



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS

MIKE ZIMMER
DIRECTOR

October 5, 2015

Alaina Schwarz
845 137th Avenue
Wayland, MI 49348

RE: Lic./Reg. #: DG030318564
Investigation #: 2015D0401024
Schwarz, Alaina

Dear Mrs. Schwarz:

Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. Due to the violations identified in the report, a written corrective action plan is required. The corrective action plan is due 15 days from the date of this letter and must include the following:

- How compliance with each rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for each violation.
- Specific time frames for each violation as to when the correction will be completed or implemented.
- How continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- The signature of the responsible party and a date.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the local office at (269) 337-5066.

Per MCL 722.113g, this report and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Wagster, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
322 E. Stockbridge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 615-6055

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT**

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DG030318564
Investigation #:	2015D0401024
Complaint Receipt Date:	08/17/2015
Investigation Initiation Date:	08/21/2015
Report Due Date:	10/16/2015
Licensee Name:	Alaina Schwarz
Licensee Address:	845 137th Avenue Wayland, MI 49348
Licensee Telephone #:	(616) 813-2903
Administrator:	N/A
Licensee Designee:	N/A
Name of Facility:	Schwarz, Alaina
Facility Address:	845 137th Avenue Wayland, MI 49348
Facility Telephone #:	(616) 813-2903
Original Issuance Date:	08/23/2012
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	02/23/2015
Expiration Date:	02/22/2017
Capacity:	12
Program Type:	CHILD CARE GROUP HOME (CAPACITY 7-12)

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
A preschool age child had a potty accident while at the child care home. The child was afraid to tell a caregiver because he/she did not want to get into trouble.	Yes
Children in care have been observed eating lunch at 2:30 p.m. There is concern that children are not being offered food every 4 hours.	No
Children are observed napping at all hours of the day. There is concern that the children are not getting enough play time.	Yes
The children are not going outside to play on a daily basis.	No
Additional Findings	No

III. METHODOLOGY

08/17/2015	Special Investigation Intake 2015D0401024
08/21/2015	Special Investigation Initiated - On Site 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Licensee Alaina Schwarz and Assistant Caregiver Val Whitt
08/24/2015	Contact – Telephone call received Child A’s Mother
08/24/2015	Contact - Telephone call made Child A’s Mother
09/18/2015	Contact - Telephone call made Child B’s Mother
09/18/2015	Contact - Telephone call made Child C and Child D’s Mother
09/24/2015	Contact – Telephone call made Child A’s Mother
09/25/2015	Exit Conference Alaina Schwarz
10/01/2015	Inspection Completed-BCAL Sub. Compliance

10/01/2015	Corrective Action Plan Requested and Due on 10/17/2015

ALLEGATION: A preschool age child had a potty accident while at the child care home. The child was afraid to tell a caregiver because he/she did not want to get into trouble.

INVESTIGATION: I made an unscheduled onsite inspection at Alaina Schwarz’s child care home on 8/21/2015. Assistant caregiver, Val Whitt, answered the door and invited me inside. Ms. Schwarz was not home, but returned approximately 5-10 minutes after my arrival. Ms. Schwarz was informed that there was a complaint and was asked about how potty accidents are handled at the child care home. Ms. Schwarz stated that if a three or four year old child has a potty accident their clothes are immediately changed. The caregivers then speak to them about the accident and then possibly place the child in a time out. She stated that younger children that are currently being potty trained do not receive a time out for having accidents. I explained to Ms. Schwarz that time outs are not considered an appropriate discipline technique for children having potty accidents. Time outs should only be used to stop aggressive behavior or to allow angry or upset children to calm down.

I spoke on the telephone with Child A’s Mother on 8/24/2015. Child A (male, age 4) has been attending Ms. Schwarz’s child care home for approximately 3 years. Child A has had very few accidents since he has been potty trained. When he does have an accident, the caregivers talk to him about using the toilet instead of having accidents in his pants. She is not aware if time outs are being used as a method of discipline when handling toileting accidents.

I spoke on the telephone with Child B’s Mother on 9/18/2015. Child B (male, age 3) began attending Ms. Schwarz’s child care home approximately 3 years ago. Child B is potty trained but has occasional accidents. Child B’s Mother stated there was no form of punishment used when Child B was being potty trained. The caregivers would just change his clothes. She is not aware if Child B has been placed in a time out when he has had an accident at child care however, that is the discipline method used when he has an accident at home.

I spoke on the telephone with Child C and Child D’s Mother on 9/18/2015. Child C and Child D only attended Ms. Schwarz’s child care home for approximately 4 months. Child C (male, age 1) continues to wear diapers and is not currently being potty trained. Child D (female, age 4) has never had a potty accident while at child care. She is not aware how accidents are handled by the caregivers.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1913	Discipline and child handling.
	(2) Developmentally appropriate positive methods of discipline which encourage self-control, self-direction, self-esteem, and cooperation shall be used.
ANALYSIS:	Three and four year old children were being placed in a time out after having potty accidents. Time outs should only be used to stop aggressive behavior or to allow angry or upset children to calm down, therefore it is not considered a developmentally appropriate method of discipline when handling potty accidents.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

ALLEGATION: Children in care have been observed eating lunch at 2:30 p.m. There is concern that children are not being offered food every 4 hours.

INVESTIGATION: Alaina Schwarz informed me during the unscheduled onsite inspection on 8/21/2015 that she participates with a Food Program and provides two meals and one snack per day. She offers breakfast each morning at approximately 8:00 a.m. Her afternoon schedule varies each day. Ms. Schwarz will both provide a morning snack around 11:30 and lunch at approximately 1:00 p.m. or lunch around noon and a snack around 2:45 p.m. According to Ms. Schwarz, food is always provided within every 4 hours.

Child A's Mother informed me that Ms. Schwarz participates with the food program and all meals/snacks are provided. Child A's Mother only had to supply Ms. Schwarz with formula and baby food when Child A was an infant. I informed Child A's Mother that licensing rules require that children in care are offered a meal or snack every 4 hours. Child A's Mother stated that Ms. Schwarz is meeting that rule requirement.

Child B's Mother stated that Ms. Schwarz provides breakfast at 8:00 a.m., lunch at 12:00 p.m. and at least one snack each day. Child B never comes home from child care complaining that he is hungry and rarely asks for a snack before dinner.

Child C and Child D's Mother stated that Child D is a picky eater. Although meals and snacks were offered, Child D often refused to eat the meals that were provided.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1931	Food preparation and service.
	(2) Children shall be offered food at intervals as individually appropriate, but not to exceed more than 4 hours unless the

	child is asleep.
ANALYSIS:	Children were offered either a meal or snack at least every 4 hours.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

ALLEGATION: Children are observed napping at all hours of the day. There is concern that the children are not getting enough play time.

INVESTIGATION: When I arrived at Alaina Schwarz’s child care home on 8/21/2015 at 11:00 a.m., I observed 6 children laying down on mats in the living room. Some of the children were awake and others were napping. Assistant caregiver, Val Whitt, informed me that they have the children lay down for a morning nap at 9:30 a.m. and typically wake them up around 11:15 a.m. She stated that the children lay down for an afternoon nap as well. These naps typically occur from 2:30-4 or 3-4:30. According to Ms. Whitt, all children must lay down for morning nap but the older children do not always have to lay down for an afternoon nap. Quiet time activities, such as watching TV and playing games, may be offered for older children in lieu of an afternoon nap.

Ms. Schwarz stated that the younger children (ages 0-1 ½) nap from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and again from 3:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Older children (ages 1 ½-5) are required to lie down and attempt to nap during morning rest time. They are typically required to lie down during the scheduled afternoon rest time, but are not required to nap. The older children are sometimes permitted to watch a movie or participate in quiet activities such as puzzles during the afternoon rest time. Ms. Schwarz stated that she felt that all of the children that attend her child care home need both the morning and afternoon rest time. She also felt that her child care home was able to provide a balance of activities such as playing, reading books and going outside. I expressed my concern to Ms. Schwarz that the number of hours the children spend resting/napping, in conjunction with meal/snack time, leaves minimal time for developmental activities necessary for children between the ages of 2 and 5 years old.

Child A’s Mother stated that Child A naps in the morning, but not always in the afternoon. She is not sure if he is required to lie down in the afternoon, but believes her son can watch TV or is provided an activity during that time. Child A’s Mother is not sure what time the children lay down for rest/nap time or for how long.

Child B’s Mother stated that she thinks her child naps in the afternoon. She is not sure if children are required to lie down, but believes the older children watch a movie during rest time. Child B’s Mother is not concerned about the amount of time her child is resting because he goes to bed fine at home.

Child C and Child D's Mother stated that Child D was required to lie down and be quiet during naptime twice a day. Child D doesn't nap at home. Child D informed her mother that Child C was in a pack and play in the nap room for the majority of the day.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1914	Daily activity program.
	(3) All of the following developmentally appropriate opportunities shall be provided daily: (a) A balance of active and quiet play, group, and individual activities.
ANALYSIS:	The active and quiet play provided in the child care home in relation to the time spent resting is not balanced. Requiring children over age 2 to lay down for rest/nap time for 1 ½-2 hours twice a day is not developmentally appropriate.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

ALLEGATION: The children are not going outside to play on a daily basis.

INVESTIGATION: Assistant Caregiver, Val Whitt, told me on 8/21/2015 that they take the children outside to play in between lunch and rest time each day.

During the onsite inspection on 8/21/2015 and during our phone conversation on 9/25/2015, Alaina Schwarz stated that she takes the children outside every day of each season as long as it is not raining or too cold.

Child A's Mother stated that the children go outside daily while at Ms. Schwarz's child care home. She was certain that they went outside in the spring, summer and fall but couldn't recall if they went outside in the winter.

Child B's Mother informed me that her children were taken outside to play every day.

Child C and Child D's Mother stated that the children were rarely taken outside to play. She recalls a two week time frame in July when the children went outside to play on only one occasion.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1914	Daily activity program.
	(3) All of the following developmentally appropriate opportunities shall be provided daily: (b) Indoor and outdoor play, except during inclement or

	extreme weather, or unless otherwise ordered by a health care provider.
ANALYSIS:	Children are provided daily outdoor play, except during inclement or extreme weather.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, this special investigation shall be closed.

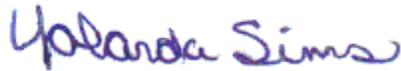


10/5/2015

Rebecca Wagster
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



10/5/2015

Yolanda Sims
Area Manager

Date