



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
7/11/2023

DVN
002936452

FACILITY NAME

LITTLE FEET, BIG DREAMS CHILD CARE CENTER LLC

FACILITY ADDRESS

101 W NORMAL ST

CITY

IBERIA

ZIP CODE

65486-9338

PHONE NUMBER

(573) 793-3039

COUNTY

MILLER

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

MERTZ, CAYLIN

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.222(1)

The child care provider shall maintain accurate records to meet administrative requirements and to ensure knowledge of the individual needs of children and their families.

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)

The following staff/child ratios shall be maintained on the premises at all times:

5 CSR 25-500.112(1)(C)

Ages Three Through Four (3-4) Years. Groups composed solely of three (3) - and four (4) -year olds shall have no less than one (1) adult to ten (10) children;

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Compliance Inspector (CI) Caylin Mertz conducted an investigation of the allegation that on the morning of July 6, 2023, there were 20 kids with one teacher in the preschool room. The allegation is substantiated based on the following information:

5 CSR 25-500.112(1), which states: "The following staff/child ratios shall be maintained on the premises at all times:"

AND

5 CSR 25-500.112(1)(C), which states: "Ages Three Through Four (3-4) Years. Groups composed solely of three (3) - and four (4) -year olds shall have no less than one (1) adult to ten (10) children;"

On July 13, 2023, caregiver Jasmine Hamilton stated that there have been ratio issues at the facility. One day the week prior, they were over by two children, for a total of 12 children, upstairs in the preschool room, ages 3- to 4-years-old. This occurred at the end of the day between 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

On July 13, 2023, caregiver Lauren Gilbert stated that the facility has been out of ratio upstairs in the preschool room which is 3- to 4-year-old children. They are out of ratio after 7:00 a.m. in the preschool room for about 10 minutes. They are over by one or two children, one caregiver with 11 or 12 children.

On July 13, 2023, caregiver Bailey Vail stated that the facility is out of ratio on weekly basis. The classroom that has ratio issues is the upstairs preschool classroom with children 3- to 4-years-old. This often occurs in the afternoon after 1:30 p.m.

5 CSR 25-500.222(1), which states: "The child care provider shall maintain accurate records to meet administrative requirements and to ensure knowledge of the individual needs of children and their families."

AND

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

On July 13, 2023, CI Mertz observed attendance records for the Nursery, Two Year Olds, Preschool, and School Age children

dated July 6, 2023. The records indicate that one caregiver was present with up to six children in the nursery; one caregiver was present with up to 10 school-age children; no caregivers were present with up to four 2-year-old children; and no caregivers were present with up to nine preschool children.

On July 13, 2023, director Jocelyn Donati stated that the attendance records were inaccurate and there were additional staff present on July 6, 2023, but she does not have any other form of tracking attendance. Staff just didn't document their attendance.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

| CORRECTIVE MEASURE | COMPLETED (Y/N) | COMPLETED DATE |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| 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 violations cited. A copy of the memo, letter, or staff meeting agenda shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood. | Yes | 12/7/2023 |

| DISPOSITION | DISPOSITION DATE |
|---------------|------------------|
| SUBSTANTIATED | 11/29/2023 |

APPROVING SUPERVISOR
FOX, ROMENA