Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Darlene Burkett

Provider Name: Darlene Burkett

Provider No.: 27790

Address: 1369 Idaho ST, Des Moines, IA, 50316

E-Mail:

County: Polk

Phone Number: 5152660807

- [ ] Pre-Inspection Date:
- [ ] Approval Date:
- [X] Annual Visit Date: 9/2/2026

Program Type:

- [ ] Registered Child Development Home A (guidelines for ratios on all categories)
- [ ] Registered Child Development Home B
- [ ] Registered Child Development Home C
- [X] Registered Child Development Home C1
- [ ] Non Registered Child Care Homes accepting CCA

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0<24 mos)
- [ ] Toddler
- [ ] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [X] All Ages

1. Basic Overview

Darlene Burkett has been a registered childcare provider since May of 2008. Currently Darlene is a category "C2" Child Development Provider. The co-provider is Marah Smith, her granddaughter. This category allows them to have 14 preschool children in care with an additional 2 school aged children for a total of 16 children in care at one time when both providers are present. If one provider is present 8 children can be in care at one time. Darlene is available for childcare 7 days a week 24 hours a day. There are no pets in the Child Development Home. Darlene does not provide transportation for families in her care.

2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

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The home has dedicated spaces which are furnished with children's furniture, toys, books, and cribs. There are toys and objects which encourage children to develop large and small motor skills. The providers follow a structured routine which children can predict their environment and activities. The children have group activities, free-play, and access to media. There is a large, fenced front yard the children in care have access to when the weather allows. Both providers have completed their required trainings as reviewed by the Registration Unit. Both providers have completed Safe Sleep training; this worker reviewed the policy with them and gave her an informational flyer. Both providers will implement the practice when they have children 12 months or younger in her care. Both providers use time out and redirection as their primary behavioral interventions when needed. Corporal punishment is not practiced in the Child Development Home. Children in their.care will receive regular meals and snacks as appropriate. The provider files and child files are complete, organized, and easily accessible.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

110.8 (4) b : Procedures are in place for:Evacuation to safely leave the facility,Relocation to a common, safe location after evacuation,Shelter-in-place to take immediate shelter where the child is when it is unsafe to leave that location due to the emergent issue,Lock down to protect children and providers from an external situation,Communication and reunification with families,Continuity of operations, andProcedures to address the needs of individual children, including those with functional or access needs.
110.9 (1) a : Within six months of becoming registered, a physical exam report documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report, for all household members over the age of 18. Physical exams should be repeated every three years.

1. An Emergency Preparedness Plan needs to be completed and easily accessible. This worker has made referral to your Child Care Resource and Referral Worker to assist you with completing the plan. Please send this worker a copy of the completed plan within 30 days of receiving this letter.
Have procedures in place for the following:
• Evacuation to safely leave the facility
• Relocation to a common, safe location after evacuation
• Shelter-in-place to take immediate shelter where you are when it is unsafe to leave that location due to the emergent issue
• Lock down protocol to protect children and providers from an external situation
• Communication plan and plans for reunification with families
• Plans for the continuity of operations
• Procedures to address the needs of individual children, including those with functional or access needs

2. Marah needs to have a current DHHS Medical Provider Form in the provider file. This worker left a blank form for her to take to her medical provider.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

None.

5. Special Notes/recommendations

I encourage you to work with your Child Resource and Referral Worker (Roxana Sixtos 515-202-1310) with any compliance or training efforts.

The above corrections need to be completed by 11/5/2026 unless otherwise noted and will be reviewed on your next annual compliance check.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 515-601-9469 or jake.aringdale@hhs.iowa.gov.

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HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Jake Aringdale Date: 9/2/2026

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