



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
ACTING DIRECTOR

November 9, 2023

Rushdi Furrha
Squiggle Room LLC
812 Hampton Ridge
Akron, OH 44313

RE: License #: DC810404904
Investigation #: 2023D0106022
Squiggle Room

Dear Mr. Furrha:

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:

R 400.8112 Comprehensive background check; fingerprinting.

R 400.8173 Equipment.

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

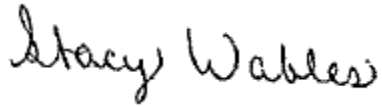
- I interviewed: Licensee designee, child care staff members, and parents.
- I completed an onsite inspection on 06/28/2023.

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.	☐	☒
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	☐	☒

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacy Wables". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stacy Wables, Licensing Consultant
Child Care Licensing Bureau
611 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 899-5790

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DC810404904
Investigation #:	2023D0106022
Complaint Receipt Date:	06/27/2023
Investigation Initiation Date:	06/28/2023
Report Due Date:	08/26/2023
Licensee Name:	Squiggle Room LLC
Licensee Address:	100 Oakbrook Dr Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Licensee Telephone #:	(734) 657-1565
Administrator:	Rushdi Furrha, Designee
Licensee Designee:	Rushdi Furrha, Designee
Name of Facility:	Squiggle Room
Facility Address:	100 Oakbrook Dr Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Facility Telephone #:	(734) 369-4276
Original Issuance Date:	10/08/2021
License Status:	1ST PROVISIONAL
Effective Date:	03/16/2023
Expiration Date:	09/15/2023
Capacity:	131
Program Type:	CHILD CARE CENTER

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Child care staff members (CCSMs) are working without background checks.	No
Playground has many safety concerns. There is a rock wall at the bottom of a hill. Children get stuck because there is a four-to-five-foot drop. Children have to drop or hang and yell for help. CCSMs have to pull children through a hole of 2x4 wood that they can fall head first. The ground is unlevel making it difficult to walk.	No

III. METHODOLOGY

06/27/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023D0106022
06/28/2023	Special Investigation Initiated - On Site Observation and interviews with licensee designee Rushdi Furrha, Child Care Staff Member 1 (CCSM 1), Child Care Staff Member 2 (CCSM 2), Child Care Staff Member 3 (CCSM 3) and Child Care Staff Member 4 (CCSM 4) from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.
07/08/2023	Contact – Document Received E-mail received from Paige Cadmus, program director.
10/29/2023	Contact – Telephone call made Calls to Child A's Mother, Child B's Mother and Child C's Mother.
10/19/2023	Exit Conference Telephone call with licensee designee Rushdi Furrah.

ALLEGATION: Child care staff members (CCSMs) are working without background checks.

INVESTIGATION: On 6/28/2023, I completed an unannounced on-site inspection at the child care center. I interviewed CCSM 1, who informed me program director Paige Cadmus and licensee Rushdi Furrah left for the day. CCSM 1 said she has worked at the center for about one month. CCSM came to work from a previous center where she was employed for four years. CCSM 1 said she completed a background check at the previous center where she worked. Her background check information was able to be transferred to Squiggle room since she did not have an

extended break in between her employment end date at the previous center and her employment start date at Squiggle room. CCSM 1 said she believes Ms. Cadmus and Mr. Furrah do not allow child care staff members to work with children until they have completed background checks.

During my on-site inspection Mr. Furrah returned to the center. I informed Mr. Furrah of the allegations. Mr. Furrah said he does not allow CCSMs to work in a classroom unsupervised with children until they have completed all background check requirements.

I interviewed CCSM 2. CCSM 2 said she completed a background check prior to working with children when she started working at the center. CCSM 2 believes all the CCSMs who are newly employed at the center do not work in classrooms prior to completing a background check.

I interviewed CCSM 3. CCSM 3 said to her knowledge all newly hired CCSMs are not allowed to work in a classroom unsupervised until they have been determined to be eligible. If a CCSM has completed their fingerprints, but are awaiting the results, Ms. Cadmus and Mr. Furrah have made it very clear on the expectations whether a new CCSM can be unsupervised in a classroom. If CCSM 3 arrives at the center to find a new CCSM working in her classroom, she always clarifies where they are at in the background check process before she will allow them to be left unsupervised with children.

I interviewed CCSM 4. CCSM 4 said when she started working at the center, she was not allowed to be left unsupervised in the classroom until she received her background check results. Ms. Cadmus and Mr. Furrah are very clear in their communication with all the CCSMs whether a new CCSM has received their background check results or not. CCSM 4 has never heard of a CCSM being allowed to work unsupervised in a classroom without having a completed background check. Ms. Cadmus lets the other CCSMs know when a newly hired CCSM can be left alone. The expectation is that a new CCSM must remain supervised until they are told the new CCSM can be left alone in the classroom.

On 7/8/2023, I received an e-mail from program director Paige Cadmus who provided me with a list of current CCSMs.

On 7/10/2023, I reviewed the Child Care Background Check (CCBC) system to confirm all current CCSMs have completed a background check and are eligible to work in a child care center. All current CCSMs were determined to be eligible and were connected in the CCBC system.

On 10/19/2023, I spoke to Child A's Mother by telephone. Child A's Mother said she does not have any concerns regarding the CCSMs at the childcare center. She said there is always a lot of change in CCSMs in the classrooms which can be stressful.

However, she understands that maintaining staff is a challenge in the child care industry. Child A's Mother said she believes Ms. Cadmus is a wonderful program director and likes that Ms. Cadmus often sits in classrooms as opposed to sitting in a separate office all the time.

On 10/19/2023 I placed telephone calls to Child B's Mother and Child C's Mother. I left voice mails requesting return calls.

On 10/19/2023 I completed an exit conference by telephone call with licensee designee Rushdi Furrh.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8112	Comprehensive background check; fingerprinting.
	(1) Pursuant to section 5n of the act, MCL 722.115n, before an individual has unsupervised contact with children, the department shall determine the individual's eligibility to be any of the following: (a) A licensee. (b) A licensee designee. (c) A child care staff member. (d) A child care aide. (e) An unsupervised volunteer.
ANALYSIS:	All current CCSMs are determined to be eligible and are connected on the CCBC system. The CCSMs do not have unsupervised contact with children before the department determines the individual is eligible.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

ALLEGATION: Playground has many safety concerns. There is a rock wall at the bottom of a hill. Children get stuck because there is a four-to-five-foot drop. Children have to drop or hang and yell for help. CCSMs have to pull children through a hole of 2x4 wood that they can fall head first. The ground is unlevel making it difficult to walk.

INVESTIGATION: On 6/27/2023, I reviewed the center's playground inspection dated 9/30/2021. I made note of each piece of equipment and the recommended age ranges for each piece of equipment. The rock wall described is designated for children ages 5 to 12 years.

On 6/28/2023, I completed an unannounced on-site inspection at the child care center. I interviewed CCSM 1. She mostly works with children ages 1 year to 18 months of age. The playground equipment at the center is all for children ages 2 years and up. CCSM 1 said the children who are under 2 years of age play in an area where there is no installed equipment. The CCSMs take the children on walks or provide portable play equipment. When CCSM 1 started working at the center Ms. Cadmus informed her which age groups of children are allowed on various play equipment. CCSM 1 does not recall the age requirements of each piece of equipment since she works with an age group who does not use any of the equipment. CCSM 1 has never observed any CCSMs to allow children under the age of 2 years to use any of the installed equipment. Since CCSM 1 does not work with the older children, she is not sure which equipment they are allowed to play on as they are not all outside at the same time. CCSM 1 said she has never had difficulty walking around the outdoor play area due to uneven ground and she has never observed any other adults or children fall or appear to have difficulty walking around the outdoor play area.

During my on-site inspection Mr. Furrh returned to the center. I informed Mr. Furrh of the allegations. Mr. Furrh said he makes sure the CCSMs follow the approved age ranges on the outdoor play equipment "to a tee." Mr. Furrh believes all the CCSMs use the appropriate equipment for the age of children for whom they are responsible. Mr. Furrh has never heard children screaming and yelling for help because they are stuck or afraid on any playground equipment. When he hears children yelling, it sounds as if they are more excited to be playing around outside and having fun. Mr. Furrh has never seen or heard of CCSMs allowing children to play on equipment who are younger than 2 years old because the center does not have any equipment approved for children under the age of 2 years. Mr. Furrh has observed the CCSMs to follow the age recommendations of all the equipment and has never seen or heard of any adults or children having difficulty walking around the outdoor play area due to uneven ground.

I interviewed CCSM 2. CCSM 2 said she works with children who are under the age of 2 years, so her classroom does not use the outdoor play equipment. The younger children take frequent walks or play with portable toys in an open space with no

equipment. CCSM 2's classroom is located next to the play area where the rock wall is located. There is a window along the entire wall facing the rock climber. CCSM 2 said she has never heard children screaming for help to get down from the rock wall and the children who use that structure appear to be older children who are of an appropriate size and age to play on it. CCSM 2 observes the CCSMs to stay near the equipment the children are playing on to assist children if necessary. She has never observed any children to struggle to climb out of the opening at the top of the rock wall. There is usually a CCSM at the top of the rock wall to help children through the opening which is flush with the ground as the rock wall is built into a hill.

I interviewed CCSM 3. CCSM 3 said she is familiar with the required age ranges on the outdoor play equipment. She believes all the CCSMs follow the age requirements on all of the outdoor play equipment. CCSM 3 has never seen children under the age of 2 years play on any of the equipment. The children who play on the rock wall appear to be of the appropriate age and size to safely use the structure safely. All the CCSMs use active supervision when children are outside playing. The CCSMs spread out around the playground so they can observe and assist all children if necessary. CCSM 3 said when there are children playing on the rock wall, one CCSM will stand at the bottom of the rock wall, then another CCSM will stay at the top of the rock wall where there is an opening to assist children who want to go through the opening. Some children choose to climb back down to the bottom of the rock wall where the other CCSM helps to guide the children down to the bottom if the child needs the assistance. The CCSM positioned at the bottom of the rock wall will also work with the CCSM who is waiting at the opening of the rock wall to safely guide children through the opening. CCSM 3 has never seen a child appear to get stuck in the opening at the top of the rock wall. The opening is big enough that the children can fit through with plenty of room left over. If children scream and yell while playing on the rock wall, they are doing so in a manner to indicate they are having fun. Not a lot of children play on that piece of equipment. CCSM 3 has never observed or heard of any children having difficulty walking around the outdoor play area due to uneven ground.

I interviewed CCSM 4. CCSM 4 said she believes all the CCSMs follow the age guidelines on all the outdoor play equipment. She has never observed any children under the age of 2 years to play on the installed equipment. The CCSMs spread out amongst the play area where the older children play to assure all children are properly supervised. CCSM 4 has never observed any children get stuck on the rock wall. She does not see many children play on that particular piece of equipment. Since the CCSMs remain spread out amongst the children during outdoor play time, there is always a CCSM close by to quickly assist any children who may have trouble on the equipment. CCSM 4 has never seen or heard of any children or adults having difficulty walking around the play area due to uneven ground.

I walked around the entire outdoor play area and did not find it difficult to maintain my footing. I observed the rock wall and found it to be constructed in the side of a hill, so the top of the wall is flush with the ground. The rock wall appears to be a little

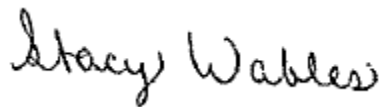
over five feet from the bottom to the top. There is a square opening at the top that appears to be large enough for school age children to crawl through without difficulty.

On 10/19/2023, I spoke to Child A's Mother by telephone. Child A's Mother said she has never had any concerns with the playground or playground equipment at the child care center. Child A has never come home with any injuries that are a result of playing on equipment that is not appropriate for his age or from tripping in the outdoor play area. There was a period of time where there seemed to be an excessive number of mosquitos. Child A's Mother understands this has been a problem across the state of Michigan and she believes the center addressed the mosquito problem in a timely manner.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8173	Equipment.
	(4) Play equipment, materials, and furniture, must be all of the following: (a) Appropriate to the developmental needs and interests of children as required by R 400.8179(2). (b) Safe, clean, and in good repair. (c) Child-sized or appropriately adapted for a child's use. (d) Easily accessible to the children.
ANALYSIS:	The CCSMs follow the recommended age ranges on the outdoor play equipment. The CCSMs supervise the children while playing on the rock wall and assist them with climbing through the top or climbing back down to the bottom during play.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend no change in the status of the license.

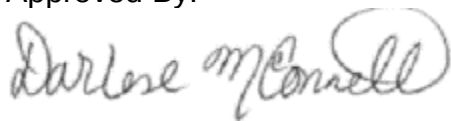


11/09/2023

Stacy Wables
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



11/09/2023

Darlese McConnell
Area Manager

Date