IOWA HHS **Iowa Department of Health And Human Services**

CHILD CARE COMPLIANT

Name of Provider Ula Miller	**County** Scott	
Care Address 2827 N ZENITH AVE	**City** Davenport	**Zip Code** 52804
Mailing Address 2827 N ZENITH AVE	**Mailing City** Davenport	**Mailing Zip Code** 52804
Phone 563-505-1766	**Email**	

Date of Complaint:	02/09/2024	**Date of Visit:**	02/12/2024

Type of Visit

[ ] Scheduled [X] Unannounced [ ] N/A

Compliance Regulation

[X] Non-Compliance with Regulations Found [ ] Compliance with Regulations Found

Recommendation for Registration:

[X] No Changes to registration status recommended

[ ] Revocation of Registration

[ ] Cancellation of Child Care Assistance Provider Agreement

Category of Care:

[ ] Category A

[X] Category B

[ ] Category C (with no co-provider)

[ ] Category C (with co-provider)

[ ] Non-registered Child Care Home with CCA Provider Agreement

Complaint Details:

Did this complaint result in a serious injury? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Did this complaint result in a death to a child? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Summary of Complaint:

Provider had a bucket of water that contained bleach for mopping and reportedly a child stuck their head in the water. Provider did not call to tell the parent about the incident and was not forthcoming until parent pushed the issue. Child was lethargic and parent took child to ER. Additional concerns reported that Ula is not diapering children regularly resulting in dried feces on the child/ren and that her boyfriend resides in the home and has been caring for children.

Rule Basis and Findings of Complaint(s):

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Code of Iowa Chapter 237A
441 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 110
441 IAC 110.7(1)a. Provider gives careful supervision at all times. b. Frequently exchanges information with the parent of each child to enhance the quality of care. c. Gives consistent, dependable care. Is capable of handling emergencies.
441 IAC 110.8 Conditions in the home shall be safe, sanitary and free from hazards.
441 IAC 110.8(3)a. All medicines and poisonous, toxic or otherwise unsafe materials are secured from access by a child.

Complaint was received regarding Ula on 2/9/2024. A verbal safety plan was made with Ula on 2/9/24 stating that she would not have any containers and/or buckets or water or any liquid out during child care hours. On 2/12/2024 this worker and HHS worker Housinga met with Ula at her home child care setting. A written safety plan was made on 2/12/24 with Ula that stated that she would not have any containers of liquids out during child care and that all hazardous items would remain inaccessible to children at all times. The safety plan further stated that Ula would report any safety concerns regarding children in care to their parents timely.

On the day in question, Ula stated that she had given the children popsicles and the floor was sticky. Ula reported that she was mopping the floor after lunch and when Ula turned away from the bucket, one child put their hand in the bucket and started swinging their arm around. Ula reported that it was just the child's hand in the water briefly and not the child's head. Ula reported that she acted quickly and washed the child's hand/arm and then proceeded to put the child in clean clothing. Ula added that another parent was present when this incident occurred. This worker spoke with that parent on 3/8/24. The parent state that she was standing right there and saw the child put their hand in the bucket and splash their hand/arm around for a few seconds. Ula immediately responded to this and got the child away from the bucket, cleaned the child up and put a new shirt on the child. The parent stated that Ula acted quickly and it was just the hand of the child - no other part of the body came into contact with the bleach water. Ula did not feel that it was serious enough to warrant an immediate call to the parent, so she informed the parent at pick up around 5 p.m. that day. The parent was upset with Ula that she wasn't notified immediately after this occurred. Ula stated that she believes the parent of this child is upset with her because Ula has had to address her recently (1/25/24) regarding not bringing outside food into her home. Since this confrontation occurred, Ula reported that the parent has been inconsistent in bringing their child to Ula for care. Following this recent incident, Ula stated that she told the parent they should find other child care if they believe that Ula did not keep their child safe. This led to the parent becoming even more upset and cussing at Ula. Ula stated that the child was not lethargic at all on the day in question and left with no apparent issues when the parent picked up. Ula added that the child normally naps for Ula, but didn't on this day and therefore could have been tired as a result.

On 2/12/24, Ula this worker and HHS Housinga viewed the bucket in question. The bucket was a gray plastic 10 quart bucket that was approximately 12 inches high and the opening was approximately 12 inches wide. Ula reported that she had approximately 3 cups of water in the bottom of the bucket. Ula agreed that she would no longer use the mop and bucket during child care, but would utilize her Swiffer wet jet to quickly clean up messes as needed as this just sprays a little liquid out and then is soaked up with the accompanying pad. Ula brought the mop bucket directly to the basement, inaccessible, while this worker was present in the home.

On 3/5/24 HHS worker Housinga reviewed the recording of the conversation between Ula and the parent regarding the mop bucket incident. The conversation was consistent with Ula's statement that the child only put their hands in the water and splashed it. There is no reference to the child's head being submerged in the water.

This worker discussed the presented concerns that children are not being diapered regularly while in her care. Ula stated that the child involved in the mop bucket incident has actually come to her with dried feces previously. Ula stated that she has a regular diapering schedule and when she changes one child, she just changes them all. Ula uses A & D ointment on diaper rashes as needed and with approval from parents.

Ula stated that she does have a boyfriend, but he lives elsewhere in Davenport and does not stay with her when child care is being provided. Ula did state that she does have someone residing with her currently. A review of the Kindertrack system shows that Ula contacted the CCA Unit on 1/4/2024 to add this individual as a household member and assistant/substitute. On 2/26/24, Kindertrack system notes that this individual, Ciara Taylor, has been approved as

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an assistant and substitute as well as a household member for Ula.

Findings:
There is a preponderance of evidence to support the concern that a child came into contact with hazardous or unsafe materials while in care with Ula. This is evidenced by Ula's admission of the child putting their hand into the mop bucket containing bleach water.
There is a preponderance of evidence to support the concern that Ula did not notify parents 'timely' of the incident involving the mop bucket. This is evidenced by Ula's admission that she didn't tell the parent until the child was picked up that evening.
There is not a preponderance of evidence to support the concern that Ula is not regularly changing children's diapers.
There is not a preponderance of evidence to support the concern that Ula has unapproved individuals caring for children.

Resolution and Action Required:

This worker completed a follow up safety visit on 3/1/2024. Ula was present with three children. The mop bucket remained in the basement where it was placed immediately following this incident. No concerns were noted on this date. The safety plan remains in place with Ula.

Consultant's Signature:	Kathy Huinker	**Date of Visit:**	03/08/2024
Supervisor Signature:	Sheila Aunspach	**Date of Visit:**	03/08/2024