

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center:	Dorothy Mae Kids Academy	Enrollment:	70	License ID:	52099
Street:	2506 142nd ST	City:	Urbandale	IA Zip Code:	50323
County:	Polk				
Mailing Address:	2506 142nd ST				
Mailing City:	Urbandale	IA Zip Code:	50323		
Director's Name:	Karrie Bodecker	Center Phone Number:	515-989-8599		
On-Site Supervisors:	Audrianna Arceo	E-Mail Address:	karrie.dmka@gmail.com		

Date of Complaint: 05-05-2025**Date of Visit:** 06-12-2025☐ Scheduled ☒ Unannounced ☐ NA☒ Non-Compliance with Regulations Found ☐ Compliance with Regulations Found**RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE**☒ 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

Serious Injuries include:

- Disabling mental illness.
- Bodily injury which creates a substantial risk of death, causes serious permanent disfigurement, or causes protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.
- Any injury to a child that requires surgical repair and necessitates the administration of general anesthesia.
- Includes but is not limited to skull fractures, rib fractures, metaphyseal fractures of the long bones of children under the age of 4 years.

Did this complaint result in a death to a child? ☐ Yes ☒ No**Summary of Complaint:**

It is alleged that a child (age 2) sustained a skull fracture and a buckle fracture on their right wrist on 5/6/25 while in the care of SW (staff at Dorothy Mae Kids Academy). Additionally, there are concerns with staff SW picking up another child by one arm, raising the child from a seated position.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

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

Inspection Findings:

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I received information from Dorothy Mae Kids Academy Owner Karrie Bodecker of a child (age 2) had incurred a serious injury (skull fracture and wrist fracture) while at the center. Ms. Bodecker provided a serious injury report that is placed on file. The owner provided some background that the two year children were on the center playground when a child was not coming in with the other children; staff SW went to retrieve the child from the play equipment and placed the child upon staff shoulders; walking toward the building, stopping briefly to assist another child when the child upon staff SW's shoulders fell face first onto the cement below; staff SW picked the injured child up and sought extra assistance for the child. The child's parent took the child for medical care when a skull fracture and wrist fracture were found. Karrie indicated that parents were notified almost immediately.

The owner then provided video from two angles; and I reviewed the video. The video shows the child subject on the west side of the playground, on play equipment; with staff SW retrieving the 2 year from the play equipment and placing the child atop staff SW's shoulders and walking in toward the building; stopping briefly to retrieve another child, grabbing the child by one arm off the child riding equipment. When staff SW grabbed the second child, staff SW appears to lose footing for just a second or two when the child subject, still atop staff SW's shoulders, falls face first onto the cement. Staff SW appears to immediately pick up the injured child and run toward the building. From the video (which does not include audio); staff SW does not appear angry, hurried or upset nor any intentional harm was intended.

When Staff LW went to retrieve the second child from a riding toy; Staff LW picks the child up from a seated position by one arm fully extended and this child resists the motion. The child on the riding equipment does not appear to be injured.

HHS employee Raechel Brooke and I completed an unannounced visit to Dorothy Mae Kids Academy on 5/12/25. We met with owners Karrie Bodecker and Chad Eltjes. We discussed the video and the joint assessment process. I reviewed staff records for staff SW. The owners indicated that as a result of the incident they had terminated the employment of staff SW.

Karrie shared that there are monthly meetings in which they review and remind staff of techniques to carry and pick up the children. She indicated that center policy is "not above the waist" when you pick up a child and under the child's arm pits. Karrie indicated that staff SW would have also received training and reminders on how to pick up/carry children while at the center.

I encouraged the owner to document staff meeting notes and also would encourage a training for all staff regarding dislocations in younger children provided by the child care nurse consultant.

I reached out to Amy, child care nurse consultant to inquire about further training for staff at the center regarding dislocations/injuries.

I reached out to SW to inquire about further input; as of the writing on this report, there has not been a response.

Video along with witness information confirmed this injury occurred when a two year old child was atop staff's shoulders, which is specifically against policy and is failure to provide close supervision by staff such that the act of placing the child atop shoulders and transporting the child over several feet resulted with the child having fallen from staff's shoulder's face first onto cement causing serious injuries to the child. While there is NOT information this incident resulted when staff was angry or intentional; the incident is avoidable, a center policy violation and poor decision.

In addition, the same staff is depicted on video picking up another child by one arm, and raising the child up off a seated position by the one arm, which placed the child at high risk of injury such as dislocation.

There is sufficient evidence to conclude a licensing violation has occurred. The center is **FOUND TO BE OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH LICENSING REGULATION 109.10(16)A AS IT PERTAINS TO CAREFUL SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN.**

Special Notes and Action Required:

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The owner has separated employment from the employee involved in this concern. I recommended training provided by a Child Care Nurse Consultant specific to dislocations that can occur in young children.

No further actions required at this time.

If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your consultant at 515.422.8267 or maggie.gibson@hhs.iowa.gov so that we may discuss the issue. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report.

Consultant's Signature:

Maggie Gibson

Date:

06-06-2025