



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
10/9/2020

DVN
001386076

FACILITY NAME

GROW TO KNOW

FACILITY ADDRESS

2747 E SUNSHINE ST

CITY

SPRINGFIELD

ZIP CODE

65804

PHONE NUMBER

(417) 881-6800

COUNTY

GREENE

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

DONSON, ANGEL

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

RSMo 210.115.1

When any physician, medical examiner, coroner, dentist, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatrist, resident, intern, nurse, hospital or clinic personnel that are engaged in the examination, care, treatment or research of persons, and any other health practitioner, psychologist, mental health professional, social worker, day care center worker or other child-care worker, juvenile officer, probation or parole officer, jail or detention center personnel, teacher, principal or other school official, minister as provided by section 352.400, peace officer or law enforcement official, or other person with responsibility for the care of children has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been or may be subjected to abuse or neglect or observes a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, that person shall immediately report to the division in accordance with the provisions of sections 210.109 to 210.183. No internal investigation shall be initiated until such a report has been made. As used in this section, the term "abuse" is not limited to abuse inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care, custody and control as specified in section 210.110, but shall also include abuse inflicted by any other person.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

SCCR determined the allegations of the report happened when Child B inappropriately touched Child A and Child C on multiple occasions. The facility was aware of the initial incident, and did not make necessary changes to prevent additional incidents. Child A reported Child B touched her "girl parts" while they were watching the movie "Room on a Broom" and another time while they were working on "Dreambox" in their classroom. Child A stated caregivers Ali and Kathy were present during the incidents. Child A also witnessed Child B making Child C and Child D touch his private parts by taking their hands and placing them over his pants on his penis. When interviewed, Child B admitted to touching a Child's private parts while they were watching the movie "Room on a Broom" in their classroom and the teachers were present. Child B stated he did not remember the girls name, but he remembers she was wearing pink pants.

Child C's mother was interviewed and reported she was not contacted by the facility after caregivers witnessed Child B make her daughter touch his privates. Child C's mother stated when she called Nina Varbanaz (person in charge) to ask her why they did not notify her, she was told by Ms. Varbanaz she wanted "me to feel at ease and will pray that it did not happen." When interviewed, Ms. Varbanaz reported she "did not want to make something out of it" if it was nothing and believed Child C was not negatively impacted by the incident.

On October 16, 2020, CCFS Donson interviewed caregiver Ali Ayotte who reported she witnessed Child B holding Child C's hands over his clothing in his private area back on October 8, 2020. Caregiver Rynette Keller reported she also witnessed the incident. During the course of the investigation, CCFS Donson interviewed children involved who disclosed and affirmed what happened. Ms. Ayotte did not report this per mandated reporting law., and on December 16, CCS Leah White interviewed director Jane Roebke. She confirmed neither she nor any of the caregivers called in the hotline to report the incident with Child B and Child C from October 8, 2020.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

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The director and all caregivers shall obtain a minimum of one (1) clock hour of training regarding mandated child abuse/neglect reporting. Caregivers shall acquaint themselves with the Mandated Reporting law and sign statements that they have read, understand, and agree to abide by the statute.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

10/7/2021

DISPOSITION SUBSTANTIATED		DISPOSITION DATE 12/31/2020
APPROVING SUPERVISOR WHITE, LEAH		