Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Audrey Walden

Provider Name: Audrey Walden

Provider No.: 52835

Address: 512 2nd AVE SW, Independence, IA, 50644

E-Mail:

County: Buchanan

Phone Number: 3193348209

☐ 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

Audrey became a Registered childcare provider last year in May of 2025. She had been an approved substitute and assistant for her mother for five years prior. Audrey is not a participant of the IQ4K quality rating system. She does participate in the food program. Audrey is open to caring for children from the ages of infant through school-age. Audrey provides childcare in the main living room and dining room area of her home. She does not currently use any of the bedrooms for any of the childcare. Audrey does have a fenced off space in her back yard for outdoor play, but it is not very big. She does need to have some fenced off space due to a river that runs out back. Audrey does have a park about 1 block away and she noted that they frequently go to the park versus playing in the back yard as it allows for more room for the children. Audrey does not have any pets Audrey does not currently have an approved substitute or assistant but did report she hopes to hire a 16-year-old to be an assistant this summer.

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2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

Audrey had 4 children in care on this date. They were participating in free play while this worker was present. This worker did observe Audrey appropriately re-direct the children as needed.

Audrey does have a variety of toys for the children. She described utilizing free play, circle time and dancing and other activities if the children do not get outside. She did describe frequent trips to the park that is just one block from her home.

Audrey did have all of her documentation in folders that she could easily access and provide to this worker. Audrey's contract/policies were detailed and nicely written.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

110.8 (1) c : Combustible materials are kept away from furnaces, stoves, gas dryers, or water heaters by a minimum of three feet.

Audrey did have laundry laying on the basement floor that was butting up against her hot water heater and furnace. This worker did move those items as I was checking out that area and discuss this issue with Audrey.

*Audrey needs to ensure that combustible materials are kept away from her hot water heater and furnace. This worker encouraged her to have the laundry placed in a basket that is not up against those items versus being thrown on the floor throughout the basement.

110.9(1)b. Certificate for two hours of approved child abuse and neglect mandatory reporter training.

Audrey's mandatory Child Abuse reporter training had expired. She needs to update this.

*Audrey needs to update her MCART. She did update on this same date and sent 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.

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:
Audrey shared that she does not transport the childcare children.
Audrey shared that she does not ever use a swimming pool or any other water play.
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.

As part of the 2026 Targeted compliance the Emergency Preparedness Plan was thoroughly reviewed. Audrey was in compliance with her EPP. Her identified relocation site is current as of this date, but she did note that her neighbor is moving and she will need to identify an alternate site.
She was encouraged to review it at least yearly to ensure that no changes need to be made.

Recommendations:
Audrey 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.

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Although Audrey was not out of compliance as far as the safe condition of the home, this worker did recommend that she sweep her floor. This was not a safety hazard on this date but if she has younger children that might just be crawling and putting things in their mouth, the floor should be cleaner. Audrey agreed and indicated an intention to do that.

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