Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Leah Andersen

Provider Name: Leah Andersen

Provider No.: 45096

Address: 2305 Benson Shady Grove AVE,
Jesup, IA, 50648

E-Mail:

County: Buchanan

Phone Number: 3194644997

☐ Pre-Inspection Date:

☐ Approval Date:

☒ Annual Visit Date: 3/23/2026

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

Leah shared that she began providing childcare as a non-registered provider in 2011. She became Registered in 2017. She does not participate in the IQ4K quality rating system. She does not participate in the Food Program. Leah shared that she is willing to care for children from the ages of infant through school-age. Leah's children are home schooled, but she has an individual come into the home to work with the children on schooling. She does have one child that is not yet considered school-age that does count towards the number of children she is allowed to have in care at any given time. Leah utilizes the main level of her home for childcare and has a room on the upper level of the home that is set up for childcare. She resides out in the country. She does have a fenced in yard. She does have an inground trampoline that she noted the childcare children do use. Leah does have 2 dogs that are kept on the outer parts of the property outside of the fenced yard. Those dogs do not interact with the childcare children. Leah currently has her mother approved as an assistant and her husband is approved as a substitute and assistant. Leah did share that she really has not ever used her husband as a substitute, but he is

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approved for that. Leah did share she plans to get her teen daughter approved as an assistant in the future.

2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

Leah had 8 children in care on this date (this included her youngest son that does count towards her numbers). The children were playing with a train set upon this workers arrival. Leah then had them pick that up and provided them a snack.

Leah has a variety of toys for the children including items for large motor skills and small muscle development. She described that she has an hour of learning time each morning, she shared that she limits TV time and they enjoy reading time. She does have a large fenced in back yard but shared that she often will take the children out on the front porch if the back is muddy in order to get fresh air.

The children presented as very comfortable in her care.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

110.8 (1) q : The provider has written policies about responding to health-related emergencies.
Leah had a policy that somewhat addressed this issue but needs to be clearer in regards to the steps she will take.
*Leah needs to better describe the steps she will take in responding to a health-related emergency and send pictorial verification to this worker when updated.

110.9 (1) a : Within six months of becoming registered, a physical exam report documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report, for all household members over the age of 18. Physical exams should be repeated every three years.
Leah's provider health exam had expired last year.
Leah's father resides in the home, and his physical was also expired.
*Leah needs to obtain an updated provider health exam for herself and her father and those need to be documented on the approved HHS form.

110.9(1)b. Certificate of two hours of Mandatory child abuse reporter training.
Leah's MCART had expired last year.
*Leah needs to update her MCART and send pictorial verification of completion to this worker.

110.9 (2) b : Assistant:
Within six months of approval, a Physical exam report documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report, which is repeated at least every three years.
110.9 (2) c : Certification of two hours of approved training relating to identification and reporting of child abuse within six months of employment.
Debra is an approved assistant. Her physical had expired last year.
David is an approved assistant (and substitute). David's physical had expired last year. Leah could not locate verification of David's Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter training that is required within 6 months of employment.
*Leah needs to obtain a current physical for both Debra and David on the approved HHS form.
*Leah needs to obtain a current certificate for David's Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training, and she needs to send pictorial verification of that to HHS.

110.9 (3) b : Substitute:
Within six months of approval, a Physical exam report documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report, which is repeated at least every three years.
110.9 (3) c : Certification of two hours of approved training relating to identification and reporting of child abuse within three months of employment.
David is an approved substitute. As noted above he is also an approved assistant. His physical had expired and Leah could not locate his training certificate for MCART.
*Leah needs to obtain a current physical for David on the approved HHS form.
*Leah needs to obtain a current certificate for David's Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training, and she needs to send pictorial verification of that to HHS.

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110.9(4) : An individual file is maintained for each child and updated annually or when there are changes.
Leah did have documentation for each child, but they were not all organized into a file and were not updated annually.
*Leah needs to ensure that the parents update each child's documentation at least 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.
110.9 (4) d : For infants and preschoolers: An admission physical examination, on the first day of attendance, including past health history, status of present health, allergies and restrictive conditions, and recommendations for continued care when necessary. The date of the exam is not more than 12 months before the child's first day of attendance.
110.9 (4) e : For infants and preschoolers: A statement of health signed by a physician submitted annually.
Leah was missing the intake form, emergency contact and authorization to seek emergency medal care for one child. Leah was also missing an initial physical for that child.
Leah was missing an updated/annual physical for 5 children.
*Leah needs to work with the parents to obtain all of the required documentation for each child.

110.14(3) (If 2nd story or basement is use as a secondary exit)
The bottom of the window opening is not more than 44 inches above the floor with permanent steps inside leading up to the window.
Leah does use the upper level of her home for childcare. She does have a window as her secondary exit, but it did not have permanent steps leading up to the window. It does go out onto a deck area with permanent steps on the outside. We did discuss that is needed and she agreed to get that ASAP
*Leah needs to obtain permanent steps leading up to the window on the inside and she needs to send pictorial verification to this worker.

A re-check is not needed at this time. The above corrections should be made within 3 weeks (by 4/13/26) and will be reviewed at the next annual compliance check.
Please send pictorial verification of the items where specifically noted above to christy.weber@hhs.iowa.gov or text to 319-429-0749.

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:
Leah shared that she does not transport the childcare children.
Leah shared that she does use a baby pool for the childcare children at times and we did discuss pool safety.
As noted above, Leah has an in-ground trampoline that she does allow the childcare children to use. This worker did recommend that she add that to her written consent form, so parents do sign off that the children are allowed to use that. (This would be for liability purposes)
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 B provider.

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

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Recommendations:
Leah 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 expectation for providers effective 7/1/25 so we did discuss this, and she agreed to get that documented accordingly.

Leah did have a file folder for the children's files but most of the current documentation was not filed by child, rather thrown in the front. This worker would encourage her to utilize that file folder and separate each child's information for better organization. She also had a separate binder with some of the other required documentation but it not very organized. this worker did talk with her about some strategies she could take for better organization and the benefits of this worker being able to review for compl9iance it in the future without taking her focus away from the children.

Leah also has a pole barn on her property that she refers to as the gym. She reported that she did not use it this past winter but has utilized that space in the past for the children to play in. The space is quite large. There is a bathroom in that space and a large slide and other play structures. There are also a couple of separate rooms with tables and chairs that could be utilized for quiet play such as crafts, puzzles. This worker did note that she did not have a fire extinguisher or smoke alarms in this area. The outlets were also not covered and she did not have a no-smoking sign on the door. We did discuss that if she wants to utilize this large space in the future, what she needs to do for it to be in compliance as utilized childcare space. We also discussed the possibility of utilizing this area as her primary childcare that is on the property but separate from the home. There are some things she would need to do. This worker suggested that if she is interested in utilizing it for primary childcare, she could reach out to her local CCR&R worker for suggestions and support. If she just wants to use it as a play area, there are still some things she needs to have before she should utilize that play space.

6. ADDENDUMS:

- Addendum1: As of 4/7/26 Leah has sent pictorial verification of compliance for the items requested.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 4/8/2026

HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Christine Weber Date: 3/24/2026

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 Lisa Wood with Child Care Resource and Referral if you have any ongoing compliance or training needs. Lisa Wood can be reached at 319-334-5900