IOWA HHS
Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

Kim Reynolds
Governor

Adam Gregg
Lt. Governor

Kelly K. Garcia
Director

08/15/2024

Francine Hodges
1701 E Walnut AVE
Des Moines, IA 50316

Dear Child Care Provider:

This letter is in regards to the compliance visit at your Registered Child Development Home B conducted on 08/14/2024. 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(5) **Safe Sleep**

441 IAC 110.8(5) "a" The provider shall follow safe sleep practices as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics for infants under the age of one.

a. Infants shall always be placed on their back for sleep.
b. Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet that meets Consumer Product Safety Commission federal standards.
c. Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface. No child shall be allowed to sleep in an infant seat, car seat, swing, bouncy seat, or items not designed for sleeping.
d. No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.
e. No co-sleeping shall be allowed.
f. Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound.
g. If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician authorization with statement of medical reason is required.

Findings:

441 IAC 110.8(5) "a" The provider shall follow safe sleep practices as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics for infants under the age of one.
Infants shall always be placed on their back for sleep.
Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet that meets Consumer Product Safety Commission federal standards.
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No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.

1305 E. Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0114

Suggestions/Recommendations:

The below correction needs to be made immediately. Recheck may happen to ensure Safe Sleep Policy is being followed. Failure to practice Safe Sleep with infants 12 months and younger could result in your Child Development Home Registration being revoked.

I encourage you to work with your Child Care Resource and Referral Worker (Katie Kytola 515-631-2913) with any training or compliance efforts.

Corrective Action Required:

When this worker arrived for your yearly compliance check an 8 month old baby was sleeping in a Pack&Play with a large pillow, baby bottle, and a small toy. You did remove all items when I informed you of Safe Sleep requirements. You agreed from this time forward, Safe Sleep will be practiced by all providers in your Child Development Home. Safe Sleep practice is required for babies 12 months and younger.

I gave you an informational hand-out explaining Safe Sleep and its application. You agreed to review the hand-out with the other providers in your Child Development Home.

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 515-601-9469/jarind@dhs.state.ia.us if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Jake Aringdale

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).