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 06/28/2024	Begin Time 8:30 AM	End Time 11:00 AM

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
8	6	0	3	3

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Comment**
infant	0 to < 12 months	2 to 7	
toddler	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 8	
preschool	3 years to < 4 years	2 to 16	
school age	School-Age to < 11 years	2 to 19	

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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: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.

Allegation: The complainant alleged that the program exceeded the upper level load for the main building.

Determination: Substantiated

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 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 of the main building occupancy had been exceeded. 28 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.

Risk Level: Moderate

Corrective Action Plan Due: 08/10/2024

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 in the toddler room were not being maintained.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, a ratio of 1 child care staff member(s) for 8 children was determined to have occurred for the toddler group when the situation in number(s) below 2 occurred:

1. A child care staff member stepped out of the room.
2. A child care staff member was not scheduled to work
3. Children were present who were not scheduled to be there.

4. A child care staff member was unable 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: 08/10/2024

Domain:01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5101:2-12-19 Supervision
Code: The program staff is required to supervise children in their assigned group by sight and hearing. Supervision includes being near enough to respond and reach children immediately and protecting them from harm.

Allegation: The complainant alleged that a toddler child was left unattended in a classroom.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that children were left unattended while inside the program as noted in number(s) 1 below:

1. Child(ren) were left unattended once.
2. Child(ren) were left unattended more than once.
3. Child(ren) left the group and were unattended.
4. Child care staff were using a baby monitor to supervise children.
5. Child care staff were using a walkie talkie to supervise children.
6. Child care staff were using mirrors to view children in another room.
7. Child care staff were using a video camera instead of physically being present in the room.
8. Other [ ].

Children must be supervised and within sight and hearing of a child care staff member at all times. 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: 08/10/2024

Domain:08 Staff Files

Rule: 5101:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements
Code: The program is required to have a designated child care staff member, who is at least 18 years of age, in charge if the administrator is absent.

Allegation: The complainant alleged that there was not a designee on site which could handle all emergencies.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program did not meet the requirement for a designee during the administrator's absence as noted in number(s) 3 below:

1. A child care staff member had not been designated as the person in charge.
2. The child care staff member designated as the person in charge was not at least 18 years of age.
3. The child care staff member designated as the person in charge was not on the premises during the administrator's absence and there was not anyone present that could carry out disaster plan procedures if needed.

Technical assistance was provided at the time of the inspection, and as discussed, please correct this rule noncompliance. A written response for this rule noncompliance is required at this time.

Risk Level: Low

Corrective Action Plan Due: 08/10/2024

Domain:09 Children's Files

Rule: 5101:2-12-25 Medication Administration
Code: The program staff is required to have immediate access to medications, medical foods and topical products.

Allegation: The complainant alleged that child care staff did not have immediate access to children's medication at all times.

Determination: Substantiated

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that the program staff did not have immediate access to medications, medical foods and topical products at all times. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Risk Level: Low

Corrective Action Plan Due: 08/10/2024

Summary of Additional Non-Compliances

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

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

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

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

Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain:08 Staff Files

Rule: 5101:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements
Code: The program administrator is required to be onsite at the program for the required amount of time.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that the program did not have at least one administrator onsite for 50 percent of the program's operating hours or 40 hours a week, as required by this rule. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 08/10/2024