

Jodi stated two trips are made to the school to pick up children. Jodi stated that the children did not get on the first trip. Jodi stated she made a phone call to the mother after the first trip to remind her that the children had been discharged from the program as the mother had previously been told. Jodi stated she left a phone message for the mother.

The mother had not returned Jodi's call when the second trip to the school was made so Jodi decided that rather than have the children walk home (which was roughly eight blocks or so away) in the cold, she and her other staff member present in the van would drop the children off at their mother's home. Jodi stated that the children were dropped off at home and assured Jodi that if there were any issues, they would contact Jodi. As stated above, the children are eight and nine years of age. John Crouse from DHS previously had met with the children and concluded the children were mature enough and had the resources available to stay home alone for short periods of time. It was estimated by John that the children, if left alone after Jodi dropped them off, were home for roughly 15 or so minutes by themselves.

This consultant contacted the family's CCA worker, Gregg, and he confirmed that CCA payments were not covered for the two older children for the month of January 2015 and that it was the mother's responsibility to pay. Because the mother did not pay and the owner and director had repeated conversations with the mother about this, the children were discharged from care by the center until the mother was current on her child care payments. Although Jodi should not have given the children a ride home, she was trying to do the children and mother a favor by giving the children a ride home. Jodi also assessed the children's ability and resources available to be at home. Jodi did not confirm if there was another adult at the home, but did provide the center's phone number to the children and ensured the children were able to get inside the building.

The center is found to be in compliance with licensing regulations as the children had previously been discharged from the center due to the mother's refusal in paying for child care services. The mother was also given previous notice that the children were being discharged from the center.

Special Notes and Action Required:

No further action is being taken in regards to this complaint. The center was found to be in compliance with licensing regulations.

Consultant's Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nate Kruppa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Date:

03/23/2015