

Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center: Raisin' Em Up Early Learning Center	Enrollment: 40	License ID: 20181
Street: 607 Park St	City: Donnellson	IA Zip Code: 52625
County: Lee	Mailing Address: PO Box 159	
Mailing City: Donnellson	IA Zip Code: 52625	
Director's Name: Sarah Tweedy	Center Phone Number: 319-470-4351	
On-Site Supervisors: Laura McDowell/Nichole Loges	E-Mail Address: stweedy@hotmail.com	

Date of Complaint: 04-16-2019 **Date of Visit:** 04-17-2019

Scheduled Unannounced NA

Non-Compliance with Regulations Found Compliance with Regulations Found NA

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

NO CHANGES to licensing status recommended

PROVISIONAL license from _____ to _____

SUSPENSION of License

REVOCATION of License
]

Complaint Details:

Did this complaint result in a serious injury? Yes No

Did this complaint result in a death to a child? Yes No

Summary of Complaint:

On 2/1/18 Sarah T. (director/owner) of Raisin' Em Up Early Learning Center left the child, L. R. (age 4), on the bus unsupervised.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

109.10(10) Recording incidents: Parents shall be notified on the day of the incident involving a child that includes:Minor injuries.Minor changes in health status.Minor behavioral concerns.Incidents resulting in injury to a child.Shall be verbally notified immediately when there is:A serious injury to a child.An incident resulting in significant change in health status.An incident includes child being involved in inappropriate, sexually acting out behavior.A WRITTEN report, fully documenting every incident, shall be provided to the parent or authorized person. This should be completed by staff that witnessed the incident and retained in child file.Serious injuries and deaths must be reported to the Department within 24 hours.

109.10(16)a The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.

Inspection Findings:

The determination of this complaint was made based upon employee/Director interviews, and independent evidence in the form of a message provided by the DCI. I arrived at the center on 4/17/19 with other DHS personnel to assess this complaint.

- 1. 109.10(16)a The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children

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assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.

Employees and the Director were interviewed about this subject on 4/17/, 4/24, 4/25 and 4/26/19.

Sarah T. stated she transported L. R. (age 4) and other children from Raisin Em On Up to Raisin Em Up. Sarah T. indicated children were able to take off their own seat belts. She reported she and the children went inside and took roll call. She noticed L.R. was not present. She indicated the bus was not running and was shut off. It is parked near one of the main thoroughfares through town. Sarah T. estimated the child was left on the bus for a "couple minutes". Sarah T. states that moving forward she counts children as they walk through the side door and will count again as they leave the bus.

Hayley E. was also present during that incident. She indicated Sarah transported children from Raisin Em Up to Raisin Em On Up. She indicated that the children filed off the bus. After entering the Raisin Em Up building the routine is to go to the restroom and wash hands. Hayley indicated after going to the restroom, and washing hands staff and children were sitting at tables. She indicated approximately 10-15 minutes later she noticed L.R. was not present and asked where L.R. was. She indicated they realized he was still on the bus.

Alex H. reported L.R. was being transported by Sarah T. and the child was supposed to have been dropped off at Raisin Em Up. She reported they realized he was gone and it was at least 10 minutes that he was unsupervised. She indicated the children went to the restroom, washed hands sat down for lunch and children were eating lunch when staff noticed his absence. Alex H. indicated Sarah T. directed E.H. (a 3-4 year old child also riding the bus) to help him get unbuckled when they arrived at Raisin Em Up. Alex noted L.R. had just started the program and was unable to unbuckle himself.

Both Hayley and Sarah stated L.R was buckled in on the bus when he was found. Alex H. was not on the bus at any point.

DHS received corroboration regarding this report. In a message from Sarah T. to Laura M. on 2/1/18 Sarah states, "So epic fail...left L on bus ;/."

Alex H. indicated a second incident regarding another child (approximately 3 years old) also occurred. Alex H. was not sure if parents were told about this incident or if an incident report was completed.

Bailey J. reported she was aware of 2 occasions where children were left unsupervised on the bus, but did not have specific information.

Children must receive direct supervision when they are being transported, in loading zones, and when they get in and out of vehicles. A head count is essential to ensure that no child is inadvertently left behind in or out of the vehicle. Child deaths in child care have occurred when children were mistakenly left in vehicles, thinking the vehicle was empty.

L. R. was left on the bus alone as reported by Sarah T., Alex H. and Hayley E.. Preschool age children being left alone on the bus was reported by staff on two occasions. Alex H. reported another incident similar to this one detailed in another report. Sarah T. admits she left L.R. alone on the bus for "a couple minutes". Sarah T. transported the children from Raisin Em On Up to Raisin Em Up. Sarah T. dropped off children and returned to Raisin Em On Up unaware that a child was left on the bus alone with the door unlocked. Sarah T. returned to her childcare duties in the Raisin Em On Up building before staff at Raisin Em Up notified her that they did not have the correct number of children. The lapse of supervision occurred in a busy area (intersection of Highway 2 and Main Street in Donnelson) where other adults could access the child. This was confirmed with information provided in messages between Laura M. and Sarah T. for 1 incident, noted above.

Sarah T. denies that a 3 year old child was left unsupervised on a separate supervision allegation. Supervision must be maintained at all times. Staff should know the names and number of children assigned to their care. Ratio was not met and maintained. This is not the only time the Director left a child on the bus unsupervised. A child being forgotten on the bus by a paid professional childcare provider is not reasonable/prudent supervision. It was reported the Director asked another preschool child to help L.R. unbuckle himself when they arrived at Raisin Em Up. Furthermore, this is not an isolated occurrence. The misrepresentation of facts is concerning that if it were to occur again, it would not be reported. As a result of the message noted above and staff/director report 2 children have been

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left unsupervised on the childcare bus on 2 separate occasions. VIOLATION

2. 109.10(10) Recording incidents: Parents shall be notified on the day of the incident involving a child that includes:

- Minor injuries.
 - Minor changes in health status.
 - Minor behavioral concerns.
 - Incidents resulting in injury to a child.
- Shall be verbally notified immediately when there is:

A WRITTEN report, fully documenting every incident, shall be provided to the parent or authorized person. This should be completed by staff that witnessed the incident and retained in child file.

Sarah T. indicated she did not feel this incident required an incident report at the time. Sarah reports she informed Jodi R. mother of the child about the incident when it occurred. An incident report was not created at the time of this particular incident or when the other similar incident occurred. After these concerns were brought to Sarah's attention in April 2019 by DHS in a complaint report, she went over this incident with parents and they signed the incident report (April 29, 2019). I observed the signed incident report. VIOLATION

Special Notes and Action Required:

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 641-684-3951; email jseiber@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.

A referral for technical assistance was made to your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency for the following reason:

- Safe Sleep Practices
- Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Discipline Strategies
- Other

Consultant's Signature:

Jill Seibert

Date:

06-12-2019