



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT

6/15/2023

DVN

002674360

FACILITY NAME

PATRIOT PLAYHOUSE DAYCARE, LLC

FACILITY ADDRESS

201 GRANBY MINERS RD

CITY

GRANBY

ZIP CODE

64844-8232

PHONE NUMBER

(417) 472-6922

COUNTY

NEWTON

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

MERTZ, CAYLIN

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)3.

Only constructive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)6.

Firm, positive statements or redirection of behavior shall be used with infants and toddlers.

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 25-500.192(5)(A)

In case of accident or injury to a child, the provider shall notify the parent(s) immediately. If the child requires emergency medical care, the provider shall follow the parent's(s') written instructions.

5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(B)

Information regarding the date and circumstance of any accident or injury shall be noted in the child's record.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On June 15, 2023, the Office of Childhood received a report alleging that Caregiver Theresa swatted Child A on the diaper. After conducting an investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Caylin Mertz has found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence and rule violations:

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)3 which states "Only constructive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)6 which states "Firm, positive statements or redirection of behavior shall be used with infants and toddlers."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7 which states "Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited."

On June 15, 2023, Compliance Inspector (CI) Caylin Mertz conducted an unannounced inspection. CI Mertz completed a walkthrough of the facility and did not observe any caregivers using physical punishment. CI Mertz interviewed Director Tarah Cook and LLC Member Abraham Laughlin. Both said Caregiver Sierra Corsbie witnessed Caregiver Theresa spank Child A; however, neither witnessed the incident and the facility does not have cameras inside. They both stated this is a violation of their facility discipline policy and Theresa was subsequently terminated. Caregiver Sierra Corsbie was interviewed and stated she witnessed Theresa grab Child A by the arm, turn him around, and swat him on the buttocks over his clothing and diaper. Child A immediately started bawling and was then put in timeout by Theresa. Sierra immediately stepped out of the classroom to notify Director Tarah Cook of what had occurred. Parent A was interviewed. She was notified by the facility but was not given an incident report. She was told that a caregiver spanked Child A. She did not observe any marks or bruises on Child A. CI Mertz

attempted to interview Caregiver Theresa Yates but was unsuccessful.

5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(A) which states "In case of accident or injury to a child, the provider shall notify the parent(s) immediately. If the child requires emergency medical care, the provider shall follow the parent's(s') written instructions. "

AND

5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(B) which states "Information regarding the date and circumstance of any accident or injury shall be noted in the child's record."

CI Mertz interviewed Director Tarah Cook who stated she did not complete an incident report and did not notify Parent A of this incident until the following day. Parent A was interviewed and stated she was notified by phone but did not receive an incident report regarding Child A being spanked by Caregiver Theresa.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

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The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review the center's policies and all licensing rules and regulations 5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)3, 5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)6, 5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7, 5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(A), and 5 CSR 25-500.192(5)(B). The facility must provide the Office of Childhood with a statement, signed by all staff (paid employees or unpaid volunteers), to indicate they understand and agree to follow those rules and regulations.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

10/18/2023

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

All staff and volunteers must obtain one clock hour on age appropriate discipline . The training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the Patriot Playhouse Daycare, LLC network. Verification of training completion shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood. Training must be viewable in the Office of Childhood's professional development registry.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

1/31/2024

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

8/14/2023

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

FOX, ROMENA