



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

REDACTED REPORT

December 5, 2022

Lynnmarie Kinkema
Little Blessings Daycare and Preschool, Inc.
3845 Green Road
Lake City, MI 49651

RE: License #: DC570374509
Investigation #: 2023D1079001
Little Blessings

Dear Mrs. Kinkema:

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:

R 400.8140(2) Discipline.

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

- I interviewed: the person who made the complaint, program director, licensee designee, caregivers, parents, children.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 10/10/2022.

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

R 400.8122(9) Lead caregiver qualifications; responsibilities.

R 400.8380(1) Maintenance of premises.

R 400.8530(8) Hazard Areas.

R 400.8550(5) Electrical service.

I recommend no change to the current license status.

Due to the violations, you must send us a corrective action plan by 12/22/2022. You can use our corrective action plan form or create your own.

If you need help writing the corrective action plan, please contact me. 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.

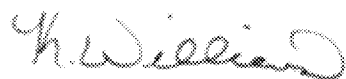
During this special investigation:	Yes	No
A rule or law violation was found and a serious injury or death occurred.	☐	☒
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	☐	☒

You will be sent two copies of this report. One is ***not for public disclosure*** and one is a ***redacted report***.

- The report marked ***not for public disclosure*** is for your records only. This copy may contain legally protected information. It must not be placed in your licensing notebook.

The report marked ***redacted report*** may have some legally protected information blacked out. The ***redacted report*** and any related corrective action plans must be placed in your licensing notebook. The ***redacted 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.

Sincerely,



Kortney Williams, Licensing Consultant
Child Care Licensing
611 W. Ottawa St.
P.O.Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
(231) 463-3177

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DC570374509
Investigation #:	2023D1079001
Complaint Receipt Date:	10/05/2022
Investigation Initiation Date:	10/10/2022
Report Due Date:	12/04/2022
Licensee Name:	Little Blessings Daycare and Preschool, Inc.
Licensee Address:	10540 S Lucas Rd McBain, MI 49657
Licensee Telephone #:	(231) 388-4260
Administrator:	Lynnmarie Kinkema, Designee
Licensee Designee:	Lynnmarie Kinkema, Designee
Name of Facility:	Little Blessings
Facility Address:	10540 S Lucas Rd McBain, MI 49657
Facility Telephone #:	(231) 825-8388
Original Issuance Date:	08/18/2015
License Status:	1ST PROVISIONAL
Effective Date:	06/14/2022
Expiration Date:	12/13/2022
Capacity:	90
Program Type:	CHILD CARE CENTER

II. ALLEGATION(S)

		Violation Established?
A child care staff member [REDACTED] Child A, [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Child A [REDACTED]	No
Additional Findings		Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

10/05/2022	Special Investigation Intake 2023D1079001
10/06/2022	Contact phone call made Spoke with Child A's Mother.
10/10/2022	Special Investigation Initiated - On Site Interviewed child care staff members and program director
10/10/2022	Contact - Face to Face Interview child B and C wit [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
10/26/2022	Inspection Completed On-site Interviewed CCSMs
11/02/2022	Contact-Phone call made [REDACTED] spoke with Child D's Father, Child E's Mother and Child F, G and H's Mother.
11/30/2022	Contact - Telephone call made Left message for Licensee in attempt to conduct the exit conference
11/30/2022	Exit Conference With Licensee Designee

ALLEGATION: Caregiver [REDACTED] Child A, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Child A [REDACTED]

INVESTIGATION: On 10/06/2022 I spoke with Child A, B, and C's Mother to obtain clarification regarding the allegations. She indicated that her child came home from

child care with what appeared to be [REDACTED]. She did not take photos of the alleged injury. She also has two [REDACTED] that attend the child care. On 10/10/2022, myself and [REDACTED] conducted an unannounced on-site inspection. We spoke with the Licensee Designee, Ms. Lynnmarie Kinkema, and informed her of the allegations. She indicated that Child A's Mother left her a voicemail and a text stating that she was not sure if Child [REDACTED] was coming to child care because she did not give them permission for them to [REDACTED] her child. She wanted to have a meeting with staff and her children as they said they saw the [REDACTED]. The children's last day of care was on 9/29/2022. Ms. Kinkema reported that Child A's primary child care provider was [REDACTED], who was not present in the center today. Child B and C attended the afterschool program.

Prior to leaving the facility, we interviewed child care staff member [REDACTED]. She stated that has worked with [REDACTED] and has never had any concerns with her interaction with the child care children. She had no first-hand knowledge of any physical discipline used on Child A by [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] and I went and interviewed Child B and Child C. Child B [REDACTED] reported that about a month ago [REDACTED] attended Little Blessings afterschool program. The staff that would typically be there were [REDACTED]. When they would arrive Child A would be outside playing or in the Farm room. At the end of the day depending on the number of kids present they would combine the classes. About 4 weeks ago they were all watching a movie. Child A went to grab a chair and [REDACTED]. She got in [REDACTED]. Child A began to cry and went over to Child B and C. [REDACTED] noticed that [REDACTED] was also in the room but didn't see anything because she was on her phone. Child B said they told their mother about the incident but a few days after it happened. One to two weeks ago, Child A and some other children were watching Alvin and the Chipmunks. Child A grabbed a chair and [REDACTED]. Child A began to cry loudly. [REDACTED] was sitting in the back of the room and didn't see anything. [REDACTED] then took Child A for a walk because [REDACTED]. They were gone about 4-5 minutes. When they came back to the room Child A [REDACTED], but [REDACTED] was not crying. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] mother about this incident as soon as [REDACTED] was picked up. [REDACTED] didn't see any other children get spanked by [REDACTED] but Child A. Child C [REDACTED] reported that attended Little Blessings afterschool. Sometimes while at the childcare the children that are left in care will go into a room and watch a movie. One day they were watching a movie "Alvin and The Chipmunks" when Child A went over to a table, not watching the movie. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] then took Child A on a walk. When they returned Child A had [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was not crying. There was another child care staff member present but

she was on her phone. She also left the class when no other workers were present. Another incident happened two weeks ago where [REDACTED] Child A [REDACTED] to her. Child A began to cry until their mother came to pick them up. [REDACTED] has never seen any other children get spanked.

On 10/26/2022 myself and [REDACTED] conducted a 2nd unannounced on-site inspection where we interviewed six child care staff members. The first four child care staff members interviewed were [REDACTED] Ms. Kimberley Dezzew (program director). They all indicated that they don't have any concerns regarding [REDACTED] and her interaction with child care children. They have never seen her use physical discipline with child care children. [REDACTED] has a very positive attitude and does not raise her voice while working with the child care children. [REDACTED] stated that she has had issues with Child B and Child C regarding not being honest and videoing other children in the class because they didn't want to attend the child care and wanted to get out of coming.

[REDACTED] was asked about the allegations. She indicated that she was down to one child in her room, which was child A, so they joined with another classroom who only had a few kids waiting to be picked up. They were watching a movie and Child A went over to the table instead of sitting down. [REDACTED] picked up a toy and she [REDACTED] because it was not time to play with toys. Herself and [REDACTED] made attempts to redirect [REDACTED] then took [REDACTED] to sit by [REDACTED]. There was a small table by them and [REDACTED]. The older kids were laughing at [REDACTED] so she took [REDACTED] down to the room she was previously in to help Child A calm down. After about 5 minutes, [REDACTED] was calm and they returned to the room to watch the movie. Child A [REDACTED], and it becomes more [REDACTED]. She denies every using physical discipline such as spanking or yelling at Child A or any other child care children.

[REDACTED] stated that she was told about the allegation. She explained that her and [REDACTED] combined their classes due to low numbers to watch a movie while they waited on parents to arrive. Child A wanted to play with toys and had to be redirected. Child A was crying so [REDACTED] took Child A in the hall to talk with [REDACTED] calm down because [REDACTED] were picking on [REDACTED]. She couldn't recall if it was the [REDACTED] and Child A were gone for a couple minutes. She did not notice any marks on [REDACTED]. She also never saw [REDACTED] use any physical discipline while engaging with Child A. The only time she seen [REDACTED] put her hand on Child A was when she was taking a toy out of hand because it was not time to be playing with toys.

██████ made phone contact with Child D's Father, Child E's Mother and Child F, G and H's Mother.

Child D's Father reported Child D has been attending Little Blessings for just under a year for four days a week. He has no concerns with the care provided to █████ at the center. █████ seems to have a happy spirit and the teachers seem alright. He explained he was not concerned but is now and will keep an eye out.

Child E's Mother reported that Child E has been attending Little Blessings full time during the school year for a year and part time during the summer. She had no concerns for the care her child receives at the center. The center recently had a biter and she explained Child E was bitten █████. She received incident reports for this. █████ is occasionally in the Farm room and has not come home with any concerning or unexplained marks or bruises.

Child F, G and H's Mother has used Little Blessings for childcare for eight years. She is familiar with the staff and has no concerns for them. She was specifically asked if Child G and H have reported anything they saw that was concerning, and she denied this. She had no concerns to report regarding the center.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8140	Discipline.
	(2) All of the following means of punishment are prohibited: (a) Hitting, spanking, shaking, biting, pinching, or inflicting other forms of corporal punishment. (b) Placing any substances in a child's mouth, including but not limited to, soap, hot sauce, or vinegar. (c) Restricting a child's movement by binding or tying him or her. (d) Inflicting mental or emotional punishment, such as humiliating, shaming, or threatening a child. (e) Depriving a child of meals, snacks, rest, or necessary toilet use. (f) Excluding a child from outdoor play or other gross motor activities. (g) Excluding a child from daily learning experiences. (h) Confining a child in an enclosed area, such as a closet, locked room, box, or similar enclosure. (i) Time out must not be used for children under 3 years of age.

ANALYSIS:	After conducting interviews there was no evidence provided indicating that a child care staff member used physical discipline such as spanking while Child A was in care.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS:

INVESTIGATION: While interviewing child care staff members several of them indicated that they were lead caregivers in the classrooms. [REDACTED] and I reviewed child care staff member's file. While reviewing the files there were no documentation maintained showing qualification requirements of lead caregivers.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8122	Lead caregiver; qualifications; responsibilities.
	(9) Verification of the education, credentials, and experience of each lead caregiver shall be kept on file at the center or at MiRegistry.
ANALYSIS:	Ms. Kinkema did not ensure that all child care staff members that work as a lead worker had the required qualifications documented in their files.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

INVESTIGATION: While [REDACTED] and I were conducting a walkthrough of the classrooms, there were several areas of concern noted that were unsafe for child care children. There were several items accessible to child care children such as a staple gun, scissors, and cleaning supplies. Electrical outlet covers were not covered in multiple outlets. There were several portable space heaters located throughout the facility.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8380	Maintenance of premises.
	(1) The premises must be maintained in a clean and safe condition and must not pose a threat to health or safety.

ANALYSIS:	Ms. Kinkema did not ensure that the premises was maintained in a safe condition not posing a threat to the safety of child care children. There was a staple gun, cleaning supplies and scissors accessible to children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8530	Hazard Areas.
	(8) Auxiliary heating units, such as portable combustion or electrical types, are prohibited.
ANALYSIS:	Ms. Kinkema allowed auxiliary heating units such as portable space heaters throughout the child care facility.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8550	Electrical service.
	(5) All electrical outlets in child use areas for children who are not yet school-age shall be made inaccessible to children.
ANALYSIS:	Ms. Kinkema did not ensure that electrical outlets were inaccessible to child care children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Upon receiving an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend no change to the status of the current status of the license.



12/5/2022

Kortney Williams
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



12/5/2022

Candice Case-French
Area Manager

Date