



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
4/4/2022

DVN
002117391

FACILITY NAME

CITY SPROUTS DAY CARE, LLC

FACILITY ADDRESS

3607 KIENLEN AVE

CITY

ST LOUIS

ZIP CODE

63121-5520

PHONE NUMBER

(314) 261-0300

COUNTY

ST LOUIS

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

FYFE, IAN

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 25-500.192(4)(A)

No child shall be permitted to enroll in or attend any day care facility caring for ten or more children unless the child has been immunized adequately against vaccine-preventable childhood illnesses specified by the department in accordance with recommendations of the Immunization Practices Advisory Committee (ACIP) . The parent or guardian of the child shall provide satisfactory evidence of the required immunizations. Satisfactory evidence means a statement, certificate or record from a physician or other recognized health facility or personnel, stating that the required immunizations have been given to the child and verifying the type of vaccine and the month, day and year of administration.

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:

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On April 4, 2022, the Office of Childhood (OOC) received an allegation that Child A was able to get outside of City Sprouts Daycare LLC without proper staff supervision . After conducting an investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Ian Fyfe has found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)1., which states the following: "Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision."

AND

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

AND

5 CSR 25-500.222(2)., which states the following: "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."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.192(4)(A)., which states the following: "No child shall be permitted to enroll in or attend any day care facility caring for ten or more children unless the child has been immunized adequately against vaccine-preventable childhood illnesses specified by the department in accordance with recommendations of the Immunization Practices Advisory Committee (ACIP) . The parent or guardian of the child shall provide satisfactory evidence of the required immunizations. Satisfactory evidence means a statement, certificate or record from a physician or other recognized health facility or personnel, stating that the required immunizations have been given to the child and verifying the type of vaccine and the month, day and year of

administration."

On April 4, 2022, Compliance Inspector (CI) Ian Fyfe and Compliance Inspection Supervisor (CIS) Marla Chrisco conducted an unannounced inspection to the facility and interviewed facility managing member, Brandy Dent, director Carolyn Cannon, caregiver Akeisheana Boone, and caregiver Dedra Williams. CI Fyfe and CIS Chrisco also interviewed Child B, Child C, and Child D, who are all 4-years-old. Though Ms. Dent was not present at the facility when the incident occurred, Ms. Dent confirmed that Child A did leave the facility without proper supervision on April 1, 2022. Ms. Dent learned of the incident when director Carolyn Cannon called Ms. Dent on April 1, 2022, at approximately 6 PM to inform her of the incident. When CI Fyfe and CIS Chrisco requested the enrollment form for Child A, Ms. Dent informed CI Fyfe and CIS Chrisco that Child A's entire file, including the enrollment form and immunization records for Child A, were not present at the facility. Ms. Dent was not able to explain why the file was not at the facility. The camera system at the facility was not recording during the incident due to the facility actively switching internet providers prior to the incident.

After interviewing managing member, Brandy Dent, CI Fyfe and CIS Chrisco interviewed director Carolyn Cannon, caregiver Akeisheana Boone, and caregiver Dedra Williams. According to Ms. Cannon, Child A's elopement occurred towards the end of the day on April 1, 2022. Ms. Boone and Ms. Williams were the staff members present on the playground area with Child A prior to the incident. Ms. Boone brought three to four children involved in a hitting incident inside and to Ms. Cannon's office, leaving Ms. Williams alone with approximately thirteen children on the playground. The children were from 3-years-old to 5-years old. Ms. Boone recalled that Child A was with Ms. Williams on the playground equipment before Ms. Boone went inside. Ms. Williams, who does not typically work with Child A, observed Child A playing on the playground equipment with other children. Ms. Williams temporarily shifted her attention to other children on the playground when another child got the attention of Ms. Williams and pointed out that Child A was in the street in front of the facility. Sometime between approximately 4:40 PM and 5:15 PM, Child A was able to get themselves out of the playground and out of the facility. Ms. Williams could not tell any other staff members about Child A due to the fact that she was alone on the playground and the fact that her personal phone was dead. Ms. Cannon was in her office when Ms. Boone entered and stated that Child A had gotten out of the facility. Child A was found on Kienlen Avenue directly in front of the facility and was brought inside by another parent, Parent C. Child A had run away from their classroom in the past on multiple occasions, but Child A's teachers have always stopped them before they have made it far. The facility took actions to address Child A's reoccurring elopements and discussed the concerns with Parent A prior to the incident and had decided that April 01, 2022 would be Child A's last day at the facility due to staff not being able to handle Child A's behaviors and elopement issues. Child B, Child C, and Child D, were not able to provide information regarding the incident when interviewed by CI Fyfe and CIS Chrisco and Child A was not present to be interviewed. Child C described an incident in which Child A walked out of the playground gates, but it is believed that Child C was referring to a separate incident where Child A remained on facility property due to the fact that Child A was stopped by staff. All staff members interviewed stated that they are unaware of how Child A was able to get out of the facility. CI Fyfe observed the playground area and observed possible routes that Child A could have taken to get out of the facility.

On April 11, 2022, CI Fyfe conducted an interview with Parent C, who was the parent who discovered Child A on Kienlen Avenue. Parent C was picking up their children from the facility at approximately 5:15 PM on the date of the elopement. As Parent C was driving on Kienlen Avenue, the car in front of them swerved out of the way. Parent C then saw Child A in the middle of the road, pulled their car over, and had to stop other vehicles from hitting Child A. When Parent C found Child A, Child A was on the side of the road closest to the facility but was still walking further away from the facility. Child A was not vocal towards Parent C, but was confused and scared. Child A did not appear to have any injuries. Parent C brought Child A into the facility and informed director Carolyn Cannon about finding Child A outside. According to Parent C, the facility staff did not seem concerned about Child A's elopement. The facility did not ask Parent C about how Child A was found and did not follow up with Parent C in the days following the incident to obtain additional information.

On April 11, April 25, and April 28, of 2022, CI Fyfe attempted to interview Parent A regarding the reported concerns, but was ultimately unsuccessful.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review the center's policies and all licensing rules and regulations regarding Supervision in Childcare. 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	6/30/2022
CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
All staff and volunteers must obtain one clock hour on supervision. The training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the City Sprouts Daycare, LLC. network. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at	Yes	3/27/2024

<http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/>. Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

A written plan shall be put in place to ensure that facility staff are able to appropriately and effectively communicate with one another while maintaining approved staff to child ratios. A copy of the plan shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

6/30/2022

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

5/13/2022

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA L