



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF  
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT

6/26/2023

DVN

000225054

FACILITY NAME

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

FACILITY ADDRESS

304 N 8TH ST

CITY

ST JOSEPH

ZIP CODE

64501-1927

PHONE NUMBER

(816) 232-4481

COUNTY

BUCHANAN

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

IBBOTSON, JESSICA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(D)

Caregivers shall be capable of carrying out assigned responsibilities and shall be willing and able to accept training and supervision.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Compliance Inspector (CI) Jessica Ibbotson conducted an investigation regarding the allegation that Manager Jenny Bonnett dropped Child A onto the floor while rocking her. After conducting the investigation, CI Ibbotson finds this allegation is substantiated. This conclusion is based on the following evidence of licensing rule violations which occurred at the facility:

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(D) which states: "Caregivers shall be capable of carrying out assigned responsibilities and shall be willing and able to accept training and supervision."

On June 26, 2023, CI Ibbotson reviewed video footage from June 23, 2023. Manager Bonnett was observed holding Child A as she rocked back and forth inconsistently in a rocking chair. Manager Bonnett would rock and then stop for periods of time as her head laid on the back of the chair. Manager Bonnett would immediately pick her up head up again as she started to rock before it would rest again onto the back of the chair. Manager Bonnett was observed tilting her head towards the right of her shoulder as it continued to drop downwards. The rocking had stopped while Manager Bonnett and Child A were not moving. Manager Bonnett had her hands interlocked with one another as she was holding Child A before Manager Bonnett appeared to slightly twitch. Manager Bonnett's arms went limp and fell to both sides of her body as Child A was observed rolling out of her arms and onto the floor. Child A landed onto the tile floor on her stomach.

CI Ibbotson interviewed Manager Bonnett who stated that she did not fall asleep but her right arm went numb and fell asleep, causing Child A to fall out of her arms. She stated that she observed a dime size bump on the back of Child A's head but it was not bleeding or discolored. She stated that Child A was crying as she attempted to console her before notifying Parent A and CEO Brown.

CI Ibbotson interviewed CEO Brown who stated that after reviewing video footage, it appeared that Manager Bonnett fell asleep and Manager Bonnett was immediately placed on administrative leave. She also stated that all staff were required to attend a mandatory training regarding safe sleep practices, emergency preparedness, trauma response skills and mandated reporting.

On August 21, 2023, CI Ibbotson interviewed Caregiver Pearson and Caregiver Tolbert. Both staff stated that it was common for Manager Bonnett to appear tired while caring for children. Caregiver Pearson stated that she often times observed Manager Bonnett have heavy eyes. Caregiver Tolbert stated he observed Manager Bonnett fall asleep multiple times while caring for the children.

On August 21, 2023, CEO Brown confirmed that Manager Bonnett was terminated and no longer cared for children at the facility following the incident that occurred on June 23, 2023.

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**

10/9/2023

**DISPOSITION**

SUBSTANTIATED

**DISPOSITION DATE**

8/25/2023

**APPROVING SUPERVISOR**

FOX, ROMENA