



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

July 5, 2022

Danise Taylor
10300 Balfour Road
Detroit, MI 48224

RE: License # **DG820394471**
Creative Minds
11501 Nottingham Road
Detroit, MI 48224

Dear Ms. Taylor:

This letter is a follow-up to the on-site inspection conducted at your home on 05/18/2022. The purpose of this inspection was to assess whether Child Care Staff Member (CCSM) Laura Taylor is conducive to the welfare of children in order to be affiliated with a license.

As a result of the inspection, I did not find any rule or law violations.

Circumstances surrounding the event

On 05/06/2022, I interviewed Ms. Taylor over the phone. She said she had a childcare group home license until a family of children "lied on her". She cared for the children for almost two years before her license was revoked. I asked her about the events that led up to the revocation. She said on the day of the incident she left the children with her assistant caregiver, Danise Taylor. When she returned Child A threw a hard toy hitting another infant child causing an injury. She was away from the home and upon her return she went to talk to Child A. Child A ran up under the table several times in an attempt to get away from her. She said she was able to get him from under the table and that is when he must have hit his head. She did not see any injury, mark, or bruise prior to him leaving her home that day. She was later told that he had a "knot on his head". To her knowledge Child A did not receive or need any medical attention at any time. I reviewed the findings from the special investigation report and order of summary suspension and revocation with Ms. Taylor. I asked her if she knew all the facts that were used against her, and she said back then "there was no sense in arguing with what was on paper". She said she did not and would not punch a child. I asked what she used to hit Child A if not a belt. She again denied any corporal punishment against Child A or any child she took care of. She said, "The children were told to say what they

said, and the department chose to believe them". There was no police involvement or other MDHHS investigation.

On 05/18/2022, an in-person interview occurred at the child care group home of Danise Taylor. Area manager, LaTanya Ellington also participated in person at the interview. Danise Taylor said she was there on the day of the incident and was acting as her assistant. She said she told her mother what happened when she returned home and did not observe any inappropriate discipline. She said Child A hit his head when he was coming from under the table. She denied that any form of inappropriate discipline was used on that day or at any other time. I asked if she was interviewed back in 2008 and she said that she was a minor at that time and could not recall if she spoke with anyone. She currently supervises her mother while she works Monday through Friday to help prepare food and supervise the children a few hours a day.

Length of time since the event

The incident occurred on October 21, 2008. It has been 14 years since Ms. Taylor retained a child care license.

Severity of the situation.

Child A sustained injuries to his face, due to being hit by Ms. Taylor. The injuries included a bruise and scratch on his left temple, scratches behind his right ear, and knots in his head. Child A was taken to the hospital because of his injuries, however, did not require medical treatment.

Relationship of the event to the licensed activity

Ms. Taylor was the licensee of a Group Home, license # DG820249187. In reviewing the license record including the special investigation report 2009D0913002 and the Summary Suspension report dated 10/21/2008. The report found that on 10/21/2008 Ms. Taylor used inappropriate discipline when Child A was hit with a belt and her fist. When Child A was picked up by his guardian Ms. Taylor told her Child A fell and hit his head. Child A was observed to have a bruise on his left temple, scratches behind his right ear, and knots in his head. Child A and other childcare children said Ms. Taylor hit him with a belt and her fist. A child care staff member who was present, and Ms. Taylor denied inappropriate discipline was used. As a result of the investigation, Ms. Taylor's Group Home license was suspended and revoked.

Evidence of rehabilitation.

Since Laura Taylor's license was revoked in 2008, she has provided relative care to her four grandchildren at her home. Her grandchildren have since aged out of childcare and she's now looking to return to providing childcare. She has no real viable income unless she works again. She has documented annual training via Miregistry.com that is required of relative care providers in various areas including appropriate discipline. She denied any plans of applying for her own child care license and only wants to assist her Danise Taylor as child care staff member. She understands and agrees to abide by licensing discipline rules.

Denise Taylor said Laura Taylor has been providing care for her children and assisting in the child care home. She stated that her mother does a good job with her children and the child care children. She has had no disciplining issues or concerns. She believes her mother understands and will follow her child care discipline policy. Her discipline policy includes "redirecting and understanding what the child is going through". She said any form of corporal punishment is prohibited. She mentioned taking a discipline training program called conscious discipline training and thought that could be a good source of information for her mother. She has no concerns about her mother's ability to provide appropriate care supervision and appropriate discipline.

Recommendation

Based on my interviews I find that Laura Taylor has shown evidence for rehabilitation during the last 14 years by obtaining training in many areas including discipline and providing care for related children without incident. I find her to be conducive to the welfare of children and able to meet the needs of children and provide for their care, supervision, and protection. It is recommended that Laura Taylor be allowed to act as a child care staff member for this child care home.

Sincerely,



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Approved By:



06/29/2022

LaTanya Ellington
Area Manager

Date

Erika Bigelow

06/30/2022

Erika Bigelow
Division Director

Date

Emily Laidlaw

7/1/2022

Emily Laidlaw
Bureau Director

Date