



STATE OF MICHIGAN
 DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
 LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
 GOVERNOR

ORLENE HAWKS
 DIRECTOR

June 29, 2022

Rachel Price
 Edan Investments, LLC
 555 Cascade West Parkway
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546

RE: License #: DC410295907
 Investigation #: 2022D1083014
 Appletree Christian Learning Ctr.

Dear Mrs. Price:

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

R400.8125(1) Staff; volunteer; requirements.

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

- I interviewed: the program director, licensee designee, child care staff members, and parents.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 3/30/2022 and 4/20/2022.

As a result of this investigation, I recommend no change to the current license status. I did not find any violations. The special investigation report is attached.

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 the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the local office at (517) 284-9730.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stacia L. Thrower".

Stacia L. Thrower, Licensing Consultant
Child Care Licensing Bureau
611 W. Ottawa St.
P.O. Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
(616) 916-5504

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
CHILD CARE LICENSING BUREAU
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT**

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DC410295907
Investigation #:	2022D1083014
Complaint Receipt Date:	03/30/2022
Investigation Initiation Date:	03/30/2022
Report Due Date:	05/29/2022
Licensee Name:	Edan Investments, LLC
Licensee Address:	555 Cascade West Parkway Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Licensee Telephone #:	(616) 447-7837
Administrator:	Margaret Headd, Designee
Licensee Designee:	Margaret Headd, Designee
Name of Facility:	Appletree Christian Learning Ctr.
Facility Address:	1953 Monroe Ave. Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Facility Telephone #:	(616) 447-7837
Original Issuance Date:	07/18/2008
License Status:	3RD PROVISIONAL
Effective Date:	04/28/2022
Expiration Date:	10/27/2022
Capacity:	172
Program Type:	CHILD CARE CENTER

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
On 3/29/2022, Child A (Male, 3 years of age) reported that his teacher hit him.	No

III. METHODOLOGY

03/30/2022	Special Investigation Intake 2022D1083014
03/30/2022	Special Investigation Initiated - On Site. Approximately 10:20AM – 11:45AM. Interviewed Margaret Headd, Program Director, and Licensee Designee.
04/20/2022	Inspection Completed On-site Approximately 11:00AM - 12:30PM. Interviewed Margaret Headd, and Aubrey Robinson, Child Care Staff Member
04/22/2022	Contact - Telephone call made to Trinity Green, Child Care Staff Member
06/28/2022	Contact - Telephone call made to Child A's Mother
06/28/2022	Contact - Telephone call made to Alana Eickhoff, Child Care Staff Member
06/28/2022	Exit Conference w/Margaret Headd via telephone

ALLEGATION: On 3/29/2022, Child A (Male, 3 years of age) reported that his teacher hit him.

INVESTIGATION:

I conducted an unannounced onsite inspection on 3/30/2022. I interviewed Margaret Headd regarding the allegation. On 3/29/2022, Child A's Mother reported to Ms. Headd that Child A disclosed being hit by a staff member in the classroom at the center on 3/29/2022. Child A's Mother did not disclose which staff member allegedly hit Child A, but Trinity Green was working with Child A on 3/29/2022. There were no marks or bruises observed on Child A nor were any reported. Child A attends the Terrance room at the center. Ms. Headd acknowledged that the center was

currently experiencing difficulties regarding staff shortages. There are currently only two Child Care Staff Members assigned to work in the Terrance room, Trinity Green and Aubrey Robinson. On the date of inspection neither Ms. Green nor Ms. Robinson were present. There was a substitute Child Care Staff Member caring for children in the Terrance room. The substitute Child Care Staff Member was from a different facility and was not interviewed as he or she would not have information related to the allegation.

I conducted a second unannounced inspection on 4/20/2022. I interviewed Aubrey Robinson regarding the allegation. Ms. Robinson explained that Child A often claims that Child Care Staff Members are hurting him. This often occurs when Child A is being redirected. Ms. Robinson stated that Child Care Staff Members may hold Child A to keep him safe because he likes to fall backward. She explained that Child A is not easily redirected verbally, and he requires increased supervision. Child A will climb on furniture and when told that his behavior is not safe and asked to get down, Child A will not comply. He simply laughs and continues to climb on the furniture. Ms. Robinson stated that Child Care Staff Members have to physically get Child A down from the furniture. Once removed, Child A will climb on the furniture again. Child Care Staff Members continue to remove Child A from the furniture until he is distracted by something else. Ms. Robinson denied hitting Child A, and she has not observed anyone else at the center hit Child A. I asked Ms. Robinson if she observed Trinity Green hit or mishandle Child A. Ms. Robinson stated that she had not observed this. She stated that Child A hits staff members and other children and he engages with others better when he receives 1:1 interaction with Child Care Staff Members. She explained that when Ms. Green needs help, she asks for assistance. Ms. Robinson stated that Ms. Green has never hit or mishandled a child in care. Ms. Green will sometimes cry if she is overwhelmed, but it is not likely that she would hit a child.

I interviewed Trinity Green regarding the allegation via telephone on 4/22/2022. She denied hitting Child A and she has never observed Ms. Robinson hit Child A. Ms. Green explained that Child A will often “fling” himself on the floor and climb on bookshelves and tables. When Child A does these things, Child Care Staff Members will pick him up underneath his arms and move him to a chair to calm down. I asked Ms. Green what type of discipline methods are used with Child A and she explained that Child A has been provided with a “busy box” that contains toys. This is used to distract Child A when he is engaging in inappropriate activities. Verbal redirection is used to draw his attention toward other things, and assistance is requested from the assigned educational specialist who is sometimes onsite. The educational specialist will take Child A for a walk to help him calm down, but she has not observed anyone at the center hit Child A.

I interviewed Alana Eickhoff regarding the allegation via telephone on 6/28/2022. She reported only caring for Child A at the end of the day for no more than 1 hour. Child A never reported to her that anyone hit him. Ms. Eickhoff denied hitting Child A

and she never observed anyone hit or handle Child A inappropriately. She denied observing marks or bruises on Child A while she cared for him.

I interviewed Child A's Mother regarding the allegation via telephone on 6/28/2022. She explained that Child A told her that his teacher hit him on 3/29/2022 when he returned from care. Child A stated that he was playing, and the staff member hit him. Child A did not state the staff member's name and provided no additional information. Child A's Mother stated that Child A had never made this type of allegation before, so she was concerned. She did not believe that anyone had "punched" Child A and she had no concern that Child A was in danger, but the allegation was concerning as Child A had never made statements like this previously. Child A's Mother did not observe any marks or bruises on Child A, but she expressed concern that the Terrance room did not have a lead caregiver and the center had a great deal of turnover in regard to staff members. I informed Child A's Mother that the lack of a lead caregiver was addressed by the department in a separate special investigation (2022D1083011). Child A no longer attends the center.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8125	Staff; volunteer; requirements.
	(1) All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	Child A is unable to provide the name of the Child Care Staff Member who allegedly hit him. All parties interviewed denied hitting Child A.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend no change in the status of this child care license.




6/29/2022

Stacia L. Thrower
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



06/29/2022

Katrice Sweet
Area Manager

Date