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

## CHILD CARE COMPLIANT

| **Name of Provider** | **County** | |
|---|---|---|
| Jessica Jimenez | Polk | |
| **Care Address** | **City** | **Zip Code** |
| 1708 E Glenwood DR | Des Moines | 50320 |
| **Mailing Address** | **Mailing City** | **Mailing Zip Code** |
| 1708 E Glenwood DR | Des Moines | 50320 |
| **Phone** | **Email** | |
| 515-776-1908 | | |

| **Date of Complaint:** | 06/22/2023 | **Date of Visit:** | 06/23/2023 |
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**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

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**Complaint Details:**

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| 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:**

It was alleged on 6/22/2023 the home where Jessica Jimenez provides care in her Category “B” Child Development Home is infested with cockroaches and has animal feces and trash on the floors. There is concern the condition of the home poses a health risk to the children.

On 6/29/2023 it is alleged that Jessica Jimenez hit a child in her care on the leg and face. There were no visible marks or injuries. This allegation was added to the 6/22/2023 complaint.

There was also a report the parents were not allowed access into the home and were required to drop the kids off at the door and Jessica would take them inside.

**Rule Basis and Findings of Complaint(s):**

110.8 “Conditions in the home shall be safe, sanitary, and free from hazards.”
110.8n “All animal waste is immediately removed from the children’s areas and properly disposed of.”
110.8(6)a “Corporal Punishment including spanking, shaking, and slapping is not used.”
110.8.(6)b “No punishment is used which is humiliating or frightening, or causes pain or discomfort to the child.”
110.5 “Parents are afforded unlimited access to their children and to the providers caring for the children whenever their children are present, unless parental contact is prohibited.”

Findings:
This DHHS worker and another DHHS worker went to the Child Development Home unannounced on 6/23/2023. We were there to assess the above allegations and ensure safety for the children in the home.

Upon arrival, multiple wading pools were full and unattended outside, a lawnmower was left unattended in the playground area, several paint cans were within reach of children areas, hoses, power tools and other household items were in areas where children would have access. Once entering the basement area, there were several children observed to be in the childcare area of the home. Sage and Isabella, (approved assistants to the CDH) were observed to be coming down the stairs to join the daycare kids. Jessica noted one was working on a project and the other was preparing lunch for the daycare children. The basement/daycare area was observed to be cluttered and provided minimal space for free movement. It was observed a small boy was without clothes and wearing only a diaper.

Jessica reported the family had just recently moved back to the home and they were in the process of organizing the home and daycare. Jessica appeared defensive when questioned about specific things pertaining to the cleanliness of the home. DHHS worker inquired if what was being seen across the floor was feces and Jessica denied this to be true and suggested it was lint and removed the items prior to this worker approaching area and confirming. Jessica stated there were roaches in the home when she moved in and indicated she had bombed the home three times and later stated the home was bombed four times and denied this to be a current issue. The children were taken outside to the playground area. Jessica was observed to then change the male child's diaper that previously needed changed. Jessica struggled to have Sage and Isabella join the daycare kids as they were inside trying to corral the dog that was reported to not like adults and a bite risk. Jessica suggested the dog is not a risk to the daycare children but instead just does not like adults. Jessica was observed to be emotional throughout the interaction and defensive. Sage and Isabella made it outside to observe the daycare children while Jessica took both DHHS workers on a walkthrough of the rest of the home.

In the basement/daycare area of the home, household items (ie irons, totes, crates, clothes, etc) were stacked in a manner that did not provide stability and/or safety. Workers observed aerosol cans, household cleaners, new food and old food observed to be on the floor and accessible to children. Workers entered a storage space in the basement/daycare area of the home and observed the furnace area to have multiple items cluttered around. DHHS

worker requested these items to be moved and Jessica complied by putting the items in other various locations in the room. While moving the items the workers observed cockroaches to scatter from the floor area. Jessica suggested the cockroaches were there due to the water observed to also be on the floor. Workers observed a kitchenette in the basement/daycare area that was unkept, had several flies and dirty dishes piled in the sink and sharp objects within reach of children. Jessica stated the dishes were from the night prior and not any longer than this. DHHS worker explained in this setting the expectation is to have items cleaned up after use. Workers observed two areas on the floor where urine was present. Jessica stated a daycare child had an accident prior to workers arriving. It was explained these accidents need to be cleaned up right away and not to be left on the floor where children are to be playing and/or eating.

Jessica reported the bathroom on this level of the home was not currently in working order and noted she walks the children to the main floor of the home for them to use the upstairs bathroom. Jessica took workers upstairs and at the top of the stairs there were household items (to include household cleaners, sharp objects, tools, boxes, etc.) piled in various areas accessible to the children. The home was observed to be minimally furnished but had items strewn throughout multiple rooms in the main floor and bar-b-que sauce was observed to be squirted on the living room floor. Workers observed cockroaches to be on the carpeted areas of the main floor. DHHS inquired about where the lunch that was previously being prepared was and Jessica acknowledged she may have misspoke and then stated the children were putting away groceries from Costco.

This DHHS Worker and the other DHHS Worker consulted outside about concerns observed in the home. This worker contacted his supervisor regarding the situation. We returned to the main floor of the home and explained next steps. This worker explained he has consulted with SWS Aunspach and it was determined he would be implementing a safety plan. The safety plan stated after all daycare children were picked up on 6/23/2023 they could not return until the home/daycare was able to have a successful walkthrough by DHHS where safety concerns have been addressed and Jessica agreed to the safety plan. DHHS scheduled to come back to the home on 6/26/2023.

On 6/26/2023 DHHS Workers arrived at the home for a scheduled visit. Jessica provided workers with a walkthrough of the home in its entirety. The home was observed to be appropriately furnished, cleaned and without safety concern. The home was completely organized, sanitary and clean. The CDH area in the basement was organized and appropriate for childcare. The outside area was organized and free of any dangerous tools or materials. The wading pools were drained, one was on the curb to be thrown away. The other was out of the play area propped against a tree. Jessica identified she would no longer use wading pools and use sprinkler like items she is buying off Amazon.

Jessica shared she recognizes the concerns the department had and noted this helped get done what she already knew needed to be done. DHHS Workers explained the importance of maintaining the home moving forward. Jessica agreed to address the cockroach concerns with a professional company. This worker reminded Jessica of our past conversations regarding closing the CHD if she needed to get it cleaned or in order. DHHS approved for the CDH to resume providing childcare services.

This worker went to the home unannounced on 7/14/2023. This worker addressed the additional complaints with Jessica. I shared what was reported. Jessica emphatically denied ever hitting any child in her care. Jessica said she never hits or uses physical punishment for behaviors. Jessica identified she has had to stop caring for some children because the child’s behaviors were to disruptive to the other children’s care. Jessica identified when she would have to take that action the parents usually were mad at her.

I also discussed the report Jessica would not allow parents into the home. Jessica said parents are always allowed in the home. Jessica did say parents usually drop off and pick up at the door and generally do not want to come into the home. Jessica did say during COVID it was her policy not to allow entry into the care area but does not do that now.

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**Resolution and Action Required:**

This worker arrived at the Child Development Home unannounced on 7/14/2023 to complete a Change of Address Pre-Inspection and finish the complaint process. Jessica allowed this worker in the home to do the Pre-Inspection for her new address. The home continues to be organized, sanitary and appropriate for being a Child Development Home. The Child Development Home passed the Pre-Inspection. The checklist has been uploaded.

110.8 “Conditions in the home shall be safe, sanitary, and free from hazards.”:
The Child Development Home was out of compliance for the above rule. Jessica was able to rectify the situation in a very short amount of time and did not provide care during the time it took her to correct the health and safety concerns.

This worker discussed with Jessica the need for her to maintain the Child Development Home in its current condition. Jessica again voiced she understands the condition of her home was unacceptable when DHHS originally arrived and that she is committed to maintain an appropriate Child Development Home moving forward. We discussed animal waste must be immediately cleaned up and out of the childcare area. Food must be cleaned in an appropriate time frame and should not be left out overnight. We discussed the childcare area needed to be sanitary and organized to ensure the health and safety of the children in her care.

This worker does not have any evidence Jessica was out of compliance with using corporal punishment with childcare children. We discussed appropriate behavioral interventions such as processing behavior, redirection, and limited time out.

This worker does not have any evidence Jessica is out of compliance with allowing parents into the care area. We discussed parents must be allowed to come into the care area and observe their children at any time.

The Pre-Inspection was addressed in another letter and uploaded document.

This worker communicated to Jessica if the same situation occurs again the result could end in her registration being revoked. At this time, no further action is needed.

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| **Consultant's Signature:** | Jake Aringdale | **Date of Visit:** | 08/01/2023 |
| **Supervisor Signature:** | Sheila Aunspach | **Date of Visit:** | 08/01/2023 |