Health and Human Services

# Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

## CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Catherine Walker

Provider Name: Catherine Walker

Provider No.: 23723

Address: 1525 Hillcrest CT, Marion , IA, 52302

E-Mail:

County: Linn

Phone Number: 3197215454

---

- [ ] Pre-Inspection Date:
- [ ] Approval Date:
- [X] Annual Visit Date: 2/19/2026

---

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:

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

**1. Basic Overview**

Catherine and Amy became Registered jointly as a Category C provider in 2008. Prior to that they both had individual childcare homes beginning in 2005. They did not participate in the prior Quality rating system and do not participate in the current IQ4K quality rating system. They do not participate in the Food Program but Catherine shared that they have taken trainings about healthy meals. Catherine did share that they have participated in the Child Net series of training in the past and do plan to participate in Child Net 3.0 this year. Catherine shared that they offer childcare to children beginning at 6 weeks up until Kindergarten. They do not care for school-aged children. There are 3 dogs and 4 cats in the home. Catherine shared that some of the pets do interact with the children during the day. Catherine and Amy only provide childcare in the lower level of the home. That level is set up specifically for childcare. The children/families can enter through a door directly to that lower level. They also have a fenced in yard with a couple of play structures. They do have one approved assistant but do not have an approved substitute.

## CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

**2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program**

This worker noted 9 children present upon my arrival. They shared that they typically have 11 children in care. At the time I arrived the older children were separated from the younger and all were engaged in free play. This worker did observe appropriate interactions between the children and caregivers on this date. Upon my departure they were all sitting nicely watching TV as the caregivers were about to begin some preparation for lunch.

Catherine described that they do provide structure and routine in their day. They offer periods of free play, circle time where they might review the calendar, the month and the weather. They have craft days and sing-a-longs as well as story time. Catherine also described time for recess each day that might include outside time or indoor large motor skills if the weather is too cold. This worker did observe a variety of toys and items for the children to play with.

The documentation was organized nicely into folders and a file folder for easy review. Catherine did sit with this worker a bit to review some of it, but she also was able to step away and assist with the supervision of the children while I was present. They also had more than the 2 minimum required policies.

**3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard**

110.8(1)n. All dogs and cats have annual examinations. Records of the exams are on file and must verify that routine immunizations are current and animal is free of endo and ecto parasites.
Form 470-5153, Pet Health Examination Veterinary Health Certificate, is on file.
Catherine and Amy have 3 dogs and 4 cats in the home. Five of the eight pets had the appropriate documentation. One of the dogs and one of the cats did have the annual pet exam but it was not documented on the approved/required HHS form. Those 2 pets do need to obtain an updated pete exam in May.
*Catherine and Amy need to ensure that all pet exams are done annually and documented on the approved HHS form.

A re-check is not needed at this time. The above corrections should be made within 3 weeks (by 3/12/26) and will be reviewed at the next annual compliance check.

If you have questions, you may contact me at 319-429-0749 or via email at christy.weber@hhs.iowa.gov

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:
Catherine and Amy do not transport the childcare children.
Catherine shared that she does not ever use a swimming pool but will use a sprinkler or splash pad for other water play.
We did discuss safe sleep policies.
We did discuss the number of children they are allowed to care for at one time as a Category C provider.

As part of the 2026 Targeted compliance the Emergency Preparedness Plan was thoroughly reviewed. Catherine and Amy 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:
Catherine and Amy did not yet have anything written in regard to notifying parents in writing that the state does allow parents 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 she agreed to get that documented accordingly.

## CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Christine Weber Date: 2/19/2026

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 Janey Schmitt with Child Care Resource and Referral if you have any ongoing compliance or training needs. Janey Schmitt can be reached at 563-286-0694