



## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

**Child Care Complaint**

<b>Name of Provider</b> Mercedes Moeller	<b>County</b> Clay	
<b>Care Address</b> 1604 3rd AVE E	<b>City</b> Spencer	<b>Zip Code</b> 51301
<b>Mailing Address</b> 1604 3rd AVE E	<b>Mailing City</b> Spencer	<b>Mailing Zip Code</b> 51301
<b>Phone</b> 712-330-4954	<b>Email</b>	

<b>Date of Complaint:</b>	06/05/2020	<b>Date of Visit:</b>	08/04/2020
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**Type of Visit**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scheduled	<input type="checkbox"/> Unannounced	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
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**Compliance Regulation**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Compliance with Regulations Found	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance with Regulations Found
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**Recommendation for Registration:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Changes to registration status recommended
<input type="checkbox"/> Revocation of Registration
<input type="checkbox"/> Cancellation of Child Care Assistance Provider Agreement

**Category of Care:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Category A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Category B
<input type="checkbox"/> Category C (with no co-provider)
<input type="checkbox"/> Category C (with co-provider)
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-registered Child Care Home with CCA Provider Agreement

**Complaint Details:**

Did this complaint result in a serious injury?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Did this complaint result in a death to a child?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of Complaint:**

It is alleged that on Wednesday 05/27/2020 a child, age 1, received a black eye while in the daycare home of Sadie Moeller.

It is alleged that another child, age 2, has marks on his ankles that he received while in the daycare home of Sadie Moeller during the week of 05/25/2020 through 05/29/2020.

Further concerns brought to the attention of DHS are that Sadie Moeller's use of a substitute/assistant was not DHS authorized and communication between the provider and the parents was poor.

**Rule Basis and Findings of Complaint(s):**

110.8(6) Discipline.

a Corporal punishment including spanking, shaking, and slapping is not used.

110.9(2) An individual file is maintained for each staff assistant:

a Documentation from the Department confirming record checks have been completed and authorizing or limiting the person's involvement with child care.

110.9(3) An individual file is maintained for each substitute and contains:

a Documentation from the Department confirming record checks have been completed and authorizing or limiting the person's involvement with child care.

110.7(1) The provider meets the following requirements:

a Gives careful supervision at all times.

b Frequently exchanges information with the parent of each child to enhance the quality of care,

c Gives consistent, dependable care.

Is capable of handling emergencies.

d is present at all times, except if emergencies occur or an absence is planned.

If absence is planned, care is provided by a DHS-approved substitute.

If absence is planned, the parents are given at least 24 hours prior notice.

Due to frequent illnesses and the presence of COVID-19 in the home I was not able to meet in person with Sadie to discuss the above complaints. I spoke with Sadie via telephone on 08/04/20 at 2:00PM in order to address the complaint. Sadie reports she did not notice any injuries on the children when they left her home on 8/27/20. She received a text from the children's mother that night asking about the bruise under the child's eye, of which Sadie denied having any knowledge. She did notice a small mark under the child's eye the next morning when they arrived for daycare. Sadie further reports the mother never asked her about any marks on the other child's leg and only learned of this when informed of it by DHS. Sadie denies any knowledge of any injuries these children received in her home and denies any use of physical discipline.

In regard to the other allegations, Sadie reports that at no time during her pregnancy did she leave Wyatt in charge of the children. She was always in the room with them. She further denies that Wyatt ever laid the children down for naps without feeding them lunch. She states lunch is always served at noon everyday before they are laid down for naps and at no times was Wyatt in charge of either.

**Resolution and Action Required:**

Sadie denies all allegations made against her and Wyatt. There is currently no evidence that I know of that confirms any of the allegations. As a result, I am recommending no changes to Sadie Moeller's registration. I reviewed with Sadie DHS guidelines for discipline in a child care setting and she indicated her understanding.

An annual compliance check will take place in the upcoming weeks in order to further assess the situation.

<b>Consultant's Signature:</b>	Dave Jaehrling	<b>Date of Visit:</b>	08/04/2020
<b>Supervisor Signature:</b>	Anne Matthai	<b>Date of Visit:</b>	08/04/2020