



Provider Services Committee Meeting
May 6, 2020; 3:00 PM
Via Conference Call

Committee Attendees: Rick Beasley, Loreen Chant, Abilio Rodriguez, Jenni Roig

Absent Committee Member:

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres; Angelo Parrino, Jackye Russell, Vanessa Aguilera; Amy Tongson, Johnetta Ruby; Amanda Torres; Ileana Vallejo; Mercy Castiglione;

General Attendees: Bob de la Fuente; Gianni Kelly; Angela Deal; Shermaine Silvers

I. Welcome and Introductions **Rick Beasley**

II. Approval of Minutes **Rick Beasley**

- Motion to approve by L. Chant.
- Motion seconded by J. Roig.
- Motion unanimously passed.

III. Choices Children's Academy **Bob de la Fuente**

- B. de la Fuente stated that Choices Children's Academy received three class 1 violations within a 12-month period. The violations were:
 - 1/23/2020 - During this revisit for an unrelated issue, while sitting in the county vehicle the facility's van returned from picking up children at a local school and it was observed and confirmed through a count by a member of the administration and Child Care Licensing and Enforcement that the vehicle capacity was exceeded by 4 passengers. The due date was 01/23/2020.
 - 02/18/2020 – A complaint alleges that there were too many children on the van. Upon arrival to the facility, the van had not returned from picking up the children. The van arrived it was observed that 16 children exited the van. There are only thirteen (13) seat belts on the van. This complaint was deemed substantiated. There were sixteen (16) children being transported. There were thirteen (13) seat



belts available. The vehicle seating capacity exceeded. The due date is 02/18/2020.

- 02/18/2020 - Of the children being transported, a three (3) year old child (SR 04/20/16) was not in a federally approved child safety restraint.
- The Provider currently has the following violations with DCF Broward County (5) class 1, (15) class two, and (8) class three violations. According to the Broward Crosswalk, the Provider has the following violations for DCF Miami-Dade County: (3) class one, (7) class 2, and (16) class 3 (refer to pages 2-5 of the supporting documentation for the standards). There are (2) standards that are not monitored by DCF Miami-Dade County (standard 22-8 and 5-1).
- Per Felicia Dessam, Provider relationship Specialist from Early Learning Coalition of Broward, the Provider is currently on a 120-day probation effective 2/19/2020 as a result of being in violation of the Health and Safety requirements.
- The Provider has no previous, Corrective Action Plans ("CAP's), or non-compliances with Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe.
- The Provider's School Readiness ("SR") contract with Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe commenced on 7/1/2019 and for Broward 7/1/2019.
- The Provider submitted a CAP on 4/30/2020, detailing the steps implemented to correct and avoid reoccurrence of the violations cited by DCF. To allow staff the time to verify and authenticate the Provider's CAP, the Review Hearing Committee rescheduled the Provider's hearing for 5/6/2020 where a final determination will be made on Provider's SR Contract.
- S. Silvers stated that she realized and did not want to discredit the amount of violations received with prior management and that new leadership is in place. S. Silvers stated that the corporate office allowed prior leadership to run the center and was not aware of these violations. With the new leadership, there has been progression and she did not foresee these events reoccurring. S. Silvers stated that she is a consultant for this childcare center and that she is there on a weekly basis to consult. S. Silvers stated that currently there are no Miami-Dade children in the facility but they would like to offer these services. S. Silvers stated that the goals for this facility was to receive no violations especially of the nature that the previous ones occurred. S. Silvers commented that the previous director did many things that were not in standards they would like for the center. She stated that all the necessary changes were made and that the childcare center is now in compliance.
- A. Deal stated that the last re-licensing received shows that the center is in complete compliance under new leadership. A. Deal asked for the opportunity to continue to serve the children with the new leadership.
- R. Beasley asked if the provider submitted a corrective action plan. A. Torres responded that they had. A. Torres asked the provider when was the new leadership implemented at the center, because the CAP was implemented on 01/15/20 and violation took place



on 01/20/20 and 02/18/20. S. Silvers responded that new leadership was there on 01/25/2020 transitioning but had not taken over prior leadership was still there. After the second violation is when the new leadership took over. A. Torres asked if the CAP was in place but was just was not being followed. S. Silvers correct, all of the old leadership was terminated including the bus driver.

- A. Torres stated that in the CAP it states that a new bus driver was hired and that he would stay with the children if they were over the allotted amount. A. Torres asked does the new bus driver have all the background checks and are the parents aware of this. S. Silvers yes they have all the screenings and parents have approved.
- After reviewing all documents and hearing the providers' testimony, the committee, voted to place the provider on a one year Corrective Action Plan. If the provider receives any, class one or 2 violation during the CAP period, they could be terminated and have eligibility revoked for 5 years.
 - Motion to approve by L. Chant.
 - Motion seconded by J. Roig.
 - Motion did not unanimously pass A. Rodriguez disagreed with Corrective Action Plan.

IV. Public Comments

Rick Beasley

v. Adjourn

Rick Beasley