

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

Name of Center:	The Tree House Growing & Learning Center	Enrollment:	1	License ID:	26390
Street:	2401 West 1st St	City:	Ankeny	IA Zip Code:	50023
County:	Polk				
Mailing Address:	2401 W 1st St				
Mailing City:	Ankeny	IA Zip Code:	50023		
Director's Name:	Missey Michel/Mindy Seeman		Center Phone Number:	515-965-5505	
On-Site Supervisors:	Ashly Schmidt		E-Mail Address:	ashly@treehouseglc.com	

Date of Complaint: 11-23-2025

Date of Visit: 11-24-2025

☐ Scheduled
 ☒ Unannounced
 ☐ NA

☒ Non-Compliance with Regulations Found
 ☐ Compliance with Regulations Found

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

☒ NO CHANGES to licensing status recommended☐ PROVISIONAL license from _____ to _____☐ SUSPENSION of License☐ REVOCATION of LicenseComplaint Details:Did this complaint result in a serious injury? ☐ Yes ☒ NoDid this complaint result in a death to a child? ☐ Yes ☒ NoSummary of Complaint:

It is alleged that the unknown staff (Tree House Growing and Learning Daycare) left a child (infant) to sleep in a infant swing instead of a crib due to not having enough cribs for the babies at the daycare. It is further alleged that Fern did not have an assigned crib and swapped cribs with other infants while at daycare.

It is alleged that the unknown staff (Tree House Growing and Learning Daycare) do not consistently document feedings for a child (infant) as it is alleged that on 11/5/25, that the staff did not feed an infant from approximately 8:15 AM to 2:35 PM due to it not being documented in the daycare application. It is further alleged that on 11/10/25, and another occasion not feeding the infant from 9:00 AM to 2:45 PM due to it not being documented in the daycare application.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

109.12(4)e The provider shall follow safe sleep practices for infants under one year of age: Infants shall always be placed on their backs for sleep. Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet. 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 any item not designed for infant sleeping, including but not limited to an infant seat, car seat, swing, or bouncy seat. No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant. No co-sleeping shall be allowed. Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound. If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required and an expiration date.

109.13(3)a Children under 12 months fed on demand, unless other written instructions from parent. Infant CACFP menu patterns followed and appropriate to the infant's nutritional requirements and eating abilities. Special formulas given to child with feeding problem if prescribed by physician.

Inspection Findings:

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

I visited the center unannounced on 11/24/25 and met with the director and several staff at The Tree house growing and learning center. We discussed the concerns in the complaint filed with HHS. The director stated that there are often times the center's computer application that is used to document feedings for parents to review has not functioned properly on occasion. The director was aware the concerns related to an infant having been napping in a swing and also some concerns regarding going too much time between feedings or not getting feedings on demand or at least every three hours.

I contacted the confidential reporter to verify information that was provided in this complaint.

The director indicated initiated an internal reviewed of the situation by reviewing video monitoring and by speaking to staff in the infant room on the day this occurred. The director was able to confirm the child had been fed during times that the information was blank on the computer application. Additionally, the child was confirmed to have been in an infant swing, sleeping for 30-40 minutes. There were four staff persons that would have been in this room working at various times of the day. The director indicated there is not a lead staff in a room, more of a "team" where the staff persons work together to discuss how the needs of each child are being met and who does documentation, diapering, feeding, playing etc. The director stated that she had disciplined staff in writing and had all staff repeat training safe sleep and how to transition infants when sleeping to a crib.

I interviewed the four staff involved, who provided similar details. The staff indicated the infant was fed but the computer application was not functioning properly and documentation that available for parents was not entered correctly. The staff explained that in their room they equally respond to infants in the room meeting the child's needs what that may be, which could include feeding, diapering, playing or holding the child during the day. The staff all verbalized an understanding of safe sleep to include having to transition a child that falls asleep in an infant swing to a crib; that each station (swing, jumper etc) has a time limit of about 10-15 min's. With all staff we discussed that the infant in this instance needed to be transitioned to a crib much sooner then actually occurred.

There is significant information that the child was fed on demand or at least every three hours per video monitoring, however this was not entered into the computer application. There is NOT sufficient evidence that a licensing violation occurred per Iowa Code 109.13(3)a Children under 12 months fed on demand, unless other written instructions from parent. [or] Infant CACFP menu patterns followed and appropriate to the infant's nutritional requirements and eating abilities (at least every two to three hours). The center if found in compliance with regard to 109.13 (a).

There is significant information that a licensing violation has occurred per Iowa Code 109.12(4)e The provider shall follow safe sleep practices for infants under one year of age: Infants shall always be placed on their backs for sleep...No child shall be allowed to sleep in any item not designed for infant sleeping, including but not limited to an infant seat, car seat, swing, or bouncy seat. The center was OUT of compliance with Iowa Code 109.12 (4) (e).

Special Notes and Action Required:

The center director agreed that staff were provided additional coaching and completed trainings specifically regarding safe sleep practices for infants. Director will follow up with additional supervision to ensure compliance with safe sleep training and on-going practices in the infant room along with additional "pop ins" to ensure infants are sleeping in cribs. When the computer application is not functioning, staff will maintain written documentation of the infants schedule that day, including feeding times/amount.

No further actions required at this time.

Consultant's Signature:

Maggie Gibson, SWIV

Date:

01-13-2026