

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center:	Ann W Wickman Child Development Center	Enrollment:	63	License ID:	32373
Street:	703 Linn Street	City:	Atlantic	IA Zip Code:	50022
County:	Cass				
Mailing Address:	703 Linn St				
Mailing City:	Atlantic	IA Zip Code:	50022		
Director's Name:	Heidi Johnson	Center Phone Number:	712-243-2553		
On-Site Supervisors:	E-Mail Address: hjohnson@nishnavalleymca.com				

Date of Complaint: 05-07-2026**Date of Visit:** 05-12-2026☒ Scheduled ☐ Unannounced ☐ NA☒ Non-Compliance with Regulations Found ☐ Compliance with Regulations Found**RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE**☒ NO CHANGES to licensing status recommended☐ PROVISIONAL license from _____ to _____☐ SUSPENSION of License☐ REVOCATION of License**Complaint Details:**Did this complaint result in a serious injury? ☐ Yes ☒ NoDid this complaint result in a death to a child? ☐ Yes ☒ No**Summary of Complaint:**

On 5/7/26, it was reported that a child who was one year old had a pill in his mouth that he found on the ground in the infant room.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

109.11(3)a Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. Sufficient cooling. Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children.

Inspection Findings:

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On 5/7/26, Heidi Johnson, director at Ann W. Wickman Child Development Center, contacted me to inform me about an incident that had happened earlier in the day. She reported that an infant found a pill on the floor and put it in his mouth. Nobody knew where the pill came from. Heidi had talked to everyone in the building who had been in that room including staff and parents but was unable to find out who it belonged to. The parents were notified and the mother took the child to the ED. He was under observation. The ED did not know what type of pill it was because it had dissolved in his mouth and they were unable to read the numbers on the pill to identify it. Heidi said staff noticed the pill in the child's mouth almost instantly. Staff took the pill out of the child's mouth and then took the child to Heidi's office at which time the mother was contacted.

On 5/12/26, my coworker and I met with staff at the Ann W. Wickman Child Development Center. Staff members H.K., L.T., M.S., and J.B. were in the room when the child put the pill in his mouth. H.K. was not present on the day of our visit. The stories amongst the three staff present on the day of our visit were a little different; however, the basics about what happened were consistent. L.T. was in the rocking chair feeding a baby. The child was playing and L.T. noticed he had something in his mouth. She motioned to H.K. who was able to sweep his mouth. H.K. found the pill in his mouth and immediately took him to Heidi. After this happened, all of the staff began cleaning and looking around to make sure there were no more pills located on the floor. M.S. reported L.T. noticed the child was chewing on something. She pointed it out to H.K. H.K. swept the child's mouth and found the pill in his mouth. H.K. immediately took him to Heidi. M.S. did not see the child put the pill in his mouth. Staff continued caring for the other children while cleaning the room and making sure there were no other pills accessible to the children. J.B. said L.T. was in the chair holding a baby and she noticed a child had something in his mouth. L.T. tried to get it but was unable to due to holding a baby. She pointed it out to H.K. who did a quick sweep and found the pill. After H.K. found the pill, she immediately took the child to Heidi. J.B. reported she closed the night before and went through the cleaning chart. She double checked the chart to make sure she followed everything that was supposed to be done. The child is known to put things in his mouth. Heidi said the child was brought to her office after a pill was found in the child's mouth. They contacted his mother right away. The mother picked him up and called the child's doctor who told the mother to take him to the ED. Heidi said H. K. had seen something white in his mouth when he was on the ground. H.K. swept his mouth and found the pill.

Heidi reported they were unable to determine where the pill came from. They are not sure if it was from a staff member or a parent who dropped a child off at the center.

On 5/18/26, my coworker spoke with H.K. She was in the room with the child. She said the children were being dropped off and she had one child in the kitchenette area with her. She stated that L.T. was sitting on a chair in the play area with the children and noticed something in the child's mouth. H.K. did a finger sweep and pulled out a pill. She immediately took the child to Heidi and the mother was contacted. The mother took him to the ED. H.K. said she did not believe anyone saw the child pick up the pill or put it in his mouth. H.K. did not know of anyone that had any pills or medication in their pockets or around the children. H.K. said after the child was picked up, H.K. and the other staff did a sweep of the room and found nothing else concerning in the room. Nobody else admitted to knowing anything about the pill or where it came from.

Because a pill that was located in an area where children were, and a child put the pill in his mouth, the center did not follow protocols to keep the center sanitary, safe, and hazard free. The center is **FOUND TO BE IN NON-COMPLIANCE WITH LICENSING REGULATION 109.11(3) INDOOR FACILITY REQUIRMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION AS IT PERTAINS TO KEEPING THE FACILITY AND PREMISES SANITARY, SAFE, AND HAZARD FREE.**

Special Notes and Action Required:

Staff cleaned the room after staff realized the child had a pill in his mouth. No additional pills were located and it was never determined where the pill came from. Heidi needs to enforce the requirement for staff to clean the rooms every night as is written in their policy and to follow the checklist provided in each room. Morning staff should do a sweep of the room to make sure no hazards are present.

Heidi has rewritten their policy and all staff have signed off in agreement. The policy states that any medication a staff member has, either prescribed or over the counter, must be kept in the front office. Staff can then take the medication in the kitchen area by the front office. There would be no exceptions to this policy.

Consultant's Signature:**Date:**

06-02-2026

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Tausha Bottorff