IOWA HHS **Iowa Department of Health And Human Services**

CHILD CARE COMPLIANT

Name of Provider Heather Walker	**County** Scott	
Care Address 1710 Warren ST	**City** Davenport	**Zip Code** 52804
Mailing Address 1710 Warren ST	**Mailing City** Davenport	**Mailing Zip Code** 52804
Phone 563-264-2871	**Email**	

Date of Complaint:	01/18/2024	**Date of Visit:**	01/18/2024

Type of Visit

[ ] Scheduled [X] Unannounced [ ] N/A

Compliance Regulation

[X] Non-Compliance with Regulations Found [ ] Compliance with Regulations Found

Recommendation for Registration:

[X] No Changes to registration status recommended

[ ] Revocation of Registration

[ ] Cancellation of Child Care Assistance Provider Agreement

Category of Care:

[ ] Category A

[X] Category B

[ ] Category C (with no co-provider)

[ ] Category C (with co-provider)

[ ] Non-registered Child Care Home with CCA Provider Agreement

Complaint Details:

Did this complaint result in a serious injury? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Did this complaint result in a death to a child? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Summary of Complaint:

Concerns reported to Department of Health and Human Services that registered day care provider Heather Walker is drinking while caring for children and reportedly locks them in a closet.

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Rule Basis and Findings of Complaint(s):

Code of Iowa, Chapter 237A
441 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 110
441 IAC 110.7(1)a. Provider gives careful supervision at all times.
441 IAC 110.7(1)e. Provider shall be free of the use of illegal drugs and shall not be under the influence of alcohol or of any prescription or non-prescription drug that could impair their ability to give careful supervision.
441 IAC 110.8(6)b,e. Discipline. No punishment is used which is humiliating or frightening, or causes pain or discomfort to the child. Discipline is designed to help the child develop self-control, self-esteem, and respect for the rights of others.

Findings:
On 1/18/24 this worker and HHS worker Gregory Simms met with Heather at her child development home. We discussed the concerns with Heather including drinking during child care hours and locking children in rooms. Heather stated that she does lock one child in a room during naptime. Heather showed HHS worker Simms and this worker the hook and eye lock on the outside of the door where the child naps. Heather stated that she just installed this lock on the door within the last day or two because the 2 1/2 year old kept getting out of the bed and disturbing the other children. Heather reported that the child's parents are aware that she was locking the child in the room during their nap time. This worker spoke with Heather that locking children in rooms is not allowed. We discussed the concerns of a locked room including the child being unable to escape if a fire were to occur and concerns that the provider does not know what is happening behind the locked/closed door. HHS worker Simms reiterated to Heather that she can't lock kids in a room. Heather denied the use of alcohol during child care hours and further stated that she is not and has never been under the influence of alcohol when transporting children. There were no indications during the 1/18/24 visit that Heather was under the influence of alcohol. Heather's approved assistant was present during this visit and stated she has been working for Heather for approximately 8 years and has no concerns regarding Heather using alcohol or locking children in rooms. The assistant was aware that Heather had recently put a lock on the door in an effort to keep the child contained during naptime. Heather stated that prior to this, she has never locked a child in a room before. Heather stated that if a child gets into trouble, she may place them in a crib for a time out, but never in a locked room. Heather agreed to remove the lock from the door and not lock children in any room from here on.

There is not a preponderance of evidence to support the concern that Heather has been under the influence of alcohol while caring for children.
There is a preponderance of evidence to support the concern that Heather has locked a child in a room. This is supported by Heather's admission and observation of the hook and eye lock on the door.

Resolution and Action Required:

A safety plan was completed with Heather on 1/18/24. The plan stated that Heather would remove the lock from the door and would refrain from ever locking children in a room. The lock was removed on 1/18/24 while this worker was present. A follow up visit occurred on 1/25/24. On this date, there were no safety concerns within the home. The lock on the door that was removed on 1/18/24 remained off on 1/25/24.

Consultant's Signature:	Kathy Huinker	**Date of Visit:**	02/13/2024
Supervisor Signature:	Sheila Aunspach	**Date of Visit:**	02/13/2024