Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Christine Benesh

Provider Name: Christine Benesh

Provider No.: 51124

Address: 1101 12th ST NE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402

E-Mail:

County: Linn

Phone Number: 3194329073

☐ Pre-Inspection Date:

☐ Approval Date:

☒ Annual Visit Date: 6/26/2026

Program Type:

☒ Registered Child Development Home A (guidelines for ratios on all categories)

☐ 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

☐ All Ages

1. Basic Overview

Christine became a registered childcare provider in 2020. She shared that she began providing childcare back in 1985. She is not a participant of the IQ4K quality rating system. Christine shared that she does not care for infants but is willing to care for children from the age of 1 and above. Christine uses the main level of her home for childcare. She does not have a fenced in yard. The children were observed playing outside in the front and we did discuss close supervision since they are near the street. Christine does have 2 dogs that do interact with the children. Christine does not have an approved substitute or assistant.

2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

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Christine did have all her documentation contained within a few binders and she accessed those binders easily.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

110.6 : No more children are in care than the number authorized on the registration certificate.
110.13 (1)
a. No more than six preschool children present at any one time including infants.
c : Not more than two additional school-age children

As a category A provider Christine is only allowed to have 8 children at one time and that is if 2 of the children are school age.

Christine did only have 4 official childcare children present, but she had an additional 7 grandchildren present. Christine's adult daughter had stopped by with 2 more kids but was responsible for those 2 and left to go to an appointment taking her 2 children and one more with her. This left Christine with five grandchildren and 4 childcare children for a total of nine children. Christine's grandchildren were of school age so she did not think they counted towards her numbers. We did discuss that a provider's own school-age children do not count towards the number of children allowed at one time, but any relatives do count and she is ultimately responsible for their care and supervision and that takes focus away from the childcare children. While this worker was present a few of the grandkids did come up to her and ask for things and to go places and such which she did have to take time to respond to and keep track of which child was still with her and who had left with her daughter.

*Christine needs to ensure that she does not go over the number of children allowed at one time and now understands that her grandkids do count toward her numbers when they come to her home during childcare hours.

110.8 : Conditions in the home shall be safe, sanitary, and free from hazards.

Christine did have several items of clothes and other items on the stairs that lead to the basement where her designated tornado space is located. Once down stairs, she also had a variety of items blocking the area that is designated as the tornado space. This worker advised that she needs to ensure she has a clear path to the emergency exits and emergency areas of the home. (This worker did slip on an item while walking back up the stairs as evidence of the hazard it posed.

*Christine needs to clear the stairs and path to her tornado area, and she needs to send pictorial verification of compliance to this worker.

Christine did send several pictures on this same date indicating that area had been cleared accordingly.

Christine also had a lot of clumps of dog hair on the floor in the living room (main play area) and other small items on the floor. Given the ages of the children in care at this it was not a particular hazard, but we did discuss if she takes younger children or ones crawling this could be a hazard.

110.8(1)h. Each smoke detector is tested monthly, and a record is kept for inspection purposes.

Christine did not have any documentation of monthly testing of smoke detectors for 2026 (or for 2025). This was an area that was out of compliance last year as well and she did not take the appropriate steps to get it corrected last year. She does have an appropriate form for documentation purposes.

*Christine needs to ensure that she tests her smoke detectors monthly and documents those accordingly.

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.

Christine initially could not find current documentation of annual pet exams and shots for either of the 2 dogs. She did then locate verification that they were both taken in on 6/16/26 but noted the vet still needed to send her the appropriate vet form.

Christine did email verification of the current pet exams on the approved HHS form later this same date.

110.8(4)a. Fire and tornado drills are practiced monthly and documentation kept on file for the current year and previous year.

Christine did not have any documentation of monthly practice of fire and tornado drills for 2026 or for 2025. This was an area that was out of compliance last year as well and she did not take the appropriate steps to get it corrected last year. She does have an appropriate form for documentation purposes.

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*Christine needs to ensure that she practices fire and tornado drills monthly and documents those accordingly. We did discuss that if she leaves the form more accessible and visible she may be more inclined to practice and document those as is required.

110.9 (1) b : Documentation from the Department confirming record checks have been completed and authorizing or limiting the person's involvement with childcare.
Christine could not locate this documentation.
Christine does come up for renewal in a few months, and we discussed that she needs to keep that documentation with her other documents for future compliance verification.

110.9(4) : An individual file is maintained for each child and updated annually or when there are changes.
Christine did have a file for each child, but they had not been updated annually.
*Christine needs to ensure that parents review the required documentation annually and sign and date accordingly.

Each file contains:
110.9 (4) a : Identifying information including, at a minimum, the child's name, birth date, parent's name, address, telephone number, special needs of the child, and the parent's work address and telephone number.
110.9 (4) b : Emergency information including where the parent can be reached, the name, street address, city, and telephone of the child's regular doctor, and the name, telephone number, and relationship to the child of another adult available in case of emergency.
110.9 (4) c : A signed medical consent from the parent authorizing emergency treatment.
For school-aged children: On the first day of attendance, a statement of health status signed by the parent or legal guardian or admission physical examination that is not more than 12 months from the child's first day.
For school aged children: An annual statement of health condition signed by the parent or legal guardian, annually from date of statement of health or admission physical.
110.9 (4) g : A signed and dated immunization certificate provided by the state Department of Public Health.
110.9 (4) i : Documentation signed by the parent which names persons authorized to pick up the child, their telephone number, and relationship to the child.
110.9 (4) j : Written permission from the parent(s) for their child to attend activities away from the child development home.
Christine was missing a variety of documents for several of the children.
*Christine needs to work with the parents to obtain all of the required documentation for each child's file.

A re-check is not needed at this time. The above corrections should be made within 3 weeks (by 7/17/26) 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:
Christine shared that she does not transport the childcare children.
Christine shared that she does not ever use a swimming pool or sprinkler or any type of water play.

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We did discuss safe sleep policies.
We did discuss the number of children she is allowed to care for at one time as a Category A provider.

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

Recommendations:
As of 7/1/25 providers are expected to notify all 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. We did discuss this and added language to her policies while this worker was present. She now needs to ensure that her updated policies are provided to all the parents accordingly.

HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Christine Weber Date: 6/26/2026

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 Ashley Cram with Child Care Resource and Referral if you have any ongoing compliance or training needs. Ashley Cram can be reached at 563-362-8224