



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND ADULT LICENSING



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GOVERNOR

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July 11, 2006

Dawn Ames
3422 White Aspen Lane
Muskegon, MI 49444

RE: Registration # DF610248008
Dawn Ames
3422 White Aspen Lane
Muskegon, MI 49444

Dear Ms. Ames:

This letter is a follow-up to the Agency's findings regarding the 10% sample inspection conducted at your home on 07/10/2006. The purpose of this inspection was to determine compliance with applicable licensing statutes and administrative rules for Family and Group Day Care Homes.

A. Description of Facility

This family childcare home is located on the southeast side of Muskegon with North Star being the closest cross street. The home is a one-story wood-framed structure with a basement. The kitchen, living room, dining area, and 2 bedrooms at the end of the hall are approved as childcare use space. There is a bathroom on the main floor that is available for children to use. The large open room in the basement is approved as childcare use space. There are no fireplaces or wood-burning stoves in the family childcare home.

The fenced backyard is the designated outdoor play area. There are 2 wooden stationary play structures. There is a decorative pond in the backyard that is accessible to daycare children. The water hazard need to either be removed or appropriately safe guarded to prevent children from accessing it.

The Registrant has a dog.

There is an adequate amount and variety of toys and learning activities. The Registrant has held 2 previous certificates of registration at a previous address. The Registrant works with a food program. The Registrant does not have current CPR and First Aid certification. The Registrant provides care for children between the ages of birth and 17 years and is open Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

B. Rule/Statutory Violations

The violations that were found are:

R 400.1944 Smoke detectors; fire extinguishers.

(3) A home shall have at least 1 functioning multipurpose fire extinguisher, with a rating of 2A-10BC or larger, properly mounted not higher than 5 feet from the floor to the top of the fire extinguisher, on each floor level that is used by children in care.

The tops of the fire extinguishers on both the main floor and in the basement were mounted higher than 5 feet from floor level. Both fire extinguishers are located behind doors and out of sight. Therefore, the doors need to be labeled indication the location of the fire extinguishers.

R 400.1916 Bedding and sleeping equipment.

(9) Children 12 to 24 months of age shall rest or sleep alone in an approved crib, porta-crib, or on a cot or mat sufficient for the child's length, size, and movement.

(10) Infant car seats, infant seats, infant swings, bassinets, highchairs, waterbeds, adult beds, soft mattresses, sofas, beanbags, or other soft surfaces are not approved sleeping equipment for children 24 months of age or younger.

At the onset of the onsite inspection, a 5-month-old child was sleeping in a stroller. Per licensing rules for childcare homes, it is never acceptable for a child under the age of 12 months to sleep anywhere except an approved crib or porta-crib both indoors and outdoors. This also means that it is unacceptable to hold a child under the age of 12 months while he/she is sleeping.

R 400.1918 Medication; administrative procedures.

(2) Medication, prescription or nonprescription, shall be given or applied only with prior written permission from a parent.

The above-required written permission was not on file for nonprescription topical medications.

R 400.1920 Outdoor play area and equipment.

(5) When swings, climbers, slides, and other similar play equipment with a designated play surface above 30 inches are

used, they shall:

- (a) Not be placed over concrete, asphalt, or a similar surface, such as hard-packed dirt or grass.

The wooden swing set was placed over hard-packed dirt and grass.

R 400.1921 Water hazards and water activities.

- (1) The caregiver shall ensure that barriers exist to prevent children from gaining access to any swimming pool, drainage ditch, well, natural or constructed pond or other body of open water located on or adjacent to the property where the child care home is located. Such barriers shall be of a minimum of 4 feet in height and appropriately secured to prevent children from gaining access to such areas.

There was a decorative pond in the backyard that did not have a 4-foot barrier to prevent children from accessing it.

R 400.1923 Diapering and toilet learning.

- (2) The designated changing area shall comply with all of the following:
 - (a) Be used exclusively for changing wet or soiled diapers or underwear.
 - (b) Be located away from food preparation and meal service areas.
 - (c) Have access to a hand-washing sink that is not used for food preparation.
 - (d) Have a nonabsorbent, easily sanitized surface with a changing pad between the child and the surface.
 - (e) Be cleaned and sanitized after each use.
 - (f) Have diapering/changing supplies within easy reach.
 - (g) Have a plastic-lined, tightly covered container exclusively for disposable diapers and diapering supplies that shall be emptied and sanitized at the end of each day.

During the onsite inspection, a child's diaper was changed on an absorbent sofa with a disposable changing pad between the child and the absorbent sofa. A plastic, vinyl, or disposable changing pad needs to be placed between the child and a hard nonabsorbent surface that is exclusively used for changing diapers.

The diaper-changing table in the basement had a changing pad that was covered with an absorbent material. There was no hand-washing sink accessible to the basement diaper-changing table.

There was no plastic-lined, tightly covered container exclusively for disposable diapers and diapering supplies.

R 400.1932 Home maintenance and safety.

(2) All dangerous and hazardous materials or items shall be stored securely and out of the reach of children.

Plastic bags, food wrap boxes with sharp edges, and cleaning chemicals were stored in the kitchen within the reach of children.

R 400.1941 Heat-producing equipment.

(2) Combustible materials and equipment shall not be stored within 4 feet of furnaces, other flame or heat-producing equipment, or fuel-fired water heaters.

Wooden and plastic items were stored within 4 feet of the furnace and hot water heater.

R 400.1943 Exit and escape requirements for each floor level used by children.

(11) Steps and platforms used to access a basement window exit shall be permanently secured to the wall or floor. Ladders shall not be used as a means for exiting. Those homes registered or licensed before the effective date of these rules shall have 1 year to comply.

The remote basement window did not have steps and a platform for children to use in order to get up to the level where they can access the window for emergency exiting.

R 400.1943 Exit and escape requirements for each floor level used by children.

(3) A window may be used as a second exit if it complies with all of the following provisions:
(b) Is clearly identified.

The remote secondary emergency exit window in the basement was not labeled with an exit sign.

Violations were identified at the time of the inspection. You have provided an acceptable written corrective action plan.

A follow-up inspection may be made to verify compliance. Should the corrections not be made in the specified time, it may be necessary to reevaluate the status of your certificate of registration.

The Agency provides technical assistance to meet the licensing requirements and consultation to improve services.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please feel free to contact the local office at (616) 356-0100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chad Crummel".

Chad Crummel, Licensing Consultant
Office of Children and Adult Licensing
Unit 13, 7th Floor
350 Ottawa, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503