Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Bear Care Child Care

Provider Name: Bear Care Child Care

Provider No.: 21522

Address: 322 Joanne ST, Cedar Falls, IA, 50613

E-Mail:

County: Black Hawk

Phone Number: 3194046432

- [ ] Pre-Inspection Date:
- [ ] Approval Date:
- [X] Annual Visit Date: 1/26/2026

Program Type:

- [ ] Registered Child Development Home A (guidelines for ratios on all categories)
- [ ] Registered Child Development Home B
- [X] Registered Child Development Home C
- [ ] Registered Child Development Home C1
- [ ] Non Registered Child Care Homes accepting CCA

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0<24 mos)
- [ ] Toddler
- [ ] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [X] All Ages

1. Basic Overview

Suzanne and Angie (mother and daughter) shared that they have been Registered childcare providers since 2004 (over 20 years). Suzanne's husband David is an approved assistant. They do not have an approved substitute. They participated in the previous quality rating system in the past but have not for years. They do participate in the food program. Suzanne and Angie shared that they typically follow the Cedar Falls school system schedule and will close on days that school is closed. They do provide care for all ages (infant- school-aged kids). They primarily utilize the lower level of the home for childcare, and they do have a door as a secondary exit from that space. They do utilize some bedrooms on the main level of the home for the younger children to nap. They did have the appropriate smoke alarms in those rooms and shared that Suzanne is typically on the upper level for close supervision when those children nap and Angie is typically in the lower level of the home for the older children that nap on that level. They do have one small dog, but the dog is reported to not interact with the childcare children rather stays on the main level of the home.

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2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

Suzanne and Angie had nicely written and detailed policies. They had more than the 2 minimum required policies. The emergency Preparedness plan was also well written and detailed.

They do have a very large completely fenced in back yard for outdoor play. They also have a large driveway up front if the yard is muddy or too wet. They have a variety of outdoor play items for climbing and riding toys as well. They do recognize and value the importance of outdoor play and one of them will frequently take children outside to play even in the colder months (unless it is dangerously cold). They did describe some structure and routine in their day including free play, crafts, group time, story time and outdoor play. They did report that they try to minimize TV time.
The lower-level space that is primarily used for the childcare had sufficient space and offered a lot of options in play for the children.

Although they were missing some of the required documentation in the children's files, they had 2 large binders that had the required documentation. This compliance worker was able to easily review documentation while Suzanne worked to prepare lunch and Angie continued to care for and supervise the children. This worker did observe positive interactions between both caregivers and the children on this date. David (assistant) was also interacting and supervising the children. This worker also observed Suzanne to prepare a well-balanced lunch.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

110.9 (2) c : Assistant: Certification of two hours of approved training relating to identification and reporting of child abuse within six months of employment.
David is an approved assistant. His Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter training expired earlier this month.
*David needs to update his MCART certificate and pictorial verification needs to be sent to HHS.

110.9 (4) children's files:
d : For infants and preschoolers: An admission physical examination, on the first day of attendance, including past health history, status of present health, allergies and restrictive conditions, and recommendations for continued care when necessary. The date of the exam is not more than 12 months before the child's first day of attendance.
110.9 (4) e : For infants and preschoolers: A statement of health signed by a physician submitted annually.
110.9 (4) g : A signed and dated immunization certificate provided by the state Department of Public Health.
Of the 7 files reviewed on this date, Suzanne and Angie were missing an initial physical and immunization record for one child and an updated/annual physical for 3 additional children.
*Providers need to work with the parents to obtain any missing documentation that is required for each child's file.

A re-check is not needed at this time. The above corrections should be made within 3 weeks (by 2/16/26) and will be reviewed at the next annual compliance check.
Please send pictorial verification of the items where specifically noted above to christy.weber@hhs.iowa.gov or text to 319-429-0749.

Thank you for your service in providing childcare in your community.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

NA

5. Special Notes/recommendations

Notes:
Suzanne and Angie shared that they do not transport the childcare children.
Suzanne and Angie shared that they do not ever use a swimming pool but will use a sprinkler for other water play.
We did discuss safe sleep policies.
We did discuss the number of children they allowed to care for at one time as Category C providers.
We also discussed the difference between an assistant and a substitute and that at least one of the two need to be present at

all times and that utilizing David as an assistant does not allow them to have additional children. If only one of the approved providers is present, they can only have 8 children. If they want David to be approved as a substitute, they will need to work with the Registration unit to get him approved accordingly.

As part of the 2026 Targeted compliance the Emergency Preparedness Plan was thoroughly reviewed. They were in compliance with the EPP.
They were encouraged to review it at least yearly to ensure that no changes need to be made.

Recommendations:
Suzanne and Angie had written policies for ill children and health emergencies, but she did not yet have anything written in regard to notifying parents in writing that they are able to submit an exemption for immunizations (either religious or medical) in lieu of the immunization record for each child. This is a new policy effective 7/1/25 so we did discuss this, and they agreed to get that documented accordingly.

6. ADDENDUMS:

- Addendum1: On 3/26/26, this worker received pictorial verification of David's Mandatory child abuse reporter training that he updated on 2/23/26.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 3/30/2026

HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Christine Weber Date: 1/26/2026

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Development Home Registration. Please take whatever steps are necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above. It is essential you correct all above-mentioned violations.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at I encourage you to work with Black Hawk County Child Care Resource and referral at 319-233-0804 if you have any ongoing compliance or training needs.