



STATE OF MICHIGAN
 DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
 LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
 GOVERNOR

ORLENE HAWKS
 DIRECTOR

February 2, 2023

Karen Richter
 The Felician Sisters Child Care Centers, Inc.
 36800 Schoolcraft
 Livonia, MI 48150

RE: License #: DC630413899
 Investigation #: 2023D0211005
 St. Joseph Child Care Center

Dear Ms. Richter:

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing division received information regarding your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The information was related to the following:

R 400.8125(1) Staff; volunteer; requirements

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

- I interviewed the person who made the complaint, program director, licensee designee child care staff members, and parent.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 12/15/2022.

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 black ink, appearing to read "Chimere Simmons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "S".

Chimere Simmons, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
611 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
(248) 881-6044

Enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DC630413899
Investigation #:	2023D0211005
Complaint Receipt Date:	12/08/2022
Investigation Initiation Date:	12/13/2022
Report Due Date:	02/06/2023
Licensee Name:	The Felician Sisters Child Care Centers, Inc.
Licensee Address:	36800 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150
Licensee Telephone #:	(734) 793-3851
Administrator:	Karen Richter, Designee
Licensee Designee:	Karen Richter, Designee
Name of Facility:	St. Joseph Child Care Center
Facility Address:	161 Bassett Pontiac, MI 48341
Facility Telephone #:	(248) 858-6667
Original Issuance Date:	09/29/2022
License Status:	ORIGINAL
Effective Date:	09/29/2022
Expiration Date:	03/28/2023
Capacity:	140
Program Type:	CHILD CARE CENTER

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Child A received bruises on his leg as a result of child care staff members not supervising children during outside time.	No

III. METHODOLOGY

12/08/2022	Special Investigation Intake 2023D0211005
12/13/2022	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Interviewed complainant via telephone
12/13/2022	Contact – Telephone call made Spoke to Child A's Mother
12/15/2022	Inspection Completed On-site Onsite from 10:15 A.M. to 11:56 A.M. Interviewed child care staff members, Gail Jones, Zaryona Martin, Diamond Branner, and Andraya Robinson
12/16/2022	Contact - Telephone call made Spoke with program director, Amy Robinson
01/20/2023	Exit Conference Exit conference completed with licensee designee, Karen Richter

ALLEGATION: Child A received bruises on his leg as a result of child care staff members not supervising children during outside time.

INVESTIGATION: On 12/13/2023, I interviewed the complainant via telephone. The complainant stated that they were volunteering at the child care center in classroom seven during outside time. The complainant shared that only classroom seven was outside and there were three child care staff members present. The complainant

could not recall how many children were present. The complainant stated that the child care staff members were huddled together, engaged in personal conversations, and were not paying attention to the children. The children were spread out throughout the outdoor play space, and one child had wandered to the opposite side of the fenced-in outdoor space. The complainant could not recall the date they volunteered but remembers it was the second week of December. When the classroom returned inside the child care center, the complainant noticed a bruise on Child A's legs that they had not seen prior to going outside. The complainant shared that they have reached out to the child care center's administration but has not heard back. Concerned, the complainant notified the bureau.

On 12/13/2023, I spoke with Child A's Mother. Child A's Mother shared that Child A had been attending the child care center for approximately one month. Child A's Mother stated she would receive complaints from the child care staff members working in Child A's classroom. She would receive complaints that Child A was crying nonstop and would throw chairs in the classroom. Because Child A's Mother was concerned regarding the child care staff members complaints, she would stay and volunteer during drop off time, but Child A did not cry or throw furniture. She also shared that Child A's classroom was always short staffed, so she would volunteer in the classroom.

I asked Child A's Mother's about her concerns regarding the temperament of the child care staff members. Child A's Mother recalled an incident when picking up Child A at the child care center, she witnessed child care staff member Andraya Robinson throw her hands up in frustration at Child A. When she asked Child A what happened, Child A began to cry. Child care staff member Diamond Branner told her that Child A does that all the time, just cry. Child A's Mother stated that Ms. Branner suggested that she take Child A to his doctor for possible autism. Child A's Mother shared that child care staff members at Child A's previous child care center had never suggested that Child A had autism or that he cried too much.

Child A's Mother recalled when she picked Child A up from the child care center, Child A had a blueish black bruise on his leg. When she asked Ms. Branner for a meeting regarding the bruise on Child A's leg along with the complaints that Child A cries all day and throws furniture, Ms. Branner did not give her a day or time for a meeting. Child A's Mother stated that she reached out to the director of the child care center, but Amy Robinson did not contact her back. Child A's Mother shared that she knows her child, and Child A was not happy at the child care center. Child A's Mother shared that she took Child A to the pediatrician, and the pediatrician had no issues or concerns with Child A's behavior or current developmental progress. Child A no longer attends the child care center.

On 12/15/2022, I made an unannounced onsite inspection to the child care center. I spoke with child care staff member Gail Jones. Ms. Jones informed me that program director Amy Robinson was not working but would return to the center the following day. Ms. Jones provided me with attendance sheets for children and staff as well as

classroom seven's (Child A's assigned classroom) daily schedule. I observed classroom seven in the indoor gross motor room. There were 7 children present along with three child care staff members. Two child care staff members were seated on the bench watching children play, while one child care staff member was interacting with children (running and chasing them playfully). I also observed the outdoor play space. The outdoor play space is comprised of three areas: infants, toddlers, and preschool and school aged children. Classroom seven utilizes the preschool section of the outdoor space. The outdoor space is comprised of grass, wood chips, concrete paths and trees that line the perimeter of the outdoor space.

On 12/15/2022, I interviewed child care staff member Diamond Branner. Ms. Branner has been at the child care center since it's opening in September of 2022. Ms. Branner stated that there are 11 children enrolled in her classroom, with approximately 9 children daily on average. Ms. Branner shared that there is always 4 child care staff members daily in the classroom with no less than 2 child care staff members at any time.

Child A was enrolled and attended the child care center for two to three weeks. Ms. Branner shared that Child A had difficulty with transitioning to the center and appeared to be delayed with his speech. Ms. Branner denies that Child A's bruises were a result of improper supervision at the child care center. Ms. Branner stated that Child A arrived with several bruises on his legs and buttocks. Ms. Branner shared that she expressed her concern for Child A's speech and behavior by offering resources and suggested that Child A's Mother talk with Child A's pediatrician. Child A's Mother told her that she would speak to the staff members at Child A's previous child care center because she had never been made aware of any issues with Child A until then. Child A's Mother also told her that she has to be firm and stern with Child A because she felt she was too "soft" with him and the other children. Child A's Mother volunteered in the classroom on a Monday and stayed until lunch time. Child A's Mother asked questions as she observed the routine and as she would redirect Child A. Child A's Mother would step in and take over. Ms. Branner stated that when Child A's Mother returned to pick up Child A around 4:30- 5 p.m. she appeared angry. When Ms. Branner inquired about her feelings, Child A's Mother told her that she was tired from volunteering in the classroom and just watching the child care staff members work with the children that she had to go home and take a nap. Ms. Branner shared that Child A's Mother said that she was going to keep Child A home.

On Wednesday, Child A returned to the child care center. Ms. Branner stated that Child A stood in the doorway of the classroom and screamed and cried for about 20 minutes. After she was able to calm Child A down, she was able to check his diaper. While changing Child A's diaper she noticed what appeared to be fresh bruises on Child A's legs and buttocks. Ms. Branners shared that she had seen bruises on Child A before, on his legs and knees, however, those bruises were brown and the bruises she observed that day were red and green colored. Ms. Branner called over child care staff members Andraya Turner and Zaryona Martin to view the bruises

before notifying program director, Amy Robinson. Ms. Branner stated that Child A did not receive the bruises at the child care center and that the bruises she observed on Wednesday were not present on Child A's body on Monday. Child A has not returned to the child care center.

On 12/15/2022, I interviewed child care staff member Zaryona Martin. Ms. Martin began working at the child care center at the end of October in 2022. She began working in classroom six but now works in classroom seven. Ms. Martin stated that there are 11 children enrolled in the classroom, but about seven children are present daily. Ms. Martin shared that there are always at least two child care staff members present in classroom seven and three to four child care staff members daily. Ms. Martin stated that at least two child care staff members go outside with the class and children have never been left unsupervised at any time. Ms. Martin shared that when she is outside with the children, she walks around the playground area to supervise all the children. Sometimes staff will congregate and engage in non-work conversations, but she always keeps her eyes on the children. Ms. Martin has never witnessed a child care staff member use physical discipline with a child. She stated that she and the other staff members often talk to children and over explain things, such as, "sit on your bottom, you don't want to fall and hurt yourself". Ms. Martin shared that that the Wednesday she observed the bruises on Child A's body occurred in the morning. Ms. Martin stated that Ms. Branner was changing Child A's diaper when she called herself and Ms. Turner over to view the bruises and get their opinion. The bruises looked, and Ms. Martin did not witness those bruises on Child A on his previous day at the child care center. Ms. Martin denied that Child A received the bruises at the child care center.

On 12/15/2022, I interviewed child care staff member Andraya Turner. Ms. Turner has been working at the child care center since October 28, 2022. Ms. Turner shared that they average about 6 to 11 children daily with three to four staff members. Ms. Turner denies that Child A received the bruises at the child care center. She stated they do not go outside without proper adult-child ratio; there is a minimum of two child care staff members that go outside with the children every day. Ms. Turner shared that they constantly count the children every day and continue to count the children throughout the day. When they take the children outside, she goes to one side of the playground area and the other staff spread out to the cover the areas. Occasionally, she and the other child care staff members congregate together to play a game with the kids or to tell one another something. Ms. Turner stated that Child A had been enrolled in the child care center for a month and she has seen bruises on Child A before but did not think much of it as the bruises appeared old and children sometimes have bruises. Ms. Turner shared that she witnessed bruises on Child A's legs twice; on a previous occasion during diapering, but the bruises appeared to be old; and when Child A returned to the child care center on Wednesday. Ms. Turner stated that Ms. Branner was changing Child A's diaper when she called her over to view the bruises on Child A's legs and buttocks. The bruises on Child A's legs and buttocks were raised and appeared fresh. Ms.

Turner denies Child A received the bruises at the child care center and has never witnessed any child care staff member use physical discipline with any child.

On 12/16/2022, I interviewed program director, Amy Robinson. Ms. Robinson was aware of the allegations and informed me that the child care center was new and had recently opened. Because they are still enrolling children, they currently are over-staffed. They have 43 children enrolled in the center with 21 child care staff members, so each classroom had more than enough staff to supervise children. Oftentimes there may be four child care staff members in a classroom with less than 10 children. Occasionally, Ms. Robinson has seen staff huddled together but she quickly puts a stop to it. Ms. Robinson shared that they are currently overstaffed for training as new child care staff members are learning from seasoned child care staff members. When staff and children are outside, they are to zone the outdoor play space for maximum supervision of children. The center does not have cameras but are planning and scheduling camera installation services. Ms. Robinson does not believe the bruises occurred at the child care center. On the Wednesday that the child returned to the center, Ms. Branner made her aware of the bruises on Child A's legs and buttocks. The bruises were reported to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

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:	Based on interviews with child care staff members and review of children and staff timesheets, there is not sufficient evidence to conclude that staff were not providing appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend no change to the status of the license.

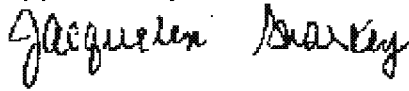


02/02/2023

Chimere Simmons
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



02/02/2023

Jacquelin Sharkey
Area Manager

Date