Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Melissa Kauzlarich

Provider Name: Melissa Kauzlarich

Provider No.: 27161

Address: 6 Leonard Ave, Indianola, IA, 50125

E-Mail:

County: Clarke

Phone Number: 5154423676

- [ ] Pre-Inspection Date:
- [ ] Approval Date:
- [X] Annual Visit Date: 3/26/2026

Program Type:

- [ ] Registered Child Development Home A (guidelines for ratios on all categories)
- [X] Registered Child Development Home B
- [ ] 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

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1. Basic Overview

Melissa Kauzlarich has been working with children for over 34 years. Her care is provided in a home where the children have ample space for indoor and outdoor activities. There were six children in care at the time of the visit. She does have two more that attend after school. A day in her childcare includes child-led or free play for the children. There are several options for the children to use for entertainment. She reported that she does not use any specific curriculum with the children, but she does talk about letters, numbers and colors with the children throughout the day.

2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

The provider reported that she is trying to get the children out to the play area twice a day. The weather has been up and down lately so they have not been out as much. But on nice days, they are outside.

Compliance staff observed the interactions between the provider and children. The provider was very attentive to the children during the visit. The children easily asked questions or approached the provider. The provider reported that if they have any issues, that she will use redirection with the children. She will help a child find an alternate activity or sometimes, she will help them with a book or other activity that is a little more personable.

The provider works with the food program and she provides two meals and one snack daily to the children. She also uses an application called Brightwheel to maintain communication with the parents throughout the day.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

The provider was in full compliance with regulation standards.

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

5. Special Notes/recommendations

2026 targeted compliance measure: Emergency Preparedness Plan. The provider has a completed EP plan that identifies planned actions for evacuation, shelter in place, lockdown, communication and reunification. The plan also addresses continuity of care in the event of a disaster at the location of the childcare.

The plan is good, but when talking with the provider, she realized that she does need to update a secondary location. An email was sent to the provider with a word document of the plan for the provider to use.

HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Stacy Burris Date: 3/30/2026

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 Michelle Greenough