Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: The Tree House at Northview **Enrollment:** 223 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46653

Street: 205 NW 18th ST **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50023 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 2401 W 1st ST, Ankeny, IA, 50023

Director's Name: Mindy Seeman/Missey Michel **Phone Number:** 515-965-5505

On-Site Supervisor(s): Amanda Zust/Sammi Orndorff **E-Mail:** melinda@treehouseglc.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-12-2023

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 03-01-2022

FIRE INSPECTION **State** X **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 11-03-2022

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	48	24	151		223
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2022 to 04-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Debbie Hammer **Date:** 05-03-2023

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 4/12/23. The Director Missey was present throughout the visit, as well as on-site supervisors, Amanda Zust and Sammi Orndorff.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

This center is located on the northeast side of Ankeny. It was built specifically to be a child care center, and opened on 2-1-16. This is one of four centers owned and operated by two sisters, Mindy Seeman and Missey Michel. They are both qualified to be directors. They both taught in elementary school and were finding children were not coming prepared with some basic academic and social skills, and they thought they could address these issues if they could work with children younger than school age. They bought their first center in 2008, and opened up a small school age only program in 2014 and a second school age only program in 2018.

This center provides care for infants up to preschool age children. Since opening their second school age only program last school year, this center no longer provides for all day school age care. They are open from 6:30 am-6:00 pm.

Each site has at least one on-site supervisor; the larger centers have two on-site supervisors. Amanda Zust and Sammi Orndorff are the on-site supervisors at this center and both meet qualifications for this position. Amanda has a Bachelor's degree in Health Studies and prior daycare experience. Sammi has an associate’s degree in early childhood education as well as several years of experience in a childcare setting.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Missey and Mindy believe their strength is getting children educationally ready for school. They both have a background in teaching elementary school, and they know what skills children should have when entering kindergarten. They know what the Ankeny Schools expect children to know when they start, and The Tree House strives to meet those expectations.

The curriculum is well rounded and developed by the center. The center uses the foundation of the Creative Curriculum for lesson plans.

The staff work well together, they are very professional, and proud of what they do. The staff support each other and work to develop relationships with families.

Missey and Mindy do lots of little things to let their staff know how appreciated they are.

The center has a strong reputation in the community and enrollment is always high.

The center has good communication with families and sends out a monthly newsletter. The center knows their families well and establishes a good rapport with families and the children they serve.

The classrooms are well furnished and well supplied. The classrooms are clean and allow for ease of movement and play.

The center has a secure entrance.

The administrative team works well together and they are a strong team.

The center has stayed resilient during the pandemic and their enrollment is back to pre-pandemic numbers. The administrative team believes they have become stronger as a team during the pandemic and stronger as a center.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

109.6(6)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
One staff file reviewed did not have a repeat SING check at the two year mark.

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
Number not in compliance: 2
One staff file reviewed did not contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire, this was completed 7 months after hire. One staff file reviewed did not have a repeat physical at the three year mark, the last physical was from January of 2020.

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Number not in compliance: 1
One staff file reviewed did not have a current certification in CPR/First aid.

109.10(3)a: All medications shall be stored in original containers with physician or pharmacist directions. Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child's name.
A prescription medication was not stored in the original container with a label for physician or pharmacist directions.

109.10(3)c: For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription.
Two prescription medications at the center did not have the parent/guardian authorization to administer the medication, and one medication had expired in June of 2022.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is now required every five years if radon testing is under 4.0. The center last completed radon testing in November of 2022 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The menus reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines.

The center will ensure all prescription medication is stored in the original container with the label, and that the medication authorization form is signed for all medications. The center will ensure all medications are not expired.

The center will ensure all staff files are up to date with current certificates and background checks completed timely, as well as staff physicals.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.