located. Hailee stated that the infant children were in the infant room and that she could observe them from the hallway outside of the bathroom. Director, Kathryn stated that typically the infant children remain in the crib when someone goes to the kitchen to make a bottle. Abigail also provided conflicting information regarding having heard Child A climb out of the pack n play and elope out of the door off the kitchen area . She stated that she was in the kitchen and took the bottle to the baby when she heard Child A climb out of the pack n play . She later stated that she was down the hallway getting the baby situated with the bottle when Child A eloped .

5 CSR 25-500.222(6) - Daily staff and volunteer attendance records shall be maintained and kept on file a minimum of one (1) year.

On September 19, 2022, director, Kathryn Vandelicht stated that she was told two different things by Office of Childhood staff regarding keeping attendance for her and her staff. Therefore, she had not been keeping attendance for her staff or herself.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(E) - Caregivers shall have knowledge of the needs of children and shall be sensitive to the capabilities, interests, and problems of children in care.

On September 14, 2022, director, Kathryn Vandelicht and caregivers, Abigail Middaugh and Hailee Potter provided consistent statements that Child A did leave the facility unsupervised after unlocking a door on August 26, 2022. In addition, the staff provided consistent statements that Child A needed closer supervision due to previous attempts of unlocking the doors of the facility and trying to elope from the facility but yet they failed to provide closer supervision to Child A on August 26, 2022.

5 CSR 25-500.092(1)(B)1.A. - An individual cot or bed shall be provided for each child who naps or sleeps. An individually assigned sheet and blanket shall be provided for each child twelve (12) months and older who naps or sleeps. Upper levels of bunk beds shall not be used.

On September 14, 2022 and September 19, 2022, director, Kathryn Vandelicht and caregivers, Abigail Middaugh and Hailee Potter provided consistent statements that Child A (who is 3-years-old) was put in a pack n play in the kitchen/dining area on August 26, 2022 because he had displayed previous attempts of unlocking the doors and attempting to elope from the facility. Director, Kathryn Vandelicht stated that she told Abigail and Hailee to put Child A in the pack n play because Child A would not lay down on a cot. She stated that Child A did not nap at the facility, but appeared to be more comfortable in the pack n play and would lay down.

5 CSR 25-500.222(2) - An individual file shall be kept to identify each child and enable the provider to communicate with the parent(s), guardian or legal custodian of the child in an emergency.

On September 14, 2022, CI Spaulding asked director, Kathryn Vandelicht for Child A's enrollment form. Kathryn stated that she did not have Child A's enrollment form because Parent A never returned it to her and Child A had only been at the facility for a week prior to Child A attempting to get out of the facility on August 26, 2022. CI Spaulding did ask director, Kathryn how she would get ahold of Parent A if there was an emergency with Child A and Kathryn stated that she has Parent A's phone number stored in her cell phone.

**CORRECTIVE MEASURES**

<b>CORRECTIVE MEASURE</b>	<b>COMPLETED (Y/N)</b>	<b>COMPLETED DATE</b>
A written plan shall be put in place to ensure that staff are supervising all of the children in the facility at all times during operating hours. A copy of the plan shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.	Yes	10/7/2022
All staff and volunteers must obtain two clock hours on SUPERVISION. The training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the Little Wonders Daycare, LLC. network. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at <a href="http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/">http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/</a> . Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.	Yes	10/5/2022
The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review the center's policies and all licensing rules and regulations regarding supervision. The facility must provide the Office of Childhood with a statement, signed by all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers), to indicate they understand and agree to follow those rules and regulations.	Yes	10/7/2022

**DISPOSITION**

SUBSTANTIATED

**DISPOSITION DATE**

10/3/2022

**APPROVING SUPERVISOR**

CHRISCO, MARLA L