Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE ANNUAL EVALUATION

Business Name: Leigh Gearhart

Provider Name: Leigh Gearhart

Provider No.: 27145

Address: 1200 E 18th ST, Norwalk, IA, 50211

E-Mail:

County: Warren

Phone Number: 5156647052

- [ ] Pre-Inspection Date:
- [ ] Approval Date:
- [X] Annual Visit Date: 11/13/2025

Program Type:

- [ ] Registered Child Development Home A (guidelines for ratios on all categories)
- [X] 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
- [X] All Ages

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1. Basic Overview

Leigh Gearhart has been a childcare provider for over 25 years. She currently has 7 to 8 children daily in her care. The provider discussed that the children mostly have free play time while in her care. They will do crafts occasionally and will use music to get the kids moving too. The backyard is large and offers running room and outdoor toys.

2. Identify Observed Strengths Of The Program

The provider has bins of toys that are interesting to compliance staff. These bins hold pieces to make an ice patch to place penguins on to slide and another is a pride set-up with lions to climb on rocks. These are new to compliance staff and the children really seem to enjoy these items.

When compliance staff arrived, the children were all playing with toys. The provider was accessible to all of the children during the visit. They approached her with ease to get help.

3. Identify The Aspects That Fall Below The Standard

The provider was in full compliance with regulation standards.

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

5. Special Notes/recommendations

Compliance staff shared emergency preparedness planning information and current legislative updates.

The provider asked compliance staff about autism supports in the community. Compliance staff is not well versed in this community, but reached out to CCR&R consultant Kelly Phelps to contact the provider about community supports within the Norwalk/Des Moines area.

HHS Child Development
Home Compliance Worker: Stacy Burris Date: 11/17/2025

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 Kelly Phelps 515-802-7292