Department of Education
Department of Job and Family Services

Center Complaint Inspection Summary Report

All licensed child care programs are inspected at least once each year. Non-compliances are documented and grouped as Serious, Moderate or Low risk violations. Documenting statements and supplemental information may be included in this report. Licensing inspection reports from the previous three years can be viewed on the child care website at http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm. This includes complaint investigation reports with substantiated allegations. For any other child care records, please contact the Child Care Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

Program Details		
Program Name Little Panthers Child Care	Program Number 2220027018	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 13455 Bolen Rd NE Newark OH 43055		County LICKING

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Complaint		Inspection Scope Partial	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Reviewer(s) LISA NUTTER	Inspection Day 04/15/2024	Begin Time 10:50 AM	End Time 1:15 PM

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
5	4	0	4	0

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Comment**
preschool	3 years to < 4 years	2 to 17	
transition	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 9	
toddler	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 11	
infant	0 to < 12 months	2 to 11	
PK	4 years to < 5 years	2 to 27	

Complaint Allegations

If a program disagrees with a licensing finding, the program may request a review of the finding(s). Ohio Administrative Code 5101:2-12-03 and 5101:2-13-03 detail the process for submitting a request for review. The request for review must be submitted within seven business days from the receipt of the licensing report. In addition, if the program is star rated, the rating may be impacted if a serious or moderate risk non-compliance is cited.

Domain:01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5101:2-12-18 Ratio
Code: The program is required to maintain the appropriate staff to child ratio for each group served.

Allegation: The complainant alleged that ratios were not being maintained in the preschool room.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, a ratio of 3 child care staff member(s) for 39 children was determined to have occurred for the preschool group when the situation in number(s) 4 below occurred:

1. A child care staff member stepped out of the room.
2. A child care staff member had not arrived at work on time.
3. Children were present who were not scheduled to be there.
4. A child care staff member was unable to work. (child care staff left for the day and there was not a staff member scheduled to work)
5. A child was injured in that group.
6. A child arrived in the group before a second staff member was scheduled to arrive with the group.
7. Two groups were combined, and the program did not follow the ratio for the youngest child in the group.
8. A child was transitioning to the next older age group, and the program did not follow the ratio for the youngest child in the group.
9. Ratio was doubled for more than two hours while children were napping.
10. Ratio was doubled while children were napping for a group that included at least one infant.
11. Ratio was doubled while children were napping and there were not enough staff members in the building to meet staff/child ratio.
12. Ratio was doubled in the school age group to allow access to the program, however, the program does not serve only school age children.
13. Both child care staff members did not have a working communication device when one staff member left the group to allow access to the school age only program.
14. The child care staff member did not return to the group after allowing access to the school age only program.
15. Other [ ].

Additional child care staff members must be hired or current child care staff members must be rescheduled to maintain compliance. Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Risk Level: Moderate

Corrective Action Plan Due: 06/05/2024

Domain:05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5101:2-12-22 Meal and Snack Requirements
Code: Meals and snacks provided or served by the program must include all required food groups and meet the recommended daily dietary allowances as specified by the USDA.

Allegation: The complainant alleged that the meal served did not include a serving of fluid milk.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that a meal or snack at the program did not meet the requirements as noted in number(s) 9 below:

1. The breakfast served did not include foods from three of the four food groups.
2. Snack served did not include foods from two of the four food groups.
3. The meal did not provide 1/3 of the recommended daily dietary allowances as specified by the USDA.
4. Juice used to meet the fruit or snack component was not 100% undiluted fruit or vegetable juice.
5. The meal served did not include an item from the meat or meat alternative group.
6. The meal served did not include an item from the bread or grain group.
7. The meal served did not include two items from the fruit/vegetable group.
8. The meal served did not include a vegetable (two fruits were served).
9. The meal served did not include a serving of fluid milk.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Risk Level: Moderate

Corrective Action Plan Due: 06/05/2024

Domain:08 Staff Files

Rule: 5101:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements
Code: The program is required to have all staff request background checks as required and receive a JFS 01176 or preliminary approval from ODJFS prior to allowing an individual to engage in assigned duties or be near children.

Allegation: The complainant alleged that there were employees at the program without a JFS 1176 on file.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: In review of the staff records, it was determined that background checks did not meet the requirements of the rule for the person(s) listed on the Employee Record Chart as noted in number(s) 1 below:

1. The request for a background check for child care was not submitted in the OPR.
2. The fingerprints were not submitted electronically according to the process established by BCI.
3. The individual(s) had engaged in assigned duties or were near children and preliminary approval from ODJFS was not on file.
4. Background checks were not updated every five years.

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the JFS 01176, or a copy of the preliminary approval or a statement that the individual(s) are no longer engaged in assigned duties and are not near children until the preliminary approval has been received, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Risk Level: Moderate

Corrective Action Plan Due: 06/05/2024

Summary of Additional Non-Compliances

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

No Additional Serious Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

Domain:00 License & Approvals

Rule: 5101:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection
Code: The program is required to refrain from using space that did not receive building approval and from caring for children in spaces not approved for that age group. The program is required to refrain from using a remodeled or modified space before obtaining building approval. The program is required to maintain building occupancy limitations.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program was using space for child care in a manner that was not approved by the Ohio Department of Commerce or local certified building authority as noted in number(s) 6 below:

1. The [ ] room or space was not approved.
2. Children under school age were being cared for in a building only approved for school age.
3. The space had been modified and not yet re-inspected and approved.
4. The [ ] floor, which had not been approved by the building department for child care, was being used.
5. The building limitation had been exceeded. [ ] children were being cared for and the building had been approved for [ ] children.
6. The upper level floor occupancy had been exceeded. 48 children were being cared for in this space that had been approved for 27 children.
7. Care was provided to [ ] children less than two and one-half years of age. This violated the program's building code limitation in that, [ ].

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes building approval for use of this space, a written statement that the building occupancy limitations are being maintained, or a written statement that it is no longer being used, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 06/05/2024

Low Risk Non-Compliances

No Low Additional Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection