

Notice of Findings

Notice To: Shanda Beard - Director
Facility Name: Promise Patch Incorporated
Owner: Tania Riedel
Site Address: 4510 Charles St.
City/State/Zip: Cheyenne, WY 82001

The Department of Family Services has completed the investigation regarding alleged violation(s) of the Wyoming Child Care Rules received on 08/21/2024, and investigated by Ariel Schmitzer.

A statement of childcare allegation, CPL-5760, was provided on 08/22/2024.

The finding is listed below for each individual alleged violation of the Wyoming Child Care Licensing Rules:

1. Finding: Non-Compliant

Regulation: Chapter 4. General Requirements
Section 6. Discipline and Guidance.

(d) The following behavior shall be prohibited in all child care settings:
(iii) Inappropriate use of language, including but not limited to profanity, name-calling, derogatory or demeaning terminology or screaming related to disciplinary purposes;

Allegation: It has been reported that on one or more occasions in the last 6 months staff member A.P. inappropriately used language with children by yelling and screaming at children in care.

Explanation of Findings: It has been found through interviews with staff that staff member A.P. has yelled at children in the one year old classroom on multiple occasions as a form of discipline.

Action Required: Immediately discontinue the practice of allowing staff to yell at children. Submit a corrective action plan detailing how you will ensure staff understand and utilize appropriate disciplinary practices for the age group of children that they work with.

Corrective Action Plan Due Date: 09/04/2024

Corrective Action Plan Achieved Date:

Compliance Due Date: 09/04/2024

Compliance Achieved Date:

2. Finding: Non-Compliant

Regulation: Chapter 4. General Requirements

Section 6. Discipline and Guidance.

(b) When "time out" is used, it shall:

(iii) Be used infrequently and for very brief periods of time-out using one (1) minute for each year of the child's age. It shall be used selectively, taking into account the child's developmental stage and the usefulness of "time out" for the particular child.

Allegation: It has been reported that on one or more occasions in the last 6 months one and two year old children have been placed in time-out as a form of discipline which is not developmentally appropriate for their age.

Explanation of Findings: It has been found that on multiple occasions in the last six months one and two year olds have been placed in time out for longer than 1 and 2 min periods, for behaviors that were not causing harm to themselves or others, as well as without taking into account the developmental stage and usefulness of the use of "time-out" for the particular child.

Action Required: Immediately discontinue the practice of placing young children in time out as a primary form of discipline. All Staff working in the One and Two year old classrooms need to complete 2 hours of training focused on proper discipline and guidance and submit a written and signed statement of how they will utilize the practices learned in the training to licensing by no later than 9/20/2024. This training may be taken online, through the DFS technical assistance coordinator Penny Cannon, the PLC or another approved entity. Please submit a corrective action plan detailing how you will ensure that staff know and understand disciplinary techniques that are appropriate for the age of child they are working with.

Corrective Action Plan Due Date: 09/20/2024

Corrective Action Plan Achieved Date:

Compliance Due Date: 09/20/2024

Compliance Achieved Date:

The Department requests your cooperation in ensuring compliance is met. In the absence of cooperation, the Department may take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the safety of children.

The Department's information may be shared with the authorized individuals or agencies, which include, but are not limited to, the Attorney General, County Attorney, and law enforcement.

If you disagree with the Department's finding of non-compliance for a violation, you may request an Administrative hearing within (10) days of your receipt of this letter (W.S. 14-4-108). Administrative hearing procedures are included in the Department of Family Services' **Wyoming Child Care Licensing Rules, Chapter 3, Section 5: Contested Case Hearing Rules**, and based upon the above statute. If you have questions, or need a copy of the Rules, you may contact the Department of Family Services Field office in the county where you live.

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Signature: _____
Ariel Schmitzer

Date: _____

CC:
Tania Riedel - Owner
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