



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
 DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
 LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
 GOVERNOR

ORLENE HAWKS  
 DIRECTOR

June 27, 2023

Cathryn Bergmooser  
 14241 Grafton Rd.  
 Carleton, MI 48117

RE: License #: DG580277436  
 Investigation #: 2023D1010005  
 Cathryn Bergmooser

Dear Mrs. Bergmooser:

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 400.1913(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, child care staff members, and parents.
- I completed an onsite inspection on 05/04/23.

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

**R 400.1913(2) Discipline; child handling**

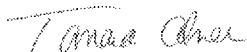
The special investigation report is attached. Due to the violation identified in the report, a written corrective action plan was required. On 5/5/2023, you submitted an acceptable written corrective action plan.

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,



Tanara Abner, Licensing Consultant  
Child Care Licensing Bureau  
611 W. Ottawa Street  
P.O. Box 30664  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(734) 255-4395

enclosure

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

**I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION**

<b>License #:</b>	DG580277436
<b>Investigation #:</b>	2023D1010005
<b>Complaint Receipt Date:</b>	05/03/2023
<b>Investigation Initiation Date:</b>	05/05/2023
<b>Report Due Date:</b>	07/02/2023
<b>Licensee Name:</b>	Cathryn Bergmooser
<b>Licensee Address:</b>	14241 Grafton Rd. Carleton, MI 48117
<b>Licensee Telephone #:</b>	(734) 654-2083
<b>Administrator:</b>	N/A
<b>Licensee Designee:</b>	
<b>Name of Facility:</b>	Cathryn Bergmooser
<b>Facility Address:</b>	14241 Grafton Road Carleton, MI 48117
<b>Facility Telephone #:</b>	(419) 344-9130
<b>Original Issuance Date:</b>	10/25/2005
<b>License Status:</b>	REGULAR
<b>Effective Date:</b>	04/22/2022
<b>Expiration Date:</b>	04/21/2024
<b>Capacity:</b>	14
<b>Program Type:</b>	CHILD CARE GROUP HOME (CAPACITY 7-12)

## II. ALLEGATION(S)

	<b>Violation Established?</b>
Child A (male, age 17 months) is placed in an infant bouncer to seclude him from peers, because of hitting/hair-pulling.	Yes

## III. METHODOLOGY

05/03/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023D1010005
05/04/2023	Special Investigation Initiated - On Site from approximately 11:29AM-12:45PM Who did you interview?
05/08/2023	Contact - Telephone call made Telephone call made to Child C's Mother.
05/08/2023	Contact - Telephone call made Attempted calls made to Child D's and Child E's Mother.
05/08/2023	Contact - Document Received Call received from Child A and B's Mother.
05/08/2023	Contact - Telephone call received Call received from Child A and B's Mother.
05/09/2023	Contact - Document Received Documentation received from complainant.
06/21/2023	Exit Conference with Mrs. Cathryn Bergmooser

**ALLEGATION: Child A (male, age 17 months) is placed in an infant bouncer to seclude him from peers, because of hitting/hair pulling.**

**INVESTIGATION:** On 5/4/23, I interviewed licensee, Mrs. Cathryn Bergmooser at her child care group home. I went over the allegations with Mrs. Bergmooser. Mrs. Bergmooser explained that Child A hits and pulls the children's hair constantly as well as the infants. Mrs. Bergmooser stated that when Child A hits and pulls the children's hair, he is placed in a highchair for about five minutes. There are times when Child A is given toys and snacks and times when he's not given anything and just sits there. Mrs. Bergmooser spoke with Child A's Mother in February 2023 about Child A's behaviors and his rough play with his older brother, Child B (4-year-old male). Mrs. Bergmooser asked Child A's Mother what was done when the aggressive behaviors occurred towards Child B? Child A's Mother told Mrs. Bergmooser that she also places Child A in a highchair if he is having inappropriate behaviors. I explained to Mrs. Bergmooser that she cannot use timeout for a child under the age of 3 years old even if they're receiving timeouts at home. Mrs. Bergmooser had difficulty understanding this and was very frustrated because Child A hits a lot and is fearful that Child A will hurt one of the younger children if not watched constantly. Mrs. Bergmooser explained that she doesn't have the staff to constantly watch over Child A and she has a lot of infants which is why he's placed in a highchair.

On 5/04/23, I interviewed Child Care Staff Member 1 (CCSM1). I went over the allegations regarding Child A. CCSM 1 stated that Child A is not placed in a highchair immediately after he is aggressive. CCSM 1 stated that she and Mrs. Bergmooser try to redirect Child A and Child B when they are aggressive. Child A is usually the aggressor between himself and Child B. CCSM 1 stated that when Child A doesn't listen, he is placed in a highchair or an exersaucer for about 30 minutes to an hour with toys and when he cries, he's taken out and placed back on the floor. I confirmed with CCSM 1 her statement regarding Child A sitting in a highchair or exersaucer for 30 minutes to an hour when he doesn't listen. CCSM 1 indicated that is correct. I provided technical assistance to CCSM 1 explaining that timeouts cannot be used with children under the age of 3 years old and the amount of time Child A is placed in a highchair is very long and inappropriate.

I interviewed Child Care Staff Member 2 (CCSM 2) and went over the allegations. CCSM 2 stated that whenever Child A is on the floor with other children Child A scratches and pulls their hair. When this behavior occurs CCSM 2 explained how the child care staff members try to redirect Child A by placing him in a different space, but if that doesn't work Child A is placed in a highchair for about five minutes with a toy.

Mrs. Bergmooser sent me a copy of her discipline policy. Mrs. Bergmooser's discipline policy states child care staff members will use the following techniques when children are expressing inappropriate behaviors such as; redirection/use of

words, verbal warnings, time-outs which will be a last resort consisting of one minute for every year old the child is. The child will also be told why they are in time out. If a child has not responded to a time out, then privileges within the daycare will be withheld. I provided technical assistance to Mrs. Bergmooser regarding adding to her discipline policy children under the age of three will not be placed in timeout. I also referenced Mrs. Bergmooser to the discipline policy in the licensing rule book as well.

I provided technical assistance to Mrs. Bergmooser, CCSM 1 and CCSM 2 explaining that timeouts shall not be used with children under the of 3 years old and for children 3 years of age and older, timeouts shall not exceed one minute per age of the child.

On 5/8/23, I interviewed Child C's Mother. Child C's Mother explained that she loves Mrs. Bergmooser's child care and has never had any issues. Child C's Mother stated that for discipline, Child C (4-year-old, male) is placed in timeout when he misbehaves, but the timeout has always been "super-fast". The remainder of our conversation consisted of nothing but praises of Mrs. Bergmooser's child care.

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.1913</b>	<b>Discipline; child handling.</b>
	<b>(2) Developmentally appropriate positive methods of discipline that encourage self-control, self-direction, self-esteem, and cooperation must be used.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	Ms. Bergmooser does not use developmentally appropriate positive methods of discipline with Child A (male, age 17 months). Child A is placed in an exersaucer or highchair for an extended amount of time as a method of discipline for hitting and pulling children's hair.
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION ESTABLISHED</b>

**IV. RECOMMENDATION**

I recommend no change in the license status.

*Tanara Abner*

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Tanara Abner  
Licensing Consultant

06/26/23  
Date

Approved By:

*Darlese McConnell*

06/27/2023

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Darlese McConnell  
Area Manager

Date