Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center: Stepping Stones Learning Center LLC **Enrollment:** 89 **License ID:** 20495

Street: 2205 2nd AVE **City:** Muscatine **IA** **Zip Code:** 52761 **County:** Muscatine

Mailing Address: 2205 2nd AVE

Mailing City: Muscatine **IA** **Zip Code:** 52761

Director's Name: Shawna Martin and Jacob Martin **Center Phone Number:** 563-264-1871

On-Site Supervisors: Michelle Sebastian **E-Mail Address:** daycare97@machlink.com

Date of Complaint: 03-01-2023 **Date of Visit:** 03-06-2023

[ ] 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:

A two year old child was left unattended in the restroom for an extended period of time and staff did not know that the child was in the restroom.

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:

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

This worker reviewed the video footage, talked to the directors and a staff member involved in the incident. The older toddler classroom had 10 children and 2 staff on the day of the incident. Four children opened the bathroom door and went into the restroom without staff. The staff member noticed right away and redirected the children out of the restroom. She did not realize that she had left one child in the restroom and shut the door behind her. The staff and children then went to the carpet and started circle time. The child was left unattended in a restroom with the door closed and the lights off for approximately 15 minutes. Another staff walked into the classroom to use the restroom and found the child in there unattended. The child then came to the carpet to join in on circle time. The child was not crying when they left the restroom.

The teacher admitted that a mistake was made. She did not see or hear the child go into the restroom. She also did not realize that the child was not present at circle time and the other teacher did not realize that the child was not present at circle time.

The directors shared that the staff members were written up for not providing careful supervision. The directors and staff then developed a plan to ensure this did not occur again.

Special Notes and Action Required:

The directors completed the following:
-They installed an auto locking keypad doorknob on the bathroom door to ensure the children do not enter the restroom without adult supervision.
-They have asked that the teachers complete face to name checks more frequently. They will also monitor this to ensure compliance.
-They have added another teacher to the classroom
-They have reminded staff that clean up should occur when the children are resting or at the end of the day.

This worker also requested that the teachers involved in the incident complete a training on supervision through Penn State. This information was provided to the directors on the date of my visit.

This worker also encouraged the center to contact CCR&R for some supportive services on room arrangements, behavioral support, and classroom materials.

Consultant's Signature:

Heidi Brown

Date:

03-09-2023