

From: Cynthia Reddy <cynredss@gmail.com>
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To: IRRC
Subject: IRRC 3216

I am emailing regarding concerns with this regulation. The increase in training is good but is grossly still lacking. Background checks and video cameras alone are steps in the right direction to ensure child safety but until this cultural mindset of "us versus them mindset is abolished" nothing will change. Peer to peer accountability is one way to keep ethical high standards. I bring this point up as a parent whose child was enrolled in one of the best state of the art daycares around. My child was diagnosed with disabilities and we did like every other parent we contacted early intervention and the intermediate units and they went to the child care centers etc. After my daughter was physically restrained by the speech therapist from the IU I heard bits and pieces from various sources but no one reported anything to anyone. This is a VERY VERY common occurrence with special needs kids being abused by outside agencies that come into child care centers and there is a "hands off" mentality by the daycare staff. As the parent I can report the speech therapist all I want to the state and full investigation can be done nothing will happen since child care centers don't report aren't held accountable for someone's actions in their facilities and don't get involved. And yes a full investigation was done and nothing could be proved because that child care center reported nothing. The IU was notified they did nothing. Yes, that speech therapist with the IU still works with children in child care settings. Yes, you can run background checks all day long you won't find anything because it's almost impossible to hold anyone accountable. There is no recourse for parents other than to sue and to get information is almost impossible. I think mandatory surveillance even in home settings should be mandatory. Surveillance of early intervention and intermediate unit staff sessions should be mandatory. Parents aren't in the child care settings watching what is going on from outside (we are at work) people that come in from outside agencies nor are child care centers stepping up to monitor outsiders agencies that come in. Your regulations need to have this added to their training that the child care centers are mandated reporters no matter who is there BECAUSE THERE STILL is a disconnected mindset that the current training is NOT adequately covering. The current training is insufficient. Telling your supervisor is not mandatory reporting. There is a lot of pressure in these child care settings to NOT report things. I would like to see parents be able to personally sue child care providers the agencies who fail to report because the current environment is dangerous for any child with special needs. More needs to be done.

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