



Center Licensing Inspection Full Report

All licensed child care programs are inspected at least once each year. Non-compliances are documented and grouped as Serious, Moderate or Low risk violations. Documenting statements and supplemental information may be included in this report. Licensing inspection reports from the previous three years can be viewed on the child care website at <http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm>. This includes complaint investigation reports with substantiated allegations. For any other child care records, please contact the Child Care Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

Program Details			
Program Name Mercy Tots	Program Number 2250032343	Program Type Child Care Center	
Address 545 W. Market Street, Suite 100 Lima OH 45801			County ALLEN
Summary of Program Details			
Building Approval Date 08/08/2025	Use Group/Code E	Occupancy Limit 110	Maximum Under 2 ½ 68
Fire Inspection Approval Date 08/05/2025	Food Service Risk Level Exempt		

Inspection Information		
Inspection Type Provisional	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 04/28/2026	Begin Time 10:00 AM	End Time 12:30 PM
Reviewer: SARA DIERKSHEIDE		

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified 58	No. Rules with Non-compliances 2	No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk 0	No. Low Risk 2

License Capacity and Enrollment at the Time of Inspection				
Age Group	License Capacity	Enrollment		
	Totals	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Infant (Birth to < 18 m)		34	0	34
Young Toddler		13	0	13
Total Under 2 ½ Years	52	47	0	47
Older Toddler		8	0	8
Preschool		17	0	17
School Age		0	0	0
Total Capacity/Enrollment	104	25	0	72

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	Age Group/Range	Ratio Observed	Comment

Climbers 1	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 5	10:00aM
Infants 1	0 to < 12 months	2 to 8	10:15
Climbers 2	12 months to < 18 months	3 to 12	10:15A
Infants 2	0 to < 12 months	3 to 8	10:30
Young 3's	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 7	12:15
Explorers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 9	12:15
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	3 to 8	combined groups 10:00A

Summary of Non-Compliances

If a program disagrees with a licensing finding, the program may request a review of the finding(s). Ohio Administrative Code 5180:2-12-03 and 5180:2-13-03 detail the process for submitting a request for review. The request for review must be submitted within seven business days from the receipt of the licensing report. In addition, if the program is star rated, the rating may be impacted if a serious or moderate risk non-compliance is cited.

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

No Serious Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

No Moderate Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment

Code: The program is required to follow the cleaning schedule for equipment.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the program was not providing a clean and healthy environment, furniture, materials and equipment as required by Appendix A, as noted in number(s) 5 below:

1. Item(s) soiled with blood or bodily fluids were not cleaned/sanitized immediately.
2. Blankets/sheets were not cleaned weekly, when soiled, or before use by another child.
3. Children's individual blankets and belongings were stored in an unsanitary manner.
4. Bottles, bottle caps, nipples and other equipment used for bottle feeding were not cleaned and sanitized in a dishwasher or by washing, rinsing, and boiling for one minute.
5. Carpets were not vacuumed weekly or cleaned when soiled.
6. Changing table/pad was not sanitized after each use or cleaned when visibly soiled.
7. Reusable cloths were not being washed daily or when visibly soiled.
8. Cots/Pads/Mats were not cleaned and sanitized before assigning to a different child, when used by a sick child, when soiled or at least every three months.
9. Cribs were not cleaned and sanitized monthly, or when soiled, or before use by another child.
10. Diaper Receptables were not cleaned and sanitized daily or more frequently as needed to eliminate odor.
11. Dishes/Cups/Silverware were not cleaned and sanitized after each use.
12. Water Containers were not labeled with the child's name, or were not cleaned and sanitized before use again on another day.
13. Dividers were not cleaned when visibly soiled.
14. Dress up clothes and hats (dramatic play) were not cleaned monthly or when soiled.
15. Floors were not cleaned weekly or when soiled.
16. The food prep area, including sinks, were not cleaned before and after preparing food (including bottle preparation) or between preparing raw or cooked food.
17. Potty chairs were not cleaned after each use, rinsed with water, cleaned and sanitized or contents were not emptied into a toilet.
18. Food tables, highchair trays were not cleaned before and after each use.
19. Tables used for play were not cleaned when visibly soiled or sanitized daily.
20. Toilet bowls were not cleaned when visibly soiled or sanitized weekly.
21. Toilet seat(s), handle(s) and hand washing sink(s) were not cleaned when visibly soiled or sanitized daily.
22. Mouthed toys were not cleaned and sanitized after each child's use.
23. Toys, other than those mouthed by children, were not cleaned monthly or when visibly soiled.
24. Washable furniture, including fabrics on infant equipment, were not cleaned weekly or when soiled.
25. Upholstered furniture was not steam cleaned when soiled.
26. Slip covers were not washed at least every six months or when soiled.
27. Wastebaskets/rinse buckets, including lids, were not being emptied daily or cleaned and sanitized when visibly soiled.
28. The manufacturer's directions for the cleaning product were not followed.
29. The solution used for sanitizing was not a commercial product registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a sanitizer.

30. Other [].

Furniture, materials and equipment must be maintained according to the cleaning and sanitizing schedule in Appendix A to this rule. Technical assistance was provided at the time of the inspection, and as discussed, please correct this rule noncompliance by submitting a corrective action plan to the department.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/28/2026

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Health Training Requirements

Code: The program is required to have all child care staff members complete training in child abuse and neglect recognition and prevention within sixty days of hire. Staff must complete training in first aid and CPR within the first ninety days of hire.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that at least one child care staff member had not completed required health and safety training as noted in number(s) 2,3 below:

1. Child abuse and neglect recognition and prevention training was not completed within sixty days of hire.
2. First aid training was not completed within ninety days of hire.
3. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training was not completed within ninety days of hire.
4. The child abuse and neglect recognition and prevention training was expired.
5. The first aid training was expired.
6. The CPR training was expired.

Refer to the Employee Record Chart for the name(s) of the child care staff member(s) who must complete the required health and safety training(s). Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/28/2026

Rules In-Compliance/Not Verified

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-02 License Posted	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The license was in a location visible to parents as required.
Rule: 5180:2-12-02 Current Information	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program had current information entered in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS).
5180:2-12-03 Inspection Requirements	Compliant	
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Fire Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Please Note: Documentation of a fire inspection without any uncorrected violations must be secured for the program. Secure a new fire inspection by 8/5/2026.
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Food Service Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The food service license was observed posted. Following is the audit number and date of expiration: GCUR-DR2KM6, exp.3/1/2027.
5180:2-12-07 Administrator Qualifications	Compliant	
5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Medical Statement	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All employees had current medical statements on file.
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Child Care Staff Member Educational Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All Child Care Staff Members had verification of

		educational requirements on file at the program.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Orientation Training & Whistle Blower Protection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: On the day of the inspection, all child care staff members had met orientation training requirements.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the required documentation regarding background checks was on file for all employees listed.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-10 Professional Development Requirements	Compliant	
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Outdoor play was observed for the toddler groups.
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The outdoor play area is separated from traffic and other hazards by a fence.
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The quarterly playground inspections were completed and documented, as required. The most recent inspection report form was dated 4/9/2026.
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Shade is provided by means of a play structure.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Indoor Space Requirements	Compliant	
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Separation of Children Under 2 1/2 Years	Compliant	
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All equipment in the outdoor play space was observed to be anchored and stable.
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All equipment was observed to be properly placed out of the path of the main traffic pattern.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The protective material used under outdoor equipment was poured.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Equipment was observed to be in good condition.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cleaning supplies were viewed stored out of the reach of children.
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The indoor temperature of the program during the inspection was comfortable and met rule compliance.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff and children were observed washing hands as required by the rule.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Smoke Free Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: No smoking was allowed on the premises, and the notice stating that smoking is prohibited was observed posted in a conspicuous place.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Medical and Enrollment Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, 25% of the children's records were reviewed, and the records were complete, as required by the rule.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Medical/Physical Care Plans	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program had current information on the medical status and the required treatment plan for the children with health conditions.
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Medical, Dental, and General Emergency Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: On the day of the inspection, the complete prescribed JFS 01242 "Medical, Dental, and General Emergency Plan For Child Care" were posted in the program as required.
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Drills	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Documentation for completed fire, weather, and emergency/lockdown drills was verified during this inspection.
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 First Aid/Standard Precautions	Compliant	
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The JFS 08087 "Communicable Disease Chart" was posted and was readily available to staff and parents.
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program staff stated parents were informed when their child had any exposure to a contagious illness by number 1 below: 1. A posted notice; 2. Verbal communication; 3. A written notice sent home; 4. A note posted on the classroom door; 5. Other [].
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Incident/Injury Reporting	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The requirements for completing JFS 01299

		"Incident/Injury Report For Child Care" reports were discussed during the inspection.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Child Care Staff Members were observed recording the attendance for each child upon arrival and documenting each child's departure.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Group Size	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The group sizes observed on the day of the inspection were in compliance.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The following activities were observed: outdoor play, grouptime, frre play
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Daily schedules were observed posted.
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, developmentally-appropriate practices were observed in the classroom(s).
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Materials and Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Sufficient equipment was observed in all categories.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant	
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-18 License Capacity	Compliant	
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The Appendix A "Staff/Child Ratios, Age Grouping and Maximum Group Size" was posted in a

		noticeable area at the program as required.
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff/child ratios observed during the inspection were in compliance.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-19 Supervision	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Child Care Staff Members were supervising the children and were able to intervene as needed.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The rest area had adequate lighting, which allowed for the visual supervision of children.
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cots were placed appropriately and safely during nap time.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cribs were separated from the play space by a safe and sturdy and physical barrier.
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All cribs were labeled with the assigned infant's name.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate child guidance techniques and practices were observed being used during the inspection.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Meal and Snack Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Snacks were provided at intervals as required by this rule.
Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Food was stored in a safe and sanitary manner.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Fluid Milk Requirements	Compliant	
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Daily Care	Compliant	Documenting Statement: An appropriate program of activities with infants was observed.
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate diaper changing procedures were observed during the inspection in the infant/toddler room(s).
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	Documenting Statement: All bottles were warmed in accordance with the rule in a bottle warmer.
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Bottles and opened food were stored in a refrigerator located in the infant room.
Rule: 5180:2-12-25 Medication Administration	Compliant	Documenting Statement: There were no children on medication at the time of the inspection; however, the method of storage and practices for the administration were reviewed.
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: A copy of the certificate of occupancy was available on-site for review.
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: On the day of the inspection, the program was operating in compliance with the current building approval(s).



**Department of
Children & Youth**