



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
11/1/2021

DVN
000604779

FACILITY NAME

MAYSVILLE HEAD START

FACILITY ADDRESS

206 N HILLCREST DR

CITY

MAYSVILLE

ZIP CODE

64469

PHONE NUMBER

(816) 449-2524

COUNTY

DEKALB

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

DONOHU, ELLEN

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

The Office of Childhood has determined that Maysville Head Start has violated licensing rules regarding Charles Messner slapping Child A based on the statements of Child A, Parent A (parent of Child A and staff member), Chastity St. Louis and Charles Messner. Specifically:

Parent A (parent of Child A and staff member) provided the following information:

- On November 1, 2021, she was in the block area of the classroom with another student.
- She could see across the classroom and she heard Child A say, "don't hit me that hurts."
- She witnessed employee Charles Messner slap Child A on the face.
- Child A came around to her and the right side of his face was red.
- Child A sat down by her, but did not talk.
- Child A sat with her a few minutes and then got up and went to play.
- A short time later, he told her the Mr. Chuck had hit him in the face.
- Chastity St. Louis has a picture of the mark on Child A's face.

Chastity St. Louis provided the following information:

- She is aware of an incident that occurred between employee, Charles Messner and Child A.
- She was working in the classroom on November 1, 2021, with Parent A (parent of Child A).
- She needed to take a telephone call, so she stepped out of the room for a short time.
- She asked Charles Messner to come in and interact with the children.
- When she came back into the room, she noticed that Parent A was distressed.
- Parent A said the Child A had been hit by Charles Messner on the right cheek.
- She observed Child A and his right cheek was red.
- Parent A stated that she had observed Charles Messner slap Child A.
- She then asked Child A what happened, and he stated, "Mr. Chuck hit me and it hurt."
- She observed the redness on his right cheek.
- When she came upstairs and asked him to leave, his first response was, "I slapped his face."
- The red mark on Child A's face lasted about 40 minutes.

Child A provided the following information:

- He is four years old.
- He knows Mr. Chuck and Mr. Chuck hit his cheek downstairs in the classroom/play area.
- He told Parent A and Miss Chastity about it.

Charles Messner provided the following information:

- He was employed at Maysville Head Start in October 2021.
- On November 1, 2021, he was asked to assist in a classroom in the basement of the center.
- He walked down the basement stairs and when he got into the classroom, Child A ran over to him and almost knocked him down.
- Then Child A was swinging his arms trying to hit him.
- As he was blocking Child A, his arm hit Child A's face.
- This was an accident.
- Child A ran to Parent A, who is a teacher in the classroom.
- He thinks Child A was crying.
- He did not enjoy working at the facility as it was too noisy and chaotic.

This decision is also based on CI Donoho observation of the photograph that was taken on November 1, 2021, of Child A. CI Donoho observed a red mark on the right cheek in the photograph.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
All staff at Maysville Head Start will obtain one (1) clock hour of training approved by the Office of Childhood on age appropriate discipline. The training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the Maysville Head Start network. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at www.moworkshopcalendar.org . Verification of completion shall be on the OPEN website.	Yes	1/24/2022

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

1/4/2022

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

BRUCE, CHRISTINA