IOWA HHS
Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

Kim Reynolds
Governor

Adam Gregg
Lt. Governor

Kelly K. Garcia
Director

11/04/2024

Donna Jean Ritz
1996 Keener RD
Muscatine, IA 52761

Dear Child Care Provider:

This letter is in regards to the compliance visit at your Registered Child Development Home C conducted on 10/24/2024. 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(2) **Use of Outdoor Space**

441 IAC 110.8(2) "b" When there is a swimming or wading pool on the premises:

1. A wading pool shall be drained daily and shall be inaccessible to children when it is not in use.
2. An aboveground or in-ground swimming pool that is not fenced shall be covered whenever the pool is not in use. The cover shall meet or exceed the ASTM International (formerly known as the American Society for Testing and Materials) specification intended to reduce the risk of drowning by inhibiting access to the water by children under five years of age.
3. An uncovered aboveground swimming pool shall be enclosed with an approved fence that is non-climbable and has a minimum height of four feet.
4. An uncovered in-ground swimming pool shall be enclosed with a fence that is non-climbable and is at least four feet high and flush with the ground.

Findings:

1. 110.8(2)b The provider has an above-ground pool. The pool is over 4' tall, but the sides are considered climbable. At the time of the visit the pool cover was on and the ladder was removed, but the cover does not meet ASTM standards.

Suggestions/Recommendations:

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

Heather can be reached at: 563-940-7971.

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

Corrective Action Required:

1. The provider will bring the above-ground pool into compliance by either putting up a non-climbable fence at least 4' high or purchasing and installing a pool cover that meets ASTM standards. The provider signed a safety plan on 11/7/2024 agreeing to either drain the pool entirely or bring the pool up to compliance by 11/22/2024.

The provider texted photos to SW Bailey on 11/17/2024 showing that the pool is now surrounded by a 4' fence with a tarp attached to the fence to make it non-climbable.

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 319-800-4702 or holly.bailey@hhs.iowa.gov if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Holly Bailey

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).