



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
ACTING DIRECTOR

REDACTED REPORT

October 26, 2023

Sarah Landes
316 N Emily Street
Ludington, MI 49431

RE: License #: DG530407665
Investigation #: 2023D1073019
Miss Sarah's Daycare

Dear Ms. Landes:

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:

R400.1911(1)	Care; supervision; children
R400.1913(3)(a)	Discipline; child handling.
R400.1913(3)(b)	Discipline; child handling.
R400.1913(2)	Discipline; child handling.

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

- I interviewed: the person who made the complaint, licensee, caregivers, witnesses, parents, and children.
- I completed an onsite inspection on 08/14/2023.

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

R400.1902(2)	Applicant; licensee; requirements.
R400.1903(4)(c)	Licensee responsibilities.
R400.1904a(2)	Child care staff member; employment requirements.
R400.1904a(3)	Child care staff member; employment requirements.
R400.19053)	Training.
R400.1906(1)(a)	Records of a licensee; child care staff member; child care assistant.
R400.1906(1)(c)(ii)	Records of a licensee; child care staff member; child care assistant.
R400.1906(1)(g)	Records of a licensee; child care staff member; child care assistant.
R400.1907(1)(a)	Child's record.
R400.1907(2)	Child's record.
R400.1911(1)	Care; supervision; children
R400.1913(2)	Discipline; child handling.
R400.1913(3)(a)	Discipline; child handling.
R400.1913(3)(b)	Discipline; child handling.
R400.1916(12)	Bedding and sleeping equipment.
R400.1931(7)	Food preparation and service.

I recommend revocation of your license. You will be notified in writing of the department's intention and your options.

Due to the infant safe sleep violation(s), you and all of your caregivers must take training on infant safe sleep. In addition, a follow up inspection may be made to check compliance with the infant safe sleep rules.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tarah Kline".

Tarah Kline, Licensing Consultant
Child Care Licensing Bureau
611 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30837
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 #:	DG530407665
Investigation #:	2023D1073019
Complaint Receipt Date:	08/08/2023
Investigation Initiation Date:	08/09/2023
Report Due Date:	10/07/2023
Licensee Name:	Sarah Landes
Licensee Address:	316 N Emily Street Ludington, MI 49431
Licensee Telephone #:	(231) 233-7405
Administrator:	N/A
Licensee Designee:	
Name of Facility:	Miss Sarah's Daycare
Facility Address:	316 N Emily Street Ludington, MI 49431
Facility Telephone #:	(231) 233-7405
Original Issuance Date:	05/27/2021
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	11/27/2021
Expiration Date:	11/26/2023
Capacity:	12
Program Type:	CHILD CARE GROUP HOME (CAPACITY 7-12)

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Sarah Landes put soap in Child A's (male, age 4) mouth for discipline.	Yes
Sarah Landes force feeds child care children.	Yes
Sarah Landes and Child Care Staff Member (CCSM 1) spank children.	Yes
Additional Findings	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

08/08/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023D1073019
08/09/2023	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Spoke with licensing consultant Amanda Wendall
08/11/2023	Contact - Telephone call made. Spoke with [REDACTED]
08/14/2023	Inspection Completed On-site 1:00 PM- 2:10 PM Interviewed Sarah Landes, Child Care Staff Member (CCSM) 1 and AHM/CCSM 2
08/14/2023	Contact-Telephone call made Left message with Sarah Landes
08/15/2023	Contact-Telephone call made Spoke with [REDACTED]
08/15/2023	Contact-Telephone call made Spoke with CCSM 3
08/16/2023	Contact-Telephone call made Spoke with Child C, Child D, and Child E's Father, Child F and Child G's Mother, Child H and Child I's Mother and Child J's Mother
08/22/2023	Contact-Telephone call made Spoke with Amanda Wendall
09/06/2023	Contact-Telephone call made

	Spoke with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and Candice Case-French
09/08/2023	Contact-Document Received Email from Amanda Wendall that Sarah Landes had sent
09/08/2023	Contact-Document Sent Email to Sarah Landes
09/08/2023	Contact-Document Received Email from Sarah Landes
09/20/2023	Contact-Document Received Email from [REDACTED] with report and documentation of contacts made by the department with children and parents.
09/26/2023	Exit Conference Attempted – Left Message Sarah Landes

ALLEGATION: Sarah Landes put soap in Child A's (male, age 4) mouth for discipline.

INVESTIGATION: On 8/14/2023, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and I completed an onsite inspection at Sarah Landes' home. When we arrived at the child care home, Sarah Landes, an adult household member (AHM) and another adult were at the child care home. Sarah Landes stated that she does not have a child care staff member outside of AHM; sometimes the additional adult that was present visits to help with her children. The additional adult was later identified as child care staff member 1 (CCSM 1).

Sarah Landes was asked how she disciplines Child A. She indicated that she puts him in time out due to biting, hitting, or lashing out at other children. She denied every placing soap in Child A's mouth for discipline. When asked if there was anything reason this would be alleged, she stated that on time Child A's Grandpa joked that he would put soap in his mouth at home. Other than that, she was unsure why someone would say she put soap in Child A's mouth.

[REDACTED] and I spoke with AHM regarding observing any physical discipline by Sarah Landes. He stated that he has not ever seen her use any sort of physical discipline with any child care children including placing soap in any child's mouth.

CCSM 1 stated that she is at the house more in the summer because she works at the school, but during the school year she is there very minimally. She just helps with her grandsons; she does not care for child care children. During her times at

the child care, she has never observed Sarah Landes use physical discipline with any children, including but not limited to putting soap in his mouth.

On 8/14/2023, [REDACTED] was able to forensically interview Child B (female, age 7). When discussing discipline at Sarah Landes home, she recounted a time that Sarah Landes placed soap in Child A's mouth. She described Sarah Landes pulling Child A into the bathroom, yelling at him to open his mouth. When he did so, Sarah Landes pumped soap that comes out as a foam into his mouth. Child A began crying and asking for water as he spit out the soap. Sarah Landes did not allow Child A to have water.

On 8/15/2023, [REDACTED] and I contacted child care staff member 3 (CCSM 3) via telephone. CCSM 3 stated that she worked with Sarah Landes when she had her previous license. When Sarah Landes reopened her child care (current license) she worked there until May of this year. She left her employment because she did not feel comfortable working there anymore. Sarah Landes had changed and gotten really mean towards the children in care since reopening. We asked her to describe how she was mean to children. CCSM 3 stated that Child A struggled with behaviors at child care. During one incident, she put soap in his mouth. [REDACTED] asked her to elaborate on the details of this incident. She stated that prior to this, Child A's Grandparent had told Sarah Landes to put soap in his mouth if he misbehaved. One day when he misbehaved, Sarah Landes brought him into the bathroom of the home, took the soap that foams off the sink, and pumped it into his mouth. Child A began crying and asking for water to which she denied.

On 8/11/2023 and 8/12/2023, [REDACTED] had completed face to face contacts with Child L's Mother, Child K's Mother and Child A's Mother. I reviewed her notes from these contacts and gained the following information from them:

Child L's Mother stated that Child L (female, age 3) has been attending the child care for over a year now. Within the last couple of months, Child L has not wanted to attend child care at Sarah Landes's home. Child L's Mother stated that Child L will throw a fit and cry asking not to go to child care. She has never seen any physical discipline occur at the child care during pick up or drop off times.

Child K's Mother stated that she had recently removed Child K (male, age 2) from Sarah Landes child care after hearing the concerns that Child B had reported to her parents. Child K's Mother did not witness any physical discipline during pick up or drop offs.

Child A's Mother explained that Child A (male, age 4) has been attending the child care for approximately two years. Recently she started to have concerns because Child A will tell her that "Sarah hit me" when she picks him up from child care. Child A has said this 7-8 times over the last couple of months. She was also concerned

that this week when she picked Child A up, he told her that Sarah Landes had cut his fingernails and they were hurting him. Child A's Mother stated that when she looked at his fingernails, they had appeared to be cut so short that they had bled. When she asked Sarah Landes about the cutting of fingernails, Sarah Landes told her that one of them was snagging in something, so she cut them all.

██████████ and I spoke with Child C, Child D, and Child E's Father, Child F and Child G's Mother, Child H and Child I's Mother and Child J's Mother on 8/16/2023.

Child C, Child D, and Child E's Father stated that his children have been attending the child care for about a year and a half. When asked if any of the children had mentioned how they are disciplined at child care, he stated that they do not complain about being yelled at or spanked. He felt they would tell him if this was happening to them because they complain about not having a lot of room to roam since Sarah Landes lives in town. ██████████ asked if he could possibly interview the children since they are all verbal. Child C, Child D and Child E's Father stated that they were very busy the next couple days but to reach out Monday and they could set something up.

██████████ attempted to follow up with Child C, Child D, and Child E's Father to interview the children but he did not return ██████████ phone calls.

Child F and Child G's Mother stated that she had no concerns about the child care. She felt that Child F (female, age 5) would tell her if any child got spanked at the child care because she tells her anytime someone gets a time out. Child F and Child G's Mother stated that she has no concerns about the child care and knows that Child G (female, age 4) has been put in time out a handful of times or has not gotten a reward because of behaviors.

██████████ asked if he could interview Child F due to her age. Initially Child F and Child G's Mother stated that was fine and they scheduled a time to do so. Prior to the interview, Child F and Child G's Mother contacted ██████████ telling him that she no longer wants Child F interviewed. She stated that she believes Child B lives in a fantasy world and that Child G was upset her friend would say things like she did about Sarah Landes.

Child H and Child I's Mother stated that Sarah Landes provides "fabulous child care," and that she has no concerns about the care that she has provided her children over the last two years. Child H (male, age 4) would tell her if someone got spanked so she does not believe that anyone has been inappropriately disciplined at the child care.

Child J's Mother stated that she has been taking Child J (male, age 3) to the child care for almost two years and she has no concerns.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1913(3)	Discipline; child handling.
	Personnel shall not do any of the following: (b) Use any substance in a child's mouth such as, but not limited to, soap, hot sauce, or vinegar.
ANALYSIS:	Licensee Sarah Landes used soap in Child A's mouth as a form of discipline.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

ALLEGATION: Sarah Landes force-fed child-care children.

INVESTIGATION: When speaking with Sarah Landes, [REDACTED] and I asked her how meal times typically go at her child care. She stated that she has a group of really good eaters and meal time always goes well. [REDACTED] asked if there were any picky eaters at the child care and she stated that there were not. When asked if she had to assist any children in eating, Sarah Landes stated that they all eat on their own, so she does not have to assist any of them. It was explained that the allegations alleged that she would force feed children, in particular Child K (male, age 2) to the point that he threw up. Sarah Landes stated that Child K had a runny nose and has thrown up from the drainage and eating but never because she force-fed him.

CCSM 1 and AHM denied ever seeing Sarah Landes force feed any children or that they had ever force fed a child.

During her forensic interview Child B was asked what meals she ate at Sarah Landes's child care, she stated that they would eat snack and lunch. When asked what would happen if a child did not want to eat what Sarah Landes made for lunch, she stated that Sarah Landes would get really upset. If they had food on their plate after they were full, Sarah Landes would yell "why didn't you eat?" On one occasion there was a time that Child L (female, age 3) did not want to eat chicken alfredo for lunch, so Sarah Landes yelled at her to eat it. When she wouldn't eat it, Sarah Landes would grab Child L's mouth with one hand and use the other to force the food into her mouth. Then she would use her hands to move Child L's mouth up and down, yelling "CHEW" over and over. Eventually she would yell "swallow it" at Child L. On a separate occasion, sloppy joes were for lunch and Child K did not want to eat it, so Sarah Landes physically forced him to eat it until he ended up throwing up. Child B said no other children were forced to eat food, but they were often yelled at to finish their food on their plates.

CCSM 3 reported witnessing Sarah Landes force feeding several of the children at the child care. She stated that Sarah Landes would get very upset when children did not want to eat the food that she made. She would yell, "I worked hard on that food you need to eat it." When asked to clarify what it would look like when she would force feed children, CCSM 3 stated that she would put the food in her hand and the shove it in the child's mouth, yelling at them to swallow. She could not recall the foods or the children's names but did report seeing this happen with her own eyes.

During our interviews with parents, none of them had direct information regarding the children and their eating habits.

It was learned from Child K's Mother that one day Child K was in a different shirt at pick up then he was at drop off. Sarah Landes had told Child K's Mother it was because he spilt sloppy joes on himself, so she changed his shirt. Child B had indicated during her interview that Child K was force fed sloppy joes.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1911(1)	Care; supervision; children.
	A licensee shall ensure appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes did not provide appropriate care of Child K or Child L when she placed food in their mouths, forcing them to swallow the food.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1931(7)	Food preparation and service
	Children shall be encouraged to taste new foods but shall not be required to eat anything they do not want.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes required children to eat food that they did not want when she put it in their mouths and forced them to eat the food.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

ALLEGATION: Sarah Landes and CCSM 1 spank children in care.

INVESTIGATION: During our onsite inspection at the child care, CCSM 1 was present. Sarah Landes indicated that CCSM 1 just comes to hang out with her children, not to care for the child care children. It was explained to Sarah Landes of the allegations that CCSM 1 will yell at children, drag them to time out and has spanked children in care. Sarah Landes stated that CCSM 1 does not care for children, so this allegation could not be true.

CCSM 1 stated that she works during the school year, so she is not at the home often. She may stop by to help with her grandchildren who are enrolled, but not the other child care children. In the summer she is at the home more often, but it is usually to come get her grandchildren. AHM stated that CCSM 1 does not care for the child care children.

Child B was asked what happens at Sarah Landes's child care if someone gets in trouble. She stated that there was a lot of yelling. Most of the time Sarah Landes would yell at children to "get in time out now." Then they would have to sit in the chair by the door. Child B volunteered that CCSM 1 yelled more than Sarah Landes did. One time Child K arrived at child care and Child K was crying because he missed his mom. CCSM 1 yelled at him to stop crying. When he would not stop crying, she yelled again. Child K was sitting on the floor by the doorway, so CCSM 1 grabbed his arm, pulled him up, and spanked his butt five times. Child B was holding a doll during this explanation, and she demonstrated on the doll the spanking. Child K did not stop crying so CCSM 1 yelled for him to get into time out. When he did not move, she kicked him in the butt to get him to move. Another time Child G was not cleaning up and this made CCSM 1 very upset as it was almost time to leave. CCSM 1 grabbed Child G by the arm, pulled her to the time out chair, and forced her to sit there stating, "You will listen to me." When asked if Sarah Landes ever spanked any children, Child B thought for a minute and stated that she thinks she spanked Child L but she couldn't recall the details of it.

When we spoke with CCSM 3, she stated that CCSM 1 is very mean and yells all the time. One time she yelled at her in front of the kids so much that it made her cry. Regarding being physical with the children, CCSM 3 recalled a time that Child K was upset at drop off and he was crying. When he didn't stop crying after she yelled at him, picked him up by his arm, and spanked him. When he didn't stop crying then she pulled him to time out and kicked him in the butt. She stated that both Sarah Landes and CCSM 1 spanked Child A.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1913(3)	Discipline; child handling.
	Personnel shall not do any of the following: (a) Hit, spank, shake, bite, pinch, or inflict other forms of corporal punishment.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes did not ensure that spanking was not used as a form of discipline. Child B and CCSM 3 both observed CCSM 1 spank child care children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1913(2)	Discipline; child handling.
	Developmentally appropriate positive methods of discipline that encourage self-control, self-direction, self-esteem, and cooperation must be used.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes and CCSM 1 did not use appropriate positive methods of discipline. Sarah Landes and CCSM 1 yelled at children as a form of discipline.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS:

INVESTIGATION: During my initial on-site visit, I asked Sarah Landes if she previously employed a child care staff member. She explained that she had a different child care license prior to her current license. She has not employed a child care staff member under her current license. Sarah Landes did not have staff records for CCSM 1. Sarah Landes stated AHM was the only staff member with the required background check and trainings. I also verified that CCSM 1 did not have a Child Care Background Check or trainings listed in MiRegistry.

On 8/15/2023, [REDACTED] and I spoke with CCSM 3 who indicated that she had been working at Sarah Landes's child care home, under the current license, until May of this year. She recalled CCSM 1 working at the child care in the summer, but not a lot during the school year because she works at the school during the school year. When she would leave for the day, AHM would help with the child care children.

On 8/16/2023, [REDACTED] and I spoke with Child C, Child D, and Child E's Father, Child F and Child G's Mother, Child H and Child I's Mother and Child J's Mother. When speaking with Child C, Child D, and Child E's Father about any child care staff members that Sarah Landes might have, he stated that CCSM 1 is there depending on the time of day. Child F and Child G's Mother recounted that CCSM 3 was there up until a couple of months ago. Child H and Child I's Mother stated that CCSM 1 is there almost every day helping Sarah Landes and CCSM 3 was there but left a little while back. Child J's Mother observes CCSM 1 being there in the mornings and AHM being there in the afternoons.

On 8/22/2023, I spoke with licensing consultant Amanda Wendall. Amanda Wendall explained that Sarah Landes closed her first child care license in September of 2019 and then opened her current license in November of 2021. Amanda Wendall was at the child care home in November of 2022 and at that time she had CCSM 3 working for her.

On 8/14/2023, I attempted to contact Sarah Landes to let her know that CCSM 1 needed to complete a comprehensive background check. Sarah Landes did not return this call. I received a forwarded email from Sarah Landes stating that she would be closing her child care license. I responded to Sarah Landes letting her know that her child care license could not close when she had a special investigation open and that if she continues to care for children, she needs to have CCSM 1 complete a comprehensive background check.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R400.1903(4)	Licensee responsibilities.
	The licensee shall cooperate with the department in connection with an inspection or investigation, as required in section 10(1) of the act, MCL 722.120(1). Cooperation includes, but is not limited to, all of the following: (c) Provide accurate and truthful information to the department, and encourage witnesses to provide accurate and truthful information to the department.

ANALYSIS:	During our onsite inspection I asked Sarah Landes who she had as a child care staff member currently. She indicated that just AHM was a child care staff member. I asked she had previous child care staff members. She indicated that since she has reopened her license, she has not had any other child care staff members. In interviewing parents, child care staff members and licensing consultant it was found that CCSM 1 cares for children and that CCSM 3 did work for Sarah Landes as of recently.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1904a(3)	Child care staff member; employment requirements.
	Prior to contact with children, the individual shall be determined by the department to be eligible to serves a s a child care staff member, pursuant to sections 5n and 5q of the act, MCL 722.115q and as required by R 400.1925
ANALYSIS:	CCSM 1 was observed by parents to be caring for children in a child care staff member role in addition to CCSM 3. Sarah Landes did not have a determination regarding CCSM 1's eligibility determined by the department.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1904a(2)	Child care staff member; employment requirements.
	Before caring for children at a child care home, an individual shall provide the licensee with all of the following: (a) A valid certification in infant, child, and adult CPR.
ANALYSIS:	CCSM 1 did not have a valid certification in infant, child, and adult CPR.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1904a(2)	Child care staff member; employment requirements.
	Before caring for children at a child care home, an individual shall provide the licensee with all of the following: (b) A valid certification in first aid.
ANALYSIS:	CCSM 1 did not have a valid certification in first aid.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1904a(2)	Child care staff member; employment requirements.
	Before caring for children at a child care home, an individual shall provide the licensee with all of the following: (c) Proof of training in the prevention of infectious disease, including immunizations. Hours of training in the prevention of infectious disease from MiRegistry will be allowed to count for training hours to meet this requirement.
ANALYSIS:	CCSM 1 did not have training in the prevention of infectious disease, including immunizations, prior to caring for children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R400.1905(3)	Training.
	A licensee shall ensure that child care staff members and child care assistants, prior to caring for children, have training that includes information on all of the following: (a) Safe sleep practices to prevent sudden infant death syndrome. (b) Recognition of and the reporting of child abuse and neglect. (c) Prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma, and child maltreatment.

ANALYSIS:	CCSM 1 did not have training in safe sleep practices, reporting of child abuse and neglect, and the prevention of shaken baby syndrome prior to caring for children.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R400.1906(1)(a)	Records of a licensee; child care staff member; child care assistant.
	A licensee shall maintain a file for each child care staff member and each child care assistant that includes all of the following: (a) The individual's first and last name, address, telephone number, and date of hire.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes did not maintain a file for CCSM 1.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R400.1906(1)(c)(ii)	Records of a licensee; child care staff member; child care assistant.
	A licensee shall maintain a file for each child care staff member and each child care assistant that includes all of the following: (c) A statement signed by a licensed physician or his or her designee that attests to the individual's mental and physical health., and which must be updated as follows: (ii) For a child care staff member and a child care assistant, within 1 year prior to caring for children and at the time of subsequent renewals of the child care home's license.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes did not have a statement signed by a licensed physician or his or her designee that attests to CCSM 1's mental and physical health.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

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APPLICABLE RULE	
R400.1906(1)(g)	Records of a licensee; child care staff member; child care assistant.
	A licensee shall maintain a file for each child care staff member and each child care assistant that includes all of the following: (g) A written statement, signed and dated by the child care staff member or child care assistant at the time of hiring, indicating all of the following information: (i) The individual is aware that abuse and neglect of children is unlawful. (ii) The individual knows that he or she is mandated by law to report child abuse and neglect. (iii) The individual has received a copy of the licensee's discipline policy.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landres did not maintain a file with a written signed statement regarding child abuse, child neglect, mandated reporting, and her discipline policy for CCSM 1.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

INVESTIGATION: On 09/06/2023 I had a telephone exit conference with [REDACTED]. He completed and closed his investigation. The Child Care Organizations Act allows the Child Care Licensing Bureau the ability to utilize available information, including, but not limited to, any of the following: (a) Investigative report, such as a law enforcement report and a children's protective services report. (b) Medical report. (c) Public record. (d) Child care center, group child care home, or family child care home record. (e) Inspection of the child care center, group child care home, or family child care home, as well as criminal history information to determine whether an individual is conducive to the welfare of children. Based on my interview and review of allowable information, the Child Care Licensing Bureau finds that the disposition, temperament, condition, and actions of Sarah Landes do not promote the safety and well-being of children in a licensed childcare setting.

R400.1902(3)(c)	Applicant; licensee; requirements.
	All persons, including minors, residing in the child care home shall meet all of the following requirements: (c) Act in a manner that is conducive to the welfare of children.

ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes did not act in a manner that is conducive to the welfare of children. Sarah Landes force fed children, used soap in a child's mouth as a form of discipline, and yelled at children, Sarah Landes was not truthful with the bureau when she denied that CCSM 1 was working for her during the investigation.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

MCL 722.115m(2)	Child care center, group child care home, or family child care home; requirements for licensure.
	... if the department is satisfied as to the need for a child care center, group child care home, or family child care home, as to its financial stability, and that the service, facility, applicant, licensee, child care staff member, or member of the household is conducive to the welfare of the children, the department shall issue or renew the child care center, group child care home, or family child care home license. If the department determines that a service, facility, applicant, licensee, child care staff member, or member of the household is not conducive to the welfare of the children, the department shall deny that application or revoke that licensee's license according to section 11.
ANALYSIS:	Sarah Landes was found to be unsuitable to care for children and not conducive to the welfare of children based on credible statements that Sarah Landes placed soap into Child A's mouth for means of discipline.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

NOTE: Conducive to the welfare of children means the disposition, temperament, condition, and action of the applicant, licensee, licensee designee, program director, child care staff member, and member of the household promotes the safety and well-being of the children served.

INVESTIGATION: During our onsite inspection at the child care there was an infant playing in a large play space on the living room floor. This play space had walls and a floor in it. The infant fell asleep in this large space so I told Sarah Landes that all the toys in the space needed to come out and that I would need to check on it being approved for safe sleep because I had not seen anything like it. Sarah Landes

stated that she had a pack and play for her but did not have it set up at the time. I told her that the infant would need to be moved, so she set it up.

I attempted to contact Sarah Landes on 8/14/2023 to let her know that space was not an approved safe sleep space. She did not return that phone call. During an email correspondence on 9/8/2023 with Sarah Landes, I let her know that if she was going to continue to care for children, she needs to sleep infants in approved sleep space.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1916(8)	Bedding and sleeping equipment.
	Soft objects, bumper pads, stuffed toys, blankets, quilts, comforters, pillows, and other objects that could smother an infant must not be placed with, under, or within reach of a resting or sleeping infant.
ANALYSIS:	An infant was asleep in a closed in space that had stuffed toys in it during the onsite inspection.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

INVESTIGATION: During our onsite inspection, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] received child information cards for eight enrolled children. When reviewing these child information cards it was found that three of them were not complete and were missing information such as employer, employer phone number, parent phone number, date of birth for child, physician name, and physician phone number. In addition, seven of the eight cards did not have an annual update.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1907(1)	Child's record
	Prior to a child's initial attendance, a licensee shall obtain the following documents. (a) A completed child information card on a form provided by the department or a comparable substitute approved by the department.

ANALYSIS:	Three of the eight child information cards were not complete.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1907(1)	Child's record
	Records in subrule (1) of this rule must be reviewed and updated annually or when information changes.
ANALYSIS:	Seven out of the eight child information cards did not have an annual update.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend revocation of the license of this child care group home (capacity 7-12).



10/26/2023

Tarah Kline
Licensing Consultant

Date

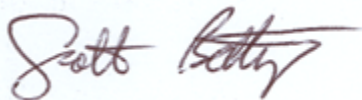
Approved By:



10/26/2023

Candice Case-French
Area Manager

Date



10/26/2023

Scott Bettys
Regional Director

Date



Emily Laidlaw
Bureau Director

11/3/23
Date