



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
11/18/2021

DVN
002864351

FACILITY NAME

SAINT LOUIS MONTESSORI LLC

FACILITY ADDRESS

5033 NORTHRUP AVE

CITY

ST LOUIS

ZIP CODE

63110-2029

PHONE NUMBER

(314) 376-4504

COUNTY

ST LOUIS CITY

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

GRAHAM, JESSICA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.222(5)

Daily child attendance records shall be maintained and kept on file a minimum of one (1) year.

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.

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 November 30, 2021, Compliance Inspector (CI) Jessica Graham investigated the allegation that the owner, Ramendu Ghosh, has caused teachers to leave the facility resulting in the facility always being off on staff child ratio. Facility is extremely short staffed. Yesterday a teacher, Hannah Weber, had a ratio of 13:1 in the I/T unit. When she discussed this with the owner he told her, "Deal with it". Because of this at the end of the day on 11/17/21, Hannah resigned leaving the facility even more short staffed. Parents have seen the I/T unit have two staff before with nine children under the age of 1, four two year old children and four three year old children.

The owner lives in Alabama and there is not currently a managing member. Jenny Gillam was the designated person in charge but she left the facility this week. Parents have discussed the concerns with staff/child ratio with Ramendu and he brushes them off and has stated, "he doesn't make enough money to fix the problem".

The owner continues to enroll additional children without the proper amount of staff to care for them. Parents are concerned the facility has become "a kennel for children". There are so many children present that it feels like they're just caging them in. This allegation is unsubstantiated based on the following information.

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 November 30, 2021, ratio was observed and noted that Dannita Calvert, caregiver, was alone with 6 infants age 12 months.

Caregivers Kassidy Kilker and Hailey Mealey stated that they have been short on staff and have had to combine children. Ms. Kassidy said that they have tried to hire new staff. They said there have been previous staff members that have walked out causing their ratios to be off.

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

AND

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

CI Graham requested to see the attendance records for children and staff from November 17, 2021. The caregivers on site could not located the records.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES**CORRECTIVE MEASURE**

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.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

5/23/2023

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

Signs shall be posted at all entrances of the rooms displaying the required staff/child ratios.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

1/24/2023

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

The facility shall create a plan that ensures attendance records are kept for all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers) and children, each day children are present. A copy of the plan shall be provided to the Office of Childhood.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

11/29/2023

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

4/10/2022

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA L