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

## CHILD CARE COMPLIANT

| Name of Provider | County | |
|---|---|---|
| Deborah Oulman | Howard | |
| **Care Address** | **City** | **Zip Code** |
| 608 Birch ST | Riceville | 50466 |
| **Mailing Address** | **Mailing City** | **Mailing Zip Code** |
| 608 Birch ST | Riceville | 50466 |
| **Phone** | **Email** | |
| 641-985-2791 | | |

| Date of Complaint: | 12/18/2025 | Date of Visit: | 12/26/2025 |
|---|---|---|---|

**Type of Visit**

[X] Scheduled [ ] 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:**

The Department received a complaint describing an injury to a child while in the care of Registered Child Development Home Category B provider Deborah Oulman.

I conducted a visit with the provider on 12/26/2025. I also spoke with another HHS worker familiar with the case. All parties agree the infant in question did receive injuries while in Deborah's care.

Deborah provides care in a split foyer home. Her primary space is the lower half of the home, with some use of the upper level for napping. Deborah does need to make trips upstairs at times, especially with her lunch preparation and serving. Deborah heard the infant crying while she was upstairs and immediately went downstairs to attend to the child. Deborah was unable to determine exactly what happened to the child or what the cause of the injury was per not being in the room. Deborah currently has 3 infants under 12 months of age in care. They share the same play space as the other children. Deborah admitted and the other HHS worker observed the older toddlers are very active in their play. Deborah did not complete or share an incident report to the parent of the injured child.

Deborah and I spent time talking about creating a safe space for her littles that is separate from the older children. This space is especially important if she needs to step out of the room for any reason. We determined the best option was to arrange an attached bedroom to create a 5X10 foot space that can be dedicated to the littles. The space is fully in view from the main play area, and can easily be converted to other needs when no littles are present.

Deborah and I talked about strategies to reduce or limit any time she needs to be upstairs and out of sight of the children. When she does need to leave the main room, we talked about utilizing her new safe space for the littles. Deborah was very cooperative and receptive to fine tuning her set up to meet the needs of multiple infants.

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

Rules:
110.7(1)a "Gives careful supervision at all times."
There was non-compliance with regards to careful supervision. There was an injury to an infant while in the care of Deborah. She was unable to describe the exact cause or nature of the injury per being upstairs when it occurred.

110.7(1)b "Frequently exchanges information with the parent of each child to enhance the quality of care."
There was non-compliance with regards to adequate communication with parents. Deborah's initial communication with the parent of the injured child was limited and did not include an incident report.

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**Resolution and Action Required:**

We reviewed the proper use of an incident report anytime a child is injured while in her care. Deborah is receptive to adopting this into her regular protocol and her daily exchange with parents.

We reviewed the need to provide a protected space downstairs where her infants or littles can be separated from the older kids and their more active play. This space is especially important if she has to be out of the room or attend to the needs of another child for any reason. We reviewed her set up and Deborah has already texted me a picture of her purchased gate and modified furniture arrangement in a side room. She has established a 5X10 foot space where the littles can safely explore without the risk of being stepped on by older children. Deborah needs to utilize this space with the littles whenever their safety may be in question.

We reviewed strategies to reduce trips or time spent upstairs, especially with lunch preparation. Deborah is receptive to the idea of putting a microwave downstairs to assist in heating up food, and using a tub to collect dishes that can be toted upstairs once the children are napping.

Deborah signed a safety plan during our visit and has already provided a picture of the new safe space for infants. No further visits are required at this time.

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| **Consultant's Signature:** | Earl Crow | **Date of Visit:** | 12/31/2025 |
| **Supervisor Signature:** | Sheila Aunspach | **Date of Visit:** | 12/31/2025 |