11/25/2024

Natatia Ober
22770 Kansas Ave
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Dear Child Care Provider:

This letter is in regards to the pre-inspection visit at your residence in which you are seeking child development home registration conducted on 11/22/2024. Iowa Code Chapter 237A and 441 Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 110, describes specific requirements that must be met by a Registered Child Development Home. You are not a participant in the voluntary Quality Rating and Improvement System. The following areas were out of compliance at the time of the visit:

441 IAC 110.8(1)	**Facility Requirements**
441 IAC 110.8(1)"b"	Electrical wiring shall be maintained, and all accessible electrical outlets shall be tamper-resistant outlets or shall be safely capped. Electrical cords shall be properly used. Improper use includes running cords under rugs, over hooks, through door openings, or other use that has been known to be hazardous
441 IAC 110.8(1)"c"	Combustible materials shall be kept a minimum of three feet away from furnaces, stoves, water heaters, and gas dryers
441 IAC 110.8(1)"d"	Approved safety gates at stairways and doors shall be provided and used as needed.
441 IAC 110.8(1)"h"	The home shall have at least one single-station, battery-operated, UL-approved smoke detector in each child-occupied room and at the top of every stairway. Each smoke detector shall be installed according to manufacturer's recommendations. The provider shall test each smoke detector monthly and keep a record of testing for inspection purposes
441 IAC 110.8(2)	**Use of Outdoor Space**
441 IAC 110.8(2) "a"	A safe outdoor play area shall be maintained in good condition throughout the year. The play area shall be fenced off when located on a busy thoroughfare or near a hazard which may be injurious to a child, and shall have both sunshine and shade areas. The play area shall be kept free from litter, rubbish, and flammable materials and shall be free from contamination by drainage or ponding of sewage, household waste, or storm water.
441 IAC 110.8(3)	**Medications and Hazardous Materials**
441 IAC 110.8(3)"a"	All medicines and poisonous, toxic, or otherwise unsafe materials shall be secured from access by a child
441 IAC 110.8(3)"b"	A first-aid kit shall be available and easily accessible whenever children are in the child

development home, in the outdoor play area, in vehicles used to transport children, and on field trips. The kit shall be sufficient to address first aid related to minor injury or trauma and shall be stored in an area inaccessible to children. The kit shall, at a minimum, include adhesive bandages, bottled water, disposable tweezers, and disposable plastic gloves.

441 IAC 110.8(3)"c" Medications shall be given only with the parent's or doctor's written authorization. Each prescribed medication shall be accompanied by a physician's or pharmacist's direction. Both nonprescription and prescription medications shall be in the original container with directions intact and labeled with the child's name. All medications shall be stored properly and, when refrigeration is required, shall be stored in a separate, covered container so as to prevent contamination of food or other medications. All medications shall be stored so they are inaccessible to children. Any medication administered to a child shall be recorded, and the record shall indicate the name of the medication, the date and time of administration, and the amount given

441 IAC 110.8(4) **Emergency Plans**

441 IAC 110.8(4) Emergency Plans: plans in case of man-made or natural disaster shall be written and posted by the primary and secondary exits. The plans shall clearly map building evacuation routes and tornado and flood shelter areas.

441 IAC 110.8(4) "b" The provider must have procedures in place for the following:

1. evacuation to safely leave the facility
2. relocation to a common, safe location after the evacuation
3. shelter-in-place to take immediate shelter where you are when it is unsafe to leave that location due to the emergent issue
4. lock down protocol to protect children and providers from an external situation
5. communication plan and plans for reunification with families
6. continuity of operations plans
7. Procedures to address the needs of individual children, including those with functional or access needs

441 IAC 110.9 Files

441 IAC 110.9(1) **A provider file is maintained and shall contain the following:**

441 IAC 110.9(1)"a" A physician's examination report for the provider and all members of the provider's household aged 18 years or older. Acceptable physical examinations shall be documented on Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. All children residing in the household must have medical documentation outlined in 110.9(4) "d", 110.9(4) "f", and 110.9(4) "g"

Findings:

441 IAC 110.8(1)"b" Electrical wiring shall be maintained, and all accessible electrical outlets shall be tamper-resistant outlets or shall be safely capped. Electrical cords shall be properly used. Improper use includes running cords under rugs, over hooks, through door openings, or other use that has been known to be hazardous.

Several electrical outlets in the home need to be capped

441 IAC 110.8(1)"c" Combustible materials shall be kept a minimum of three feet away from furnaces, stoves, water heaters, and gas dryers.

There were combustible materials within three feet of the furnace and water heater.

441 IAC 110.8(1)"d" Approved safety gates at stairways and doors shall be provided and used as needed.

A safety gate is needed between the kitchen and furnace/laundry room.

441 IAC 110.8(1)“h” The home shall have at least one single-station, battery-operated, UL-approved smoke detector in each child-occupied room and at the top of every stairway. Each smoke detector shall be installed according to manufacturer’s recommendations. The provider shall test each smoke detector monthly and keep a record of testing for inspection purposes

Smoke detectors are needed in the living room and the kitchen.

441 IAC 110.8(2) “a” A safe outdoor play area shall be maintained in good condition throughout the year. The play area shall be fenced off when located on a busy thoroughfare or near a hazard which may be injurious to a child, and shall have both sunshine and shade areas. The play area shall be kept free from litter, rubbish, and flammable materials and shall be free from contamination by drainage or ponding of sewage, household waste, or storm water.

There were rusty tools and machinery as well as other hazards in the provider's yard and play area that need to be removed.

441 IAC 110.8(3)“a” All medicines and poisonous, toxic, or otherwise unsafe materials shall be secured from access by a child.

There were medicine containers throughout the home that would be accessible to small children. A child safety lock is needed on the
cupboard below the kitchen sink that contains hazardous chemicals.

441 IAC 110.8(3)“b” A first-aid kit shall be available and easily accessible whenever children are in the child development home, in the outdoor play area, in vehicles used to transport children, and on field trips. The kit shall be sufficient to address first aid related to minor injury or trauma and shall be stored in an area inaccessible to children. The kit shall, at a minimum, include adhesive bandages, bottled water, disposable tweezers, and disposable plastic gloves.

A first aid kit is needed in the home.

441 IAC 110.8(4) Emergency Plans: plans in case of man-made or natural disaster shall be written and posted by the primary and secondary exits. The plans shall clearly map building evacuation routes and tornado and flood shelter areas.

Emergency exit plans for fire and tornado need to be posted by all exits of the home.

441 IAC 110.8(4) “b” The provider must have procedures in place for the following:
1. evacuation to safely leave the facility.
2. relocation to a common, safe location after the evacuation
3. shelter-in-place to take immediate shelter where you are when it is unsafe to leave that location due to the emergent issue.
4. lock down protocol to protect children and providers from an external situation.
5. communication plan and plans for reunification with families.
6. continuity of operations plans
7. Procedures to address the needs of individual children, including those with functional or access needs.

The provider's Emergency Preparedness and Response plan needs to be completed.

441 IAC 110.9(1)“a” A physician’s examination report for the provider and all members of the provider’s household aged 18 years or older . Acceptable physical examinations shall be documented on Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. All children residing in the household must have medical documentation outlined in 110.9(4) “d”, 110.9(4) “f”, and 110.9(4) “g”.

Documentation of current physical examinations are needed for all household members.

Suggestions/Recommendations:

A re-check is not needed at this time, corrections need to be made by 12/22/24 and will be reviewed at the next annual compliance check.

I encourage you to work with Heather Hinds from Child Care Resource and Referral with any ongoing compliance or training needs.

Heather can be reached at (712) 540-6086.

Corrective Action Required:

Please make sure all accessible electrical outlets in the home are capped.

Please move all combustible materials a minimum of three feet away from the furnace and water heater.

Please install a safety gate between the kitchen and furnace/laundry room.

Please install smoke detectors in the living room and the kitchen.

Please clear all hazardous materials from your yard and play area

Please make sure all medications and other hazardous materials are inaccessible to small children.

Please install a child safety lock on the cupboard below the kitchen sink that contains hazardous chemicals.

Please purchase a first aid kit for the home.

Please post emergency exit plans for fire and tornado by all exits of the home.

Please complete the Emergency Preparedness and Response plan.

Please provide documentation of current physical examinations for all household members. Persons aged eighteen and older use form 470-5152.

Non-compliance with any of the mandated 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.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at DHS at david.jaehrling@hhs.iowa.gov if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Dave Jaehrling

Social Worker II

Sheila Aunspach

Social Work Supervisor

Always Remember:

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 877-216-8481

As you plan your future trainings to meet your 24 hours of training requirement, please remember that you can access the approved training by going to http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Child_Care/Professional_Development.html

You may also access training at: https://ccmis.dhs.state.ia.us/trainingregistry/

All providers need to maintain compliance with rules set out in Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 110, which includes: 441 IAC 110.5(1): Check with the appropriate authorities to determine how the following local, state, or federal laws apply to you: • Zoning code • Building code • Fire code • Business license • State and federal income tax • Unemployment insurance • Worker's Compensation • Minimum wage and hour requirements • OSHA • Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).