

**N.Y., Brooklyn -1/18/2012**

**Ex-worker at NYCHA child-care center in Brooklyn charged with molesting girl in program** (NY Daily News)

**A former worker at a Brooklyn after-school program run by the city Housing Authority has been charged with sexually abusing a girl in his care.**

Investigators are concerned the 63-year-old suspect may have molested other children as well, law enforcement sources said.

Nicholas Rodriguez was busted last spring, just months after he retired as **community coordinator** for the Jonathan Williams Plaza Community Center in Williamsburg, officials said. He was charged with molesting a girl, now 10, who started attending the center's after-school program when she was just 5, officials and the victim's mother told The News.

The mother said she was confused when her daughter suddenly asked to enroll in another program in 2009 after attending the center for two years. The mom switched the girl to another center.

A year later — the day after Christmas in 2010 — her daughter revealed why she had wanted to leave. “She said she had to tell me something,” the mother recalled. “She said, ‘Nick touched me.’ He told her not to tell anybody.” The teary-eyed girl then showed her mother where Rodriguez allegedly touched her by pointing to her private parts. She said she then took her daughter to the police.

After an investigation, cops had enough to charge Rodriguez with sexual abuse and endangering the welfare of a child.

Rodriguez — who has a prior arrest for criminal possession of a controlled substance in 2003 — **retired from NYCHA in January 2011 after nearly 32 years working for the agency, but cops cuffed him at the day-care center** on May 25, officials said.

**Two former employees of the NYCHA center said they are sure Rodriguez hurt more children. One ex-worker said “There were other complaints...”**

A NYCHA spokeswoman said she was unaware of any prior investigations regarding Rodriguez and added that he passed background checks in 2008 and 2010.