



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL
LANSING

DR BEVERLY WALKER
GRIFFEA
DIRECTOR

7/30/2024

Centerpoint Church
2345 N 10th St,
Kalamazoo, MI, 49009

License Number: DC390019144
Special Investigation Number: SI-00124450

Dear Melanie Ahrens,

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing bureau received a complaint against your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The allegations were related to the following:

Rule/Law Number	Rule Description
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.

The details of the allegations are in the attached report. To investigate the allegations:

- I interviewed: program director, child care staff members, witness, and parent.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 6/18/2024

As a result of this investigation, I found the following violation(s):

Rule/Law Number	Rule Description
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.

Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend the issuance of a 1st provisional license. If you accept the provisional license, you must sign and return the

enclosed waiver form. If you do not accept the provisional license, you must notify this office in writing and an administrative hearing will be scheduled. Even if you don't accept the provisional license, you must still send us an acceptable corrective action plan.

If you need help writing the corrective action plan, please contact licensing consultant Julia Majka at (269) 615-6039 or majkaj@michigan.gov. If you do not send a corrective action plan, you may face disciplinary action. The corrective action plan must include the following:

- How compliance with each rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for each violation.
- Specific time frames for each violation as to when the correction will be completed or implemented.
- How continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- The signature of the responsible party and a date.

During this special investigation:	Yes	No
A rule or law violation was found and a serious injury or death occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This report and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook. This report and any related corrective action plans will be online for parents to review under the [Statewide Search for Licensed Child Care Centers and Homes](#).

Please review this report for accuracy and contact your consultant, Julia Majka at (269) 615-6039 or majkaj@michigan.gov. In the event that Julia Majka is not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Child Care Licensing Bureau at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,



Julia Majka, Licensing Consultant

Enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL
CHILD CARE LICENSING**

Report Type: Special Investigation Report

Date of Report: 7/30/2024

Special Investigation Number	Complaint/Incident Receipt Date
SI-00124450	06/17/2024
Investigation Initiation Date	Report Due Date
6/17/2024	08/16/2024
License Number	Licensee Name(s)
DC390019144	Centerpoint Church
Facility Name	Licensee Designee(s)
Starting Point Preschool	Melanie M Ahrens
Program Type	Central Administrator(s)
Center	
Capacity	Program Director(s) Name
113	
Facility Address	Mailing Address
2345 N 10th St, Kalamazoo, MI, 49009	2345 N 10th St, Kalamazoo, MI, 49009
Facility Phone Number	Facility Email Address
	info@startingpointpreschool.org
Original License Issuance Date	License Status:
//	Regular
License Effective Date:	License Expiration Date:
10/6/2023	10/5/2025

ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?	
Child A was separated from her classroom and left unsupervised.	Yes	

METHODOLOGY

Date	Activity
6/17/2024	Special Investigation Case Created SI-00124450
6/17/2024	Special Investigation Initiated via Phone Call Telephone contact made with Child A's mother
6/18/2024	Inspection Completed On-Site Interviewed Child Care Staff Member (CCSM) 1 and the witness Arrived at 1:10pm; left at 1:30pm
7/10/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made

	Telephone contact attempted with CCSM 2 and CCSM 3.
7/12/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Telephone contact made with CCSM 2 and CCSM 3.
7/22/2024	Exit Conference with PD

ALLEGATION: Child A was separated from her classroom and left unsupervised.

INVESTIGATION:

On 6/17/2024, I made telephone contact with Child A’s mother. She stated that program director (PD) called her right after the incident. She said the class was walking back from the gym and they believe Child A stopped at the drinking fountain to refill her water bottle. The rest of the class kept walking and went through a door, leading to the classrooms, that is kept locked. Child A was locked out and started crying. She was found and returned to her group quickly. Child A’s mother said her daughter seems fine and was not upset about the incident.

On 6/18/2024, I completed an unannounced onsite inspection. The facility was closed due to a power outage, but child care staff member (CCSM) 1 and the witness were present and interviewed. CCSM 1 said when the incident happened, she was working in the office area that is located near the locked door and the entrance to the room that Child A is in. She heard Child A’s group walk by and then a minute or two later she heard Child A crying. CCSM 1 said Child A was found by the witness and CCSM 1 let them in the door and Child A calmed down quickly. Child A said she was told not to stop at the drinking fountain, but she did and got locked out.

The witness stated that he works at the church and was by the sanctuary lobby and heard a child crying, so he ran towards the sound. He said Child A was crying and banging on the door. He entered the code to open the door for her, but because she was pushing on the door it wouldn’t open. The witness said CCSM 1 heard the commotion and opened the door from the other side. The witness believes this lasted 2 minutes.

On 7/12/2024 I made telephone contact with CCSM 2 and CCSM 3. CCSM 2 said she and CCSM 3 were working in the room on the day of the incident with Child A. The class was walking back from the gym and Child A must have stopped somewhere along the way. CCSM 2 said she was at the front of the line and entered the code to let the class through the door. She did not see Child A leave the line. When they were back in the classroom CCSM 2 said she was looking around and asked where Child A was. There are windows in the classroom that see into the hallway, and they looked up and saw Child A being let in by CCSM 1. She said Child A was separated from the group for 3-5 minutes. Since the incident they have implanted more counting, walking backwards, and writing the count number on the board in the room.

CCSM 3 said the class was walking back from the gym and she believes they had all the children right up until they went through the locked door. She was at the back of the line and CCSM 2 was at the front. She remembers seeing Child A in the line on the way back, but did not see her get out of line. CCSM 3 said there is a water fountain that she may have stopped at. She said they did count the children when they got back to the classroom, but did not count when they left the gym. It was 2-3 minutes after being in the classroom, they realized Child A was missing. They saw her in the window and CCSM 1 was getting her. They have started counting any time they go to a different location, counting out loud, and always have the count written on a white board.


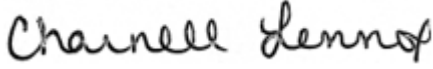
On 7/22/2024, I made telephone contact with PD. She said she was working the day of incident but was in a meeting when it happened. She was told about the incident and immediately called Child A's mother. PD stated that she met with CCSM 2 and CCSM 3 individually to come up with a plan to prevent this from happening again. They both admitted fault and took the incident very seriously. All staff have had a training session about counting before and after transitions, supervision on the playground and classroom zoning.

RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	CCSM 2 and CCSM 3 did not provide appropriate care and supervision when Child A was left unsupervised in the hallway for approximately 2-5 minutes.
CONCLUSION:	Repeat Violation Established SIR Dated 4/14/2023 Corrective Action Plan Dated 5/15/2023

BUREAU RECOMMENDATION

Bureau Recommendation
Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend the issuance of a 1st provisional license.

Approved By:	
 Julia Majka Consultant	07/30/2024 Date
 Charnell Lennox Area Manager	07/30/2024 Date