



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
6/29/2021

DVN
002549620

FACILITY NAME

DELTA AREA ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CORPORATION

FACILITY ADDRESS

310 S PEMISCOT ST

CITY

HAYTI

ZIP CODE

63851-9274

PHONE NUMBER

(573) 359-6400

COUNTY

PEMISCOT

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

GRAHAM, JESSICA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(6)

Firm, positive statements or redirection of behavior shall be used with infants and toddlers.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (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.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (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.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On June 30, 2021, Child Care Facility Specialist (CCFS) Jessica Graham investigated the allegation that there are cameras in the classroom and Sharon Wilson, caregiver, was told to view a section. Sharon saw that Sherry Storey slammed Child A, age 2 years, against a cabinet and pointed a finger at Child A saying, "you do not push your sister, how many times do I have to tell you that?" Child A was standing and the staff member (Sherry) grabbed him by the arm and pushed/slammed him into the cabinet. Child A's back hit the cabinet. Child A did a lot of crying after. Sharon is pretty sure there were not marks/injuries as a result. Sharon did not check though. Sherry was upset because Child A had pushed his sister down. Sherry has a coworker Cory who works in that room with her. Cory was in the room when it happened. This allegation is substantiated based on the following rule violations:

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(8) which states: "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."

AND

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(6) which states: "Firm, positive statements or redirection of behavior shall be used with infants and toddlers."

On June 30, 2021 Grandmother A stated that she could hear crying coming from outside the classroom of Child A and Child B, both 21 months old, on June 28, 2021. Sherry Storey, caregiver, was in the classroom with Child A and Child B, along with caregiver, Corey Grooms. Ms. Sherry saw Grandmother A outside the door and opened it to tell her that Child A had pushed Child B and now he was mad. Grandmother A was not aware of anything else at the time.

On June 30, 2021 Cory Grooms, caregiver, stated that she was in the classroom with Ms. Sherry on June 28, 2021. Ms. Corey stated that Child A and Child B were running around the classroom and Ms. Sherry had told them to stop several times. Child B started crying and Ms. Corey heard Ms. Sherry say "well if you were not running then that wouldn't happen". Ms. Corey was in the back of the classroom and did not see anything but heard a "boom" and then heard Child A start crying. Child A was sitting on the floor by the cabinet at the front door and Ms. Sherry was yelling at him. Ms. Sherry was in Child A's face saying "I told you to stop. She (Child B) doesn't like that." Child A cried for about 2-3 minutes and then got up. Ms. Corey looked at Child A's back and head but did not see any marks on him.

On June 30, 2021, director Tracy Gamblin, stated that she was notified of the incident between Ms. Sherry and Child A by Sharon Wilson, family advocate. Ms. Sharon was told about the incident by a caregiver and watched video footage and then

reported the incident. Ms. Tracy was not present on June 28, 2021, when the incident occurred.

Video footage was observed with director Tracy Gamblin, while at the facility on June 30, 2021. Video footage was emailed to CCFS Graham, but was not clear. The audio in the footage was hard to understand.

In the video footage CCFS Graham observed caregiver Sherry Storey grabbing Child A and pushing him to the floor by a cabinet. Child A could not be seen during the video, but could be heard crying. Ms. Sherry yells at Child A but it is not clear what she is saying. Ms. Sherry then grabbed Child B by the wrist and pulled her over to Child A and told Child A "she does not like that" while shaking her finger at Child B. Ms. Sherry then walked off while Child A is still sitting on the floor crying. No other caregivers are observed in the video footage.

On June 30, 2021, Larosha "Roxie" Amerson, stated that on an unknown date the week of June 21, 2021, Ms. Roxie was working in the classroom with Ms. Sherry. It was nap time and all the children were laying down. Child A was on his cot and was being quiet. Ms. Sherry yelled at Child A to close his eyes. Ms. Sherry then walked over to Child A and pushed his eye lids closed with her hand. Video footage could not be viewed since it was during nap time and the room was too dark for the camera to pick up. Ms. Roxie did not inform anyone of this incident at the facility.

On June 30, 2021, caregivers Airika Williams, Larosha "Roxie" Amerson, Holly Wilson and Cory Grooms all stated that Ms. Sherry has a rough/loud voice and they have all had concerns with the way the Ms. Sherry works with the children. Ms. Roxie felt that the children were not safe with Ms. Sherry and she mentioned her concerns to Ms. Tracy, director. Ms. Cory worked with Ms. Sherry on a daily basis and had seen yanking on children, being rough with them and yelling at them a lot. Ms. Cory voiced her concerns to Ms. Sherry as well as meeting with Ms. Tracy.

On June 30, 2021, Ms. Tracy, director, stated that Ms. Sherry had been wrote up in the past for a concern about her shaming/mockng the children. Ms. Tracy agreed that Ms. Sherry had a rough voice but didn't feel there were any recent concerns with Ms. Sherry. Ms. Tracy stated that none of the caregivers liked Ms. Sherry.

Rule 19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(D)(1) which states: "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." was violated when Ms. Sherry left the children unattended in the hallway while going back into the classroom to get Child A.

On June 30, 2021, Ms. Cory Grooms, caregiver, stated that Ms. Sherry left all the kids in the hallway, unattended on June 28, 2021. Ms. Sherry had all the children lined up to take them outside and then left them unattended when she came back into the classroom to get Child A. Child A did not want to go out side with Ms. Sherry, but wanted to stay inside the classroom with Ms. Cory. Video footage is not recorded in the hallway.

Child A and Child B were not interviewed due to their age.

CCFS Graham made attempts to contact caregiver Sherry Storey on July 1, 2021 at 8:20am and on July 7, 2021 at 3:20pm. Messages were left at both attempts but not return call was made.

Ms. Sherry was placed on leave from the facility on June 28, 2021 and then terminated.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
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 licensing violations cited. A copy of the memo, letter, or staff meeting agenda(s) shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.	Yes	6/27/2022
CORRECTIVE MEASURE All staff and volunteers of the facility shall obtain one (1) clock hour of training on age-appropriate discipline of infant/toddler children. The training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation network. 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 6/10/2022
CORRECTIVE MEASURE All staff and volunteers of the facility shall obtain one (1) clock hour of training on the care of infant/toddler children. The training must be held by an approved and	COMPLETED (Y/N) Yes	COMPLETED DATE 6/10/2022

qualified source, outside of the Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation network. 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 .

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

11/5/2021

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA