Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center: The Bettendorf KinderCare #301113 **Enrollment:** 109 **License ID:** 20610

Street: 2330 Tech DR **City:** Bettendorf **IA** **Zip Code:** 52722 **County:** Scott

Mailing Address: 2330 Tech DR

Mailing City: Bettendorf **IA** **Zip Code:** 52722

Director's Name: Brittany Brethauer **Center Phone Number:** 563-332-5632

On-Site Supervisors: **E-Mail Address:** brittany.brethauer@kindercare.com

Date of Complaint: 12-27-2023 **Date of Visit:** 01-26-2024

[ ] 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:

It is alleged that a staff is actively using an illegal substance while working at the center and providing care to children at the center. The center director has been told about this and has stated she can do nothing since it is not occurring on the premises. The staff person's behavior has been "out of character lately". The staff person fell asleep while holding a nine month old child a couple of weeks ago.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

106.6(7) Use of controlled substances and medications: All owners, personnel, and volunteers shall be free of the use of illegal drugs and shall not be under the influence of alcohol or of any prescription or nonprescription drug that could impair their ability to function.

Inspection Findings:

HHS worker Katie Soy is also involved with this incident. The licensing consultant corresponded with HHS Soy who visited the center on 12/26/23 to speak with the center director, Brittany Brethauer, and informed her that the staff person could not work at the center until further notice. The licensing consultant completed a follow up visit to the center on 1/26/24 and spoke with Brittany and her assistant, Michelle Shelbourne.

106.6(7) Use of controlled substances and medications: All owners, personnel, and volunteers shall be free of the use of illegal drugs and shall not be under the influence of alcohol or of any prescription or nonprescription drug that could impair their ability to function. VIOLATED
Though Brittany described no previous concerning incidents since the staff person started at the center in August 2023, she acknowledged that other staff did come to her reporting information about possible substance abuse as well as noticing behavioral changes in the staff person in the two week period prior to HHS Soy's visit to the center. These behavioral changes included showing up late to work and falling asleep in her car during break . Brittany also discussed the incident that occurred most recently in December where she and other staff in the room at the time observed this staff person to fall asleep while holding and feeding a nine month old child. Brittany reported having previous knowledge that the staff person has some health concern(s) and reportedly takes medication. HHS Soy spoke to the staff person who discussed her health concerns and medications. The staff person also admitted to previous and somewhat recent use of an illegal substance though she denied using at work or prior to work. Subsequent HHS Soy visiting the center it was found that the staff person tested positive for an illegal substance. The center is cited with regard to this incident given all factors combined. Fortunately, the incident was observed directly and other staff were able to intervene without injury to the child.

Special Notes and Action Required:

The center director reports that the staff person will not be returning to work at the center. There is no further action requested of the center at this time regarding this report.

Consultant's Signature:

Heidi Hungate

Date:

02-14-2024