



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
6/26/2023

DVN
002627367

FACILITY NAME

LITTLE IMPRESSION DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL LLC,

FACILITY ADDRESS

130 JUNGGERMANN RD

CITY

ST PETERS

ZIP CODE

63376-1698

PHONE NUMBER

(636) 317-1007

COUNTY

ST CHARLES

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

FYFE, IAN

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.102(2)(A)2.

Center directors and group child care home providers routinely shall be on duty during the hours of highest attendance a minimum of forty (40) hours per week. If the facility operates less than forty (40) hours per week, the center director or group child care home provider shall be on duty at least fifty percent (50%) of the operating hours.

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

On June 26, 2023, the Office of Childhood (OOC) received an allegation that the facility Director's schedule is only for sixteen hours a week and not forty hours per week as required. After conducting an investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Ian Fyfe has found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

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

AND

5 CSR 25-500.102(2)(A)2., which states: "Center directors and group child care home providers routinely shall be on duty during the hours of highest attendance a minimum of forty (40) hours per week. If the facility operates less than forty (40) hours per week, the center director or group child care home provider shall be on duty at least fifty percent (50%) of the operating hours."

On July 6, 2023, Compliance Inspector (CI) Ian Fyfe conducted an unannounced inspection to Little Impressions Daycare and Preschool LLC and interviewed staff members Melba Jenkins, Jarniesha Fields, Bersha Sanders, and Ashaunte Davis. All staff members interviewed by CI Fyfe were familiar with the reported concerns and stated that the facility's previous Director, Sophia Downs, did not work forty hours a week. Ms. Jenkins was only able to provide CI Fyfe with a copy of Ms. Downs' attendance from June 26, 2023, to June 30, 2023 though she became the director on June 19, 2023. During this week, Ms. Jenkins worked a total of thirteen and a half hours over the span of two days. Ms. Sanders and Ms. Davis confirmed with CI Fyfe that this was a typical amount of work for Ms. Downs and that she was terminated on June 30, 2023.

On July 12, 2023, CI Fyfe interviewed Sophia Downs. Ms. Downs became the facility's director on June 19, 2023. From June 20, 2023, to June 23, 2023, Ms. Downs worked approximately twenty-two hours. From June 26, 2023, to June 30, 2023, Ms. Downs worked approximately thirteen hours. Ms. Downs was terminated from her position at the facility on June 30, 2023.

VIOLATION(S)

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 25-500.102(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 25-500.112(1)(A)

Birth Through Two (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2) years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group;

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On June 26, 2023, the Office of Childhood (OOC) received an allegation that staff members are leaving children by themselves in the classroom. After conducting an investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Ian Fyfe has found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

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

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(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."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.112(1)(A), which states: "Birth Through Two (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2) years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group;"

On July 6, 2023, Compliance Inspector (CI) Ian Fyfe conducted an unannounced inspection to Little Impressions Daycare and Preschool LLC. Shortly after arriving, CI Fyfe observed infant caregiver Ashaunte Davis walk out of her classroom. This prompted CI Fyfe to review the camera footage of the infant room. When reviewing the footage, the timestamp in the upper right corner shows the time as 11:44 AM. The actual time of the incident was 10:44 AM, approximately seven minutes after CI Fyfe's arrival to the facility. The footage shows Ms. Davis walking out of the classroom, leaving five infants alone for approximately ninety seconds. The five children include a sleeping child that can be observed in the top right of the frame in the second crib from the right, as well as a child sitting in a swing near the wall on the right side of the camera frame.

Approximately thirty seconds into the footage, a child walks out of the classroom as the door opens. The child does not appear to open the door himself. It is not clear where the child goes. When Ms. Davis returns to the classroom, she is holding another child that is not the child who walked out. The child that walked out of the classroom does not return. It is unclear where the child went. Before and after Ms. Davis leaves the classroom, Ms. Davis is the only staff member present in the room with five children. When CI Fyfe asked Ms. Davis who the child was and where he went and why she left the classroom unattended, Ms. Davis would not answer and continued to state that she did not leave the classroom.

CI Fyfe conducted interviews with staff members Melba Jenkins, Jarniesha Fields, Bersha Sanders, and Ashaunte Davis. All staff members, including Ms. Davis, denied the reported concerns during their interviews with CI Fyfe. When CI Fyfe discussed with Ms. Davis concerns of her leaving the classroom when CI Fyfe first arrived, Ms. Davis stated that another staff member, Ms. Fields, had stepped in for her by entering a different door. It should be noted that in her interview with CI Fyfe, Ms. Fields stated that she did not know who would have stepped into the room for Ms. Davis after she walked out of the room but it was not her. Ms. Davis eventually admitted that there were no staff members present in the room after she had walked out and the infants were left in the room alone.

On July 12, 2023, CI Fyfe interviewed Sophia Downs. Ms. Downs has seen one staff member working in the infant room have six to seven children with them. Ms. Downs has also seen staff members leave the children in the infant room unattended for minutes at a time. Ms. Downs does not know the names of any staff members at the facility.

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	10/17/2023
CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
The facility shall have all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers) obtain one clock hour of approved training on supervision in child care, outside the Little Impression Daycare and Preschool LLC network. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/ . The local Child Care Aware agency may also assist in finding training. The Child Care Aware website can be found at http://www.childcareaware.org/ . Verification of training completion shall be from the Toolbox report.	Yes	10/17/2023

DISPOSITION SUBSTANTIATED		DISPOSITION DATE 8/30/2023
APPROVING SUPERVISOR CHRISCO, MARLA L		