



Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE COMPLIANT

Name of Provider Stefinie Wilmarth		County Cerro Gordo	
Care Address 1421 N Hampshire AVE		City Mason City	Zip Code 50401
Mailing Address 1421 N Hampshire AVE		Mailing City Mason City	Mailing Zip Code 50401
Phone 641-210-5896		Email	
Date of Complaint:	08/25/2025	Date of Visit:	09/22/2025
Type of Visit			
☒ Scheduled ☐ Unannounced ☐ N/A			
Compliance Regulation			
☒ Non-Compliance with Regulations Found ☐ Compliance with Regulations Found			
Recommendation for Registration:			
☒ No Changes to registration status recommended ☐ Revocation of Registration ☐ Cancellation of Child Care Assistance Provider Agreement			
Category of Care:			
☐ Category A ☒ Category B ☐ Category C (with no co-provider) ☐ Category C (with co-provider) ☐ Non-registered Child Care Home with CCA Provider Agreement			

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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:

The Department received a complaint of a young child in the care of Stefinie Wimarth who was left outside in the back yard unattended without Stefinie realizing he was not in the home. The complaint indicates a lack of careful supervision.

I spoke with and/or reviewed notes from two additional HHS workers familiar with this complaint. Stefinie was outside with the children playing in the back yard. A grandfather of one of the children arrived to pick up his grandchild. Since this grandparent was new to Stefinie, she stepped inside to be sure he was approved to pick-up, and checked his identification. While she stepped inside the house, all the other children except one followed her inside. Stefinie assumed all of the children had come into the home, and proceeded to offer drinks to the children after being outside.

It was at that time that the father to the child still outside arrived to pick him up. He discovered Stefinie didn't realize his child was outside unattended. Stefinie admits she assumed all the children had followed her into the home and did not conduct a head count. Stefinie has since implemented head counts anytime children come inside or outside the home.

Stefinie was appropriately upset with the discovery she had a child outside in the yard without her knowledge. The time outside in the yard appears to be very short in duration.

Rule Basis and Findings of Complaint(s):

Rule:
110.7(1)a "Gives careful supervision at all times."

There was an incident where a young child was outside in the back yard without the provider's knowledge. This incident was accidental, the child was contained in a fenced yard, the timeframe was short in duration, did not result in any injury or fear for the child; but the incident did show a period of non-compliance with careful supervision on that afternoon.

Resolution and Action Required:

The provider has put in a system of regular head-counts whenever coming inside or outside, and moves all of the children inside/outside as a full group. Stefinie and I reviewed careful supervision. No further follow-up is planned at this time.

During the visit, it was discovered the provider had a cage of young chicks under a heat lamp in the living room. These chicks will be moved out into the back yard fenced chicken coup once they are old enough to leave the heat lamp. I reviewed with Stefinie that neither the young chicks nor the outside adult chickens should be accessible to the children. We agreed to move the cage into a non-child care space for their remaining time inside the home. No follow-up planned at this time.

Consultant's Signature:	Earl Crow	Date of Visit:	09/23/2025
Supervisor Signature:	Sheila Aunspach	Date of Visit:	09/23/2025