

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

Name of Center: MICA Head Start-High Street **Enrollment:** 50 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16512

Street: 206 W High St **City:** Marshalltown **Iowa Zip** 50158 **County:** Marshall

Mailing Address: 1001 S 18th Ave, Marshalltown, IA, 50158

Director's Name: Nicole Ramirez **Phone Number:** 641-691-7046

On-Site Supervisor(s): Chris Nason **E-Mail:** nicole.ramirez@micaonline.org

Date(s) of Visit: 07-21-2020

X **Licensing Visit** X **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:** 05-11-2020

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

Date Inspected: 05-01-2018

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: Accredited X NAEYC NSACA Other 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:	<u>Year-round</u>		<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>	
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	10	10	40		60
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 06-01-2020 to 06-01-2022
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Debbie Hammer

Date: 08-24-2020

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A full licensing visit was conducted on 7/21/20.

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 is one of the Head Start programs offered through MICA. The administrative office is located in Marshalltown. Carrie Soddors is the Program Director and has been with MICA for many years and meets the 100 points required to be a director. Listed as the director at all the sites is Nicole Ramirez, who is the Early Childhood Programs Coordinator. She too has been with MICA for many years and meets the 100 points to be director. Each site has a lead teacher who meets the 100 points. Chris Nason is listed as the on-site director. Carrie, Nicole, and Chris all have four year college degrees plus several years of experience of working for MICA.

This building was constructed in 2002 specifically for Head Start. This site is a year round program, only stopping for approximately two weeks in August. They provide care to children starting at six weeks up through age five. There are four enclosed classrooms. Children attend Monday-Friday. The hours of operation are 6:30 am-4:30 pm.

Due to the coronavirus this center closed on the 20th of March and re-opened on the 29th of June.. Some children are not attending in person services but are still being engaged by the teachers. The EHS classrooms are not doing rotating schedules, the children can come every day. For preschool, the children are divided up into A and B groups. A group comes on Mondays and Tuesdays; B group comes on Thursdays and Fridays. There is currently no preschool classes on Wednesdays. This allows for there to be a more in depth cleaning between the 2 groups of children

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Each classroom has at least one bilingual staff person.

This site has their NAEYC Accreditation which is good until Aug. 2021. This site is looking into QRS and applying for a QRS rating in the near future.

This site provides both Early Head Start programming and Head Start programming which is a benefit to families in the area.

This site usually provides a higher ratio standard than what is required by State licensing.

All of the lead teachers have a degree; either an Associates degree or a Bachelors degree in Early Childhood, or credits toward an Early Childhood degree.

The children are ready for kindergarten when they leave this program.

The staff are professional and are invested in providing good, quality care.

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

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 18 months are only placed outside the infant area if appropriate to the developmental needs of the child. 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.

The infant room had children who had turned 2 years of age in with children who were under 18 months of age.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.

In a preschool classroom a bucket of bleach water was on a shelving unit that was accessible and within reach of the children. This bucket did not have a lid and children could have pulled the bleach water over and on top of themselves or other children.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was completed on 10/14/19. All rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff. Radon testing is due every two years.

Discussion took place with the teacher in the preschool room regarding the bleach water and that this needed to be moved to another location that was not accessible to the children. This was also discussed with Nicole.

Discussion took place regarding children over the age of two being placed in the infant room. Nicole advised a barrier has been placed in this classroom and said this barrier is put up when they have children who have turned two, but have not yet moved out of the infant room. The barrier separates the infants from the children who are two years old. Nicole advised that with everything going on currently, this was overlooked. This consultant advised the staff in this room of the regulation.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.