Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center: Little Treasures **Enrollment:** 96 **License ID:** 50648

Street: 2035 Radford Rd **City:** Dubuque **IA** **Zip Code:** 52002 **County:** Dubuque

Mailing Address: 2035 Radford Rd

Mailing City: Dubuque **IA** **Zip Code:** 52002

Director's Name: Alexandria Rath **Center Phone Number:** 563-556-3800

On-Site Supervisors: Tammy Sprecher **E-Mail Address:** littletreasuresdubuque@hotmail.com

Date of Complaint: 08-01-2023 **Date of Visit:** 08-09-2023

[ ] 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 a daycare staff was given the wrong sunscreen to put on a two year old child and the child developed a rash. When asked about this, the administration lied and said the correct sunscreen was used.

Staff Morgan A. makes inappropriate comments about the children.

Staff training requirements are not completed within the first three months as required.

There are nails sticking out of bookshelves and open bleach containers.

Older children are allowed in the baby room.

There are about 13 toddlers with one staff at around 7:40am until other staff come in at 8:30/9:00am.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

109.7(1) All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross,American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department.A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.

109.8(2) Ratio maintained in center as required by age.

109.10(16)a The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.

109.11(2) A safe and properly equipped area is provided for infants that does not allow for intrusion by children over two years of age.
Children over age two who remain in the infant area are placed at the recommendation of a physician or AEA due to a significant developmental delay. Children are placed for a limited time with DHS approval if doing so does not pose a threat to the infants.

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(2)d No child is subject to verbal abuse, threats, derogatory remarks about child or child's family.

Inspection Findings:

The center was visited unannounced by the licensing consultant and HHS worker Terra Davids to discuss the reported concerns. It is noted that HHS Davids had already spoken previously to the on site supervisor, Tammy Sprecher, about the concerns and had provided some information regarding those discussions to the licensing consultant. The licensing consultant and HHS Davids spoke further with Tammy and other staff during this visit. The staff were interviewed separately. DHS Davids was able to speak with staff Morgan subsequent this visit. DHS Davids also met and spoke with the child's family.

109.7(1) All staff(within first 3 months of employment) Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse. At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control. Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained. Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained. Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed. VIOLATED
One staff file reviewed did not complete mandatory child abuse reporter, universal precautions, or essentials training certificates as required. The center is cited and reminded of staff training requirements.

109.12(2)d No child is subject to verbal abuse, threats, derogatory remarks about child or child's family. NOT VIOLATED
There is conflicting information regarding whether or not the staff person made inappropriate comments toward or about children. The staff person denies this to DHS Davids. At least one staff denies this to be the case, yet another staff states she once heard the staff person make a derogatory comment about a particular child. The center director stated she had not heard of this concern until this complaint, however, she and the center owner have decided the staff person will not return to work. The center is not cited with regard to this portion of the complaint.

109.8(2) Ratio maintained in center as required by age. NOT VIOLATED
There is not definitive evidence to indicate there has been a ratio violation at this time.

109.10(16)a The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision. NOT VIOLATED
DHS Davids states the family believes the wrong sunscreen was used and the child had a reaction based on what they describe the child's previous reactions to sunscreen have been. The center director and staff insist that the correct sunscreen was used on the child. The center provided the "monthly medication record" that they use for this child's specific sunscreen product which is different than where they record sunscreen administration for the children who use the product the center provides. The administration of sunscreen appears to be well documented. The record indicates the name of the specific sunscreen this child is to use. Staff Avery stated she was the one who put sunscreen on the child on the day of this incident. She stated she used the correct sunscreen and that she changed her gloves between administering sunscreen on the children as she is required to do. Staff Morgan states she saw Avery change her gloves and use the correct sunscreen on the child. The staff stated the child did appear to have a reaction on the back of the child's neck and on the child's back. The children did have water play on the day of this incident, but Tammy stated the child does wear a shirt even during

water play. The center is not cited with regard to this portion of the complaint at this time as it is not possible to say for certain that the staff used the wrong sunscreen.

109.11(2) A safe and properly equipped area is provided for infants that does not allow for intrusion by children over two years of age.
Children over age two who remain in the infant area are placed at the recommendation of a physician or AEA due to a significant developmental delay. Children are placed for a limited time with DHS approval if doing so does not pose a threat to the infants. NOT VIOLATED
Tammy stated the older children are not allowed in the infant room(s). She stated there may have been times in the past when parents would come to pick up their kids they would bring their older children along to pick up children in the infant room(s). Tammy stated they sent out a message to all parents about this and it is no longer a concern. Tammy stated they do not combine infants with older children at any time at the center even at the beginning and/or end of the day currently. The center is not cited with regard to this portion of the complaint.

109.11(3)a Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. NOT VIOLATED
Tammy stated they did have some staples that were coming out of the back of the bookshelves in the toddler room, and that was identified at and fixed immediately after the most recent licensing visit to the center. There was nothing observed during this visit. There were no concerns with bleach products observed or accessible to the children and staff interviewed denied this concern as well. The center is not cited with regard to this aspect of the complaint.

Special Notes and Action Required:

The center will need to ensure that they are meeting requirements for staff training. This was reviewed with the center director at this visit.

Consultant's Signature:

Heidi Hungate

Date:

08-14-2023