Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center: Precious Beginnings Children's Center **Enrollment:** 56 **License ID:** 51603

Street: 4101 Amherst St **City:** Des Moines **IA** **Zip Code:** 50313 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: HPCDA Inc4101 Amherst ST

Mailing City: Des Moines **IA** **Zip Code:** 50313

Director's Name: Abigail Herman **Center Phone Number:** 515-422-4386

On-Site Supervisors: **E-Mail Address:** abigail.herman04@gmail.com philip@hpccdsm.org

Date of Complaint: 05-10-2024 **Date of Visit:** 05-14-2024

[ ] 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:

Concerns regarding Precious Beginning children's center being out of required staff/child ratio; of which the director is aware and has not taken corrective action.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

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

Inspection Findings:

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On 5/14/24 I made an unannounced visit to the center; the center's entrance was not secure and no one was at the front desk. I located director Abigail Herman working in the infant room. We discussed the reason for this visit pertained to concerns the center was not in ratio. Abigail believed the center was in ratio and was aware I would then observe all rooms for staff/child ratio. While in the infant room, I observed a boppy pillow in use to support an infant. There was discussion of the inherent suffocation dangers this apparatus presents and I requested that if the boppy pillow was used, that it be used according to manufacturer's recommendations (which is a nursing aid).

I observed all rooms at the center. All rooms with the exception of the one year old room were in ratio. The one year old room had 2 staff for nine children. To be in correct ratio, this room requires three staff at this time. While I was in the one year old room, a third staff came in, when other staff in the room questioned the third staff. One staff then left the room for break, where the room was again out of ratio.

Due to the director being in ratio, caring for children I was not able to review written attendance records and staff files.

On 5/16/24, I was in contact with the confidential reporter that confirmed observing the one year old room out of ratio and indicated that the two year old room was out of ratio at times having eight two year olds to one staff (although not observed when I was at the center).

There is sufficient evidence to conclude a licensing violation has occurred. NON-COMPLIANCE WAS FOUND WITH LICENSING REGULATION 109.8(2) Ratio maintained in center as required by age.

Special Notes and Action Required:

This center is to remain on a PROVISIONAL LICENSE. A third staff was provided on 5/14/24 as required by licensing regulations. Ratios must be maintained 100% of operation time.

No further actions at this time.

Consultant's Signature:

Maggie Gibson, SWIV

Date:

06-04-2024