



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
11/18/2022

DVN
002222517

FACILITY NAME

LUKE'S TREEHOUSE CHILD CARE & PRESCHOOL

FACILITY ADDRESS

4146 REYNOSA DR

CITY

COLUMBIA

ZIP CODE

65201

PHONE NUMBER

(573) 999-0637

COUNTY

BOONE

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

HONEA, MICHELLE J

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7.

Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)8.

No discipline technique which is humiliating, threatening, or frightening to children shall be used. Children shall not be shamed, ridiculed, or spoken to harshly, abusively, or with profanity.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On November 18, 2022, the Office of Childhood (OOC) received an allegation that Ms. C. had become really angry about Child A, age 4-years-old, playing with and accidentally breaking the elastic on the cot sheet and then Ms. C grabbed Child A super hard and pushed him against the wall while yelling at him. Ms. C also began to hit Child A with the cot sheet that he broke. Child A's arms had bruising in the shape of handprints on both of his biceps/triceps. After conducting an investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Michelle Honea and Compliance Inspection Supervisor (CIS) Marla Chrisco have found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7., which states the following: "Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)8., which states the following: "No discipline technique which is humiliating, threatening, or frightening to children shall be used. Children shall not be shamed, ridiculed, or spoken to harshly, abusively, or with profanity."

On November 21, 2022, Compliance Inspector (CI) Michelle Honea and Compliance Inspection Supervisor (CIS) Marla Chrisco conducted an unannounced inspection at Luke's Treehouse. CI Honea and CIS Chrisco interviewed Director CR, and Caregiver DR. CR and DR both informed CI Honea and CIS Chrisco that CR grabbed Child A by the upper arms to move Child A from the cot and then sat him down on the floor due to Child A ripping the cot sheet and standing on the cot.

On December 09, 2022, CI Honea conducted a phone interview with Parent A. Parent A stated that Child A told her that on November 10, 2022, CR got mad at him because he had tore his cot sheet and she grabbed his arms and Child A was squirming so CR squeezed his arms tighter leaving scratches and hand print bruises on his arms. Parent A contacted law enforcement and they took a report.

On December 14, 2022, CI Honea observed the following from the photos that were provided by Parent A along with the information from the police report provided by the Boone County Sheriff's Department.

CI Honea observed a photo of the back of Child A's right arm that shows multiple scratches and red marks. On the photo of the front of Child A's right arm, it shows red marks and scratches. CI Honea also observed photos of Child A's left arm which also shows red marks and scratches on the front along with the back of the arm. The bruising, red marks, and scratches appear to be hand or finger marks which are consistent with someone grabbing Child A with their hands. CI Honea observed a police report from the Boone County Sheriff's Office which has the offense of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. This document describes the incident in detail, and states that a warrant was going to be issued due to the probability that the marks on Child A's arms were from CR grabbing and lifting Child A by the arms off the cot.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

The facility shall notify all staff members of the violations which were substantiated, and specify the actions to be taken by all staff in order to comply with all violations cited. A copy of the memo, letter, or staff meeting agenda shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

2/10/2023

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

All staff and volunteers of the facility must obtain one clock hour of training approved by the Office of Childhood, on age appropriate discipline. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at <http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/>. Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

3/8/2023

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

All staff members (paid employees or unpaid volunteers) must take the online training course titled, "Making a Difference: Protecting Health and Keeping Children Safe" available at <https://dese.mo.gov/childhood/child-care/training-info>. Verification of attendance shall be through the Toolbox report.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

3/8/2023

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

2/2/2023

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA L