

Notice of Findings

Notice To: MOLLY M MOOREHOUSE - Director

Facility Name: WEE PALS PRESCHOOL

Owner:

Site Address: 2972 MAIN STREET

City/State/Zip: Torrington, WY 82240

The Department of Family Services has completed the investigation regarding alleged violation(s) of the Wyoming Child Care Rules received on 04/16/2019, and investigated by Kathy Geringer

A statement of childcare allegation, CPL-43557, was provided on 04/22/2019.

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 2. Capacity/Supervision Requirements

(b) Staff:child ratios and supervision requirements as described in this chapter shall be maintained at all times.

Explanation of Findings: The Licenser arrived at Wee Pals on 4/16/19 at 9:00AM. Eighteen - three and four year old children were present with Mrs. Molly Moorehouse. No other facility staff was on the premises at that time. One of the regular staff was scheduled off work that morning, another staff was called away for personal reasons. From approximately 8:30AM to 9:30AM Mrs. Moorehouse was the only facility staff present with the children. A parent was present helping Mrs. Moorehouse in the classroom and supervising the child to the restroom. The parent who was assisting had not met staff requirements or training, and could not be counted in ratios or be used to supervise children. Licensing rules require child: staff ratios be maintained at all times. The ratios for three and four year old children are one staff: ten children. The situation that occurred on 4/16/19 was not an emergency. It is not an option to violate ratio rules by continuing caring for the same number of children with one staff. Enough parents should have been contacted to come to the facility to pick up 8 children prior to the staff leaving the facility, so the ratios could have been maintained at 1:10. Or if only four year old children were left the ratios could have been maintained at 1:12.

Action Required: The facility needs to develop a Corrective Action Plan that can be implemented for a situation when staff are called away from the facility and staff: child ratios would be able to be met.

Corrective Action Plan Due Date: 04/30/2019

Corrective Action Plan Achieved Date: 04/30/2019

Compliance Due Date:

Compliance Achieved Date:

Action Met Comments: CAP received.

2. Finding: Non-Compliant

Regulation: Chapter 7. Rules for Certification Of A Child Care Center (CCC)

Section 2. Capacity/Supervision Requirements

(a) The licenser shall determine facility capacity based on individual room capacity for all rooms used by children. This room capacity shall be displayed in each room and never be exceeded.

Explanation of Findings: On the morning of 4/16/19, between approximately 8:40 AM and 9:30 AM eighteen children were present in the main classroom. The capacity of the main preschool room is 13, that capacity may not be exceeded at any time. The room capacity was not posted in the room as is required by Licensing rule.

Action Required: Please submit a Corrective Action Plan that states what arrangements will be made to prevent future capacity violations, and how you will ensure the room capacity will always be posted.

Corrective Action Plan Due Date: 04/30/2019

Corrective Action Plan Achieved Date: 04/30/2019

Compliance Due Date:

Compliance Achieved Date:

Action Met Comments: CAP received.

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 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 a non-compliance 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 Wyoming Department of Family Services Contested Case Hearing Rules, Chapter 2, Substitute Care and Child Care Licensing and based on the above statute. If you need a copy of the Rules, or assistance in requesting an Administrative hearing, you may contact the Department of Family Services Field Office in the county where you live.

Licenser: Kathy Geringer
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Licenser Supervisor: Michelle Tucker
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Signature: _____
Stoney Busch for Kathy Geringer

Date: _____

CC:
Sarah Chaires - Board President
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