Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center:	Stanton Child Resource Center			**Enrollment:** 101	**License ID:** 6917
Street:	622 N Halland AVE	**City:** Stanton	**IA**	**Zip Code:** 51573	**County:** Montgomery
Mailing Address:	622 N Halland AVE				
Mailing City:	Stanton	**IA**	**Zip Code:**	51573	
Director's Name:	Brittany Schnoing - director at time of complaint			**Center Phone Number:**	712-829-2801
On-Site Supervisors:				**E-Mail Address:**	scrc@myfmtc.com

Date of Complaint: 05-09-2023 **Date of Visit:** 05-15-2023

[ ] Scheduled **[X]** Unannounced **[ ]** NA

[X] Non-Compliance with Regulations Found **[ ]** Compliance with Regulations Found

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

[X] NO CHANGES to licensing status recommended

[ ] PROVISIONAL license from **to**

[ ] SUSPENSION of License

[ ] REVOCATION of License

Complaint Details:

Did this complaint result in a serious injury? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Did this complaint result in a death to a child? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Summary of Complaint:

It is alleged that staff at Stanton Child Resource Center staff did not appropriately supervise four toddler age children. The children were able to leave their program room through a side door and walk to a nearby Casey's. The center was notified that the children were at Casey's and staff went and got them. It was reported that the children were gone for approximately 20 minutes.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

109.11(3)a Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

109.12(4) Sufficient toilet articles are provided for handwashing.Sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture that conforms with CPSC or ASTM.Play equipment, materials, and furniture meet the developmental, activity, and special needs of the children.Room’s arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children.Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap.Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.Sufficient spacing is maintained between equipment to reduce transmission of disease and allow ease of movement by children and staff to respond to activities and care needs.Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.

Inspection Findings:

Brittany Schoning was the director at the time of the incident.
I talked with Brittany Schoning on the telephone on 5-10-2023, she let me know about the incident that happened on 5-9-2023. She was in the kitchen prepping for lunch around 11:00 am and there were 17 children in the toddler room with 5 staff - 2 staff were doing crafts with the children at a table, 1 staff was changing diapers, 1 staff was in the bathroom washing children's hands and 1 staff left the room to go to the kitchen to get a birthday cake. Four children left the program room through a side door and walked to Casey's, which is the property next to the center. She said the door may not have been latched. She said the lead teacher for the room was going outside looking for the children when they received the call saying the children were at Casey's. Staff immediately went to Casey's to get the children.
Brittany was very upset about the incident and made some immediate changes to prevent this from happening in the future, sensor alarms were installed on the doors. Parents and the board were notified of the incident.

I met Department of Health and Human Service worker Laena Sonntag on 5-15-2023 at Stanton Child Resource Center to discuss a complaint. This was a hectic day at the center as six people called in sick. We met with Brittany Schoning, staff at the child care center and staff at Casey's.
It was reported that the four children were found near the gas pumps at Casey's and then the children were walked to the sidewalk area in front of Casey's, the center was notified that the children were at Casey's and staff immediately went to Casey's to get the children. Some staff weren't sure how long the children were gone from the center, but it was determined the children were gone from the center for around 20 minutes. Staff reported that the center changed some things immediately to prevent this from happening again 1. Sensor alarms installed on doors, 2. Some furniture was rearranged in the room to allow for better observation of the children 3. Staff have walkie talkies to allow for better communication 4. Staff are counting the children out loud and more often and are making sure they have face to name recognition.
It was reported that none of the children had physical injuries resulting from this incident.

Rumors and discrepancies of the details of the event circulated i.e. initial reports of where the children were found - end of parking lot, grass area and ultimately at Casey's, different estimates of how long the children were gone from the center unsupervised, the timeliness and accuracy of events reported to families and the board.

Special Notes and Action Required:

Non-Compliance with Regulations Found - appropriate supervision was not practiced to prevent four toddler age children to leave their program room without being noticed and walk to Casey's.
The center made improvements immediately to prevent this type of incident from happening in the future i.e. Installed sensory alarms on doors, furniture rearranged in the toddler room to allow better observation of the children, counting the children more often - count out loud and use face to name recognition, the center uses walkie talkies to request help in a room, staff needing a break/bathroom break, emergency attention if needed, and the center will have training on emergency procedures.
No children were reported to have physical injuries as a result of this incident.

Facility Requirements
109.11(3)a Center shall ensure that:
Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.

Play Equipment and Material
109.12(4) Room’s arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children.

Consultant's Signature:

Kathy DeGeorge-Evans

Date:

01-02-2024