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

Name of Center: Helping Hands Preschool & Childcare Inc **Enrollment:** 50 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30125

Street: 4405 Central ST **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51108 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 4405 Central ST, Sioux City, IA, 51108

Director's Name: Amanda Wragge **Phone Number:** 712-239-0515

On-Site Supervisor(s): Joann Solis **E-Mail:** hhpreschoolandchildcare@yahoo.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-05-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 07-07-2022

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

Date Inspected: 06-05-2023

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 X School-Age

Get-Well X Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	19	23	44	23	109
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2024 to 09-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 05-01-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was made on 04-05-24 and spoke with the director/owner, Amanda Wragge. Amanda Wragg has an associate degree in child care supervision and child care development and several years experience working with children. Also at the time of the visit spoke with Amanda's daughter Alyssa Boisen. Helping Hands Preschool and Child Care is located in a section of the old Hawthorne elementary school. The center serves children infants to school age(10) Monday through Friday 5:00 am to 6:00 pm. The center has cameras in all the rooms that can be viewed from the office.

There are 50 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit only 21 children were present. All areas of the program were observed. The areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in cleaning toys daily that children use. The program is on IQ4K level 3 and also uses the Bright Wheel App.

Infant room (orange room), children have access to a diaper changing table. Observed staff holding children and playing with the infants on floor and interacting with the children and talking to the children. Good sanitary procedures were observed in this room. Staff had good interactions with the infants throughout the day. Staff members did hop over a gate and is recommended not to do so due to safety for the staff/kids in the room. Also, a reminder for staff to wash child's hands after diapering and clean changing table in between diapering. Also children over the age of two should not be in the infant rooms.

The center has the following areas throughout the room for the children to explore and learn: kitchen, toys, books, legos and puzzles. There was a sufficient amount of toys and equipment in this room. Toys were accessible to the children. There is a bathroom and sink in the room. Good room arrangement and child size furniture. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were numbers, colors, children's artwork and the alphabet. In the 3 year old room some of the children are not potty trained. The program needs to add a changing table into the room and a separate garbage can for diapering.

Center Nutrition Practices Observed
Meals are prepared onsite in a large kitchen that is inaccessible to the children. Refrigerator and freezer is clean and kept at the appropriate temperature. Good food storage practices were observed. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. The center participates in the CACFP program. Menus were posted.

Center Health & Safety
Medication is stored out of reach of the children. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit needed to be updated to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon tests are complete. Center is all electric. All program areas were observed to be clean. Good health and safety policies /procedures are in place.

Center Playground
The center updated their playground in 2023 with grant dollars. The playground areas are located adjacent to the building.

There are 2 playgrounds. A toddler playground which both have turf. They have playhouses, climbing equipment on the playground. Turf surfacing is around all the play equipment. Shade is available on the playground by one tree and two added shade structures. The older kids have a basketball court also. The air conditioners next to the building should have a barrier around them for safety of the children.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
The center has three vans for transporting the children to school and for field trips. Parent permission forms are completed for children who leave the center for field trips. The center has van maintenance records.

Goals the center has: PBIS training for staff and more curriculm, and work with staff in the school age room with implementing their lesson plans more. Continue with improvements of the center with adding school age rooms, continue with staff training's to improve quality of the center as well as structure as have newer staff.

Strengths of the center are center is flexible and try and work with staff needing time off. Director feels staff work well together as a team. Ongoing trainings for staff are completed by calendar year. Incorporated a day of staff professional development trainings to where they had closed the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center is on the IQ4K(Iowa Quality for Kids) level 3 out of 5 which has taken the place of QRS.

Center continues to update areas in the facility.

The center is on the federal food program.

The centers menus have a four week rotation.

Center has large rooms for the children to move around in.

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

109.10(8): Children’s hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children’s hands shall be washed:Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity. After using the restroom or being diapered. After handling animals.

109.11(2): A safe and properly equipped area is provided for infants that does not allow for intrusion by children over two years of age.
Children over age two who remain in the infant area are placed at the recommendation of a physician or AEA due to a significant developmental delay. Children are placed for a limited time with DHS approval if doing so does not pose a threat to the infants.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
Staff should not hop over the gate, a barrier needs to be put around the air conditioning unit on the playground.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please provide a written response that items needing corrected have been completed by 06-07-24.

A full license is recommended at this time at this time..

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.