



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

March 20, 2023

Sandra Morence
Reach 4 Stars L L C
4260 White Rd.
Muskegon, MI 49442

RE: License #: DC610336742
Investigation #: 2023D1073006
Reach 4 Stars L L C

Dear Ms. Morence:

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 400.8125(1) Staff; volunteer; requirements

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

- I interviewed: program director, licensee designee, caregivers, witnesses, parents.
- I completed onsite inspections on 1/31/2023 and 3/15/2023.

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

- R 400.8720(2) All motor vehicles.**
- R 400.8720(4) All motor vehicles.**
- R 400.8730(1)(a) Safety equipment in motor vehicles.**
- R 400.8730(1)(b) Safety equipment in motor vehicles.**
- R 400.8750(2)(b) Motor vehicle operator.**
- R 400.8750(3) Motor vehicle operator.**
- R 400.8143(2) Children's records.**

I recommend no change to the current license status.

Due to the violations, you must send us a corrective action plan by 4/9/2023. 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.	<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](#).

Sincerely,



Tarah Kline, Licensing Consultant
Child Care Licensing Bureau
611 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
Cell: 616-916-2490
Fax: 517-763-0217

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DC610336742
Investigation #:	2023D1073006
Complaint Receipt Date:	01/25/2023
Investigation Initiation Date:	01/30/2023
Report Due Date:	03/26/2023
Licensee Name:	Reach 4 Stars L L C
Licensee Address:	222 S Sheridan Drive Muskegon, MI 49442
Licensee Telephone #:	(231) 777-7443
Administrator:	Sandra Morence, Designee
Licensee Designee:	Sandra Morence, Designee
Name of Facility:	Reach 4 Stars L L C
Facility Address:	222 S Sheridan Drive Muskegon, MI 49442
Facility Telephone #:	(231) 767-1400
Original Issuance Date:	03/19/2013
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	06/27/2022
Expiration Date:	06/26/2024
Capacity:	35
Program Type:	CHILD CARE CENTER

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Ms. Morton is verbally aggressive to child care children when transporting them from Orchard View Early Elementary, she has also grabbed their wrists.	No
Additional Findings	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

01/25/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023D1073006
01/30/2023	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Spoke with licensee designee at Orchard View Early Elementary
01/31/2023	Inspection Completed On-site 2:05 pm-3:00 pm Interviewed program director, Alyson Morton 2:05-2:20 pm
02/01/2023	Contact - Telephone call made I spoke with Child A's Father, Child B's Father, Child D's Mother, and Child E's Mother. I left a message for Child C's Mother
02/06/2023	Contact - Telephone call made Spoke with child care staff member at Orchard View Early Elementary
03/01/2023	Contact - Face to Face Attempted to observe Ms. Morton
03/07/2023	Contact - Face to Face Observed Ms. Morton at child care pick up
03/15/2023	Inspection Completed On-site 10:45-11:10 AM Spoke with Ms. Morton and Ms. Iams
03/15/2023	Exit Conference

ALLEGATION: Ms. Morton is verbally aggressive to child care children when transporting them from Orchard View Early Elementary, she has also grabbed their wrists.

INVESTIGATION: On 1/30/23 I spoke with the licensee designee at Orchard View Early Elementary, Ginger Thompson. The allegations against program director, Allyson Morton were alleged to take place at this site. I asked Ms. Thompson if they had noted any concerns with the care of child care children during the exchange between her center and Reach 4 Stars. She reported that she did not have any firsthand knowledge of this but one of her child care staff members had noted some concerns. Ms. Thompson reported that she would have this staff member reach out to me.

I completed an onsite inspection at the child care facility on 1/31/2023. During this inspection, I spoke with program director Allyson Morton. I explained to Ms. Morton that we had received allegations that when she is picking up child care children from Orchard View Early Elementary School that she is verbally abusive towards them and that she has put her hands on them. Ms. Morton explained that as of this year they have been transporting six children to and from GSRP at the school; one of the child care children is her own son. Since she was going to be driving her own child, she decided she would offer transportation to several of the children that were long time children of the child care and also needed a way to the school.

In regard to the allegations, Ms. Morton stated that her son and Child A (male, age 5) are a handful and at times give her a run for her money, so she has maybe grabbed their arms to prevent them from running in the road. She also has had to redirect Child B (male, age 4) when he has also started to wander from the group. Ms. Morton explained that she has two different times for drop off and two different times for pick up as well, so she never transports more than three children at a time. On Thursdays, Child Care Staff Member 1 (CCSM 1) transports because Ms. Morton cannot. Ms. Morton does not believe she has ever been verbally assaultive to the child care children and does not believe she has ever handled them in an aggressive manner.

On 2/1/2023 I spoke with Child A's Father, Child B's Father, Child D's Mother, and Child E's Mother. I left a message for Child C's Mother and have not received a call back at this time.

Child A's Father stated that Child A loves going to the child care center and loves all of his teachers. He has no concerns with the treatment of Child A by any of the staff.

Child B's Father indicated that Child B's Mother does most of the transportation, but she is not home at the time. Child B's Mother has never told him any concerns that she has had and Child B has not told him that anyone is mean to him. They have noticed that the toddler teacher is a little stricter but they appreciate it because the children are listening and learning in that classroom.

Child D's Mother reported that Child D has been there since he was four months old, she loves the child care and all the child care staff members there. Child D (male, age 4) is talkative and would tell her if he one of the child care staff members was mean to him.

Child E's Mother drives her children out of the way to bring them to Reach 4 Stars because she trusts them with all four of her children and believes they are well cared for. She stated that they are really great at communication and the child care staff members are all very kind to her children.

On 2/6/2023, I was able to connect with the child care staff member from Orchard View Early Elementary. This child care staff member stated that she has only observed Ms. Morton on a couple of occasions but she has overheard her yelling at the kids and believes she has smelt marijuana coming from the vehicle that she transports them in.

On 3/1/2023, I attempted to observe Ms. Morton picking up the child care children from Orchard View Early Elementary, after sitting in the parking lot for 45 minutes I approached the child care staff members to ask if the child care children from Reach 4 Stars had picked the children up and they indicated that someone besides Ms. Morton did pick up the children.

On 3/7/2023, I observed Ms. Morton picking up Child C (female, age 5) up from the child care, Child C grabbed Ms. Morton's hand and walked with her to the car. I approached Ms. Morton to let her know that I had received allegations that her van had smelled of marijuana, so I was hoping to smell the vehicle at that time. Ms. Morton stated that was no problem and that she does not use marijuana. The van did not have any smell of marijuana, I was also able to observe Child C being placed in a proper child restraint.

I completed an onsite at the child care on 3/15/2023 to review transportation requirements. The child care center added this component recently and did notify the department so technical assistance was provided on needing modifications when components are added as well as a discussion of the requirements of transportation. I also completed the exit conference with Ms. Morton and licensee designee Andrea Iams.

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:	Ms. Morton indicated that she transports her son and at times she has had to get after him to stay by her. All child care parents were contacted that are transported by Ms. Morton and none of them had any concerns or report their children having any concerns. I was able to observe Ms. Morton picking Child C up and did not witness any concerns with how she cared for the child.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS:

INVESTIGATION: During my onsite inspection on 1/31/2023 I reviewed child information cards for the children that are being transported by Ms. Morton, three out of five of the cards were not updated within the last year.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8143	Children's records.
	(2) Child information cards must be reviewed and updated by parents at least annually and when the center becomes aware of changes.
ANALYSIS:	During my onsite inspection on 1/31/2023 I reviewed child information cards for the children that are being transported by Ms. Morton, three out of five of the cards were not updated within the last year.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

INVESTIGATION: During my inspection on 3/15/2023, I was informed that the program was transporting children. A copy of the vehicle inspections for the vehicles used for transportation and a statement verifying that all motor vehicles are in compliance with Michigan vehicle code safety equipment requirements were not on file. In addition, copies of child information cards, three bidirectional emergency reflective triangles, and a first aid kit were not in the vehicles.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8720	All motor vehicles.
	(2) All motor vehicles, except multifunction school activity buses and school buses inspected by the department of state police as indicated in subrule (3) of this rule, must be inspected annually by a licensed mechanic. A copy of the inspection must be kept on file at the center. Volunteer vehicles are not required to be inspected.

ANALYSIS:	During my onsite inspection at the child care facility on 3/15/2023 to follow up with transportation rules, as this was not a known component to the department, it was found that the center did not have inspections on the vehicles that are used for transporting children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8720	All motor vehicles.
	(4) A statement verifying that all motor vehicles, including volunteer vehicles, are in compliance with Michigan vehicle code safety equipment requirements, as defined in sections 683 to 711 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.683 to 257.711, must be kept on file at the center.
ANALYSIS:	The child care center did not have a statement verifying that each motor vehicles used for transporting children were in compliance with Michigan vehicle code safety requirements.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8730	Safety equipment in motor vehicles.
	(1) All motor vehicles used to transport children must carry all the following safety equipment: (a) Three bidirectional emergency reflective triangles properly cased and securely stored in the motor vehicle.
ANALYSIS:	The child care center did not have a three bidirectional emergency reflective triangles properly cased and securely store in the motor vehicles used for transporting children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8730	Safety equipment in motor vehicles.
	(1) All motor vehicles used to transport children must carry all the following safety equipment: (b) A first aid kit securely stored in an accessible location in the driver compartment.

ANALYSIS:	The child care center did not have a first aid kit securely stored in an accessible location in the driver compartment for the motor vehicles used for transporting child care children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8750	Motor vehicle operator.
	(3) Drivers shall be provided with a copy of the child information card or comparable substitute for each child being transported in their motor vehicles.
ANALYSIS:	The child care center did not provide the drivers with copies of the child information cards to carry in the motor vehicles transporting child care children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend no change in license status.

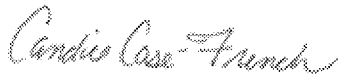


3/20/2023

Tarah Kline
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



3/22/2023

Candice Case-French
Area Manager

Date