Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: New Opportunities, Inc Head Start - Jefferson

Provider No.: 52261

Address: 306 S Vine St, Jefferson, IA, 50129

County: Greene

Director's Name: Tonya Weber

On-Site Supervisor: Sandy Day

Phone Number: 5153862092

E-Mail: tweber@newopp.org

HHS Visit Date: 10/30/2025

Licensing Period: 12/01/2025 to 12/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/20/2023

Comments: State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years per licensing regulations.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 2

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday			
Tuesday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Wednesday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Thursday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Friday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	34	0	34
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

A licensing inspection was conducted on 10/30/25. The on-site supervisor was present throughout the visit as were three other classroom staff members.

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

New Opportunities Inc, Head Start Jefferson is a program located in a classroom of The Children's Center located in Jefferson, IA. The program was given permission to open on 8/28/23. The program serves children ages three through five years in age during the school year. Classes are held Tuesday - Friday either in the AM (8:00am - 11:30am) or PM (12:00pm - 3:00pm). The center uses the Creative Learning Curriculum. The capacity of the classroom is 34 children. Enrollment is currently 27 children.

The center is non-profit and overseen by a Board. Tonya Weber is the director of this program as well as all of the other New Opportunities programs. Tonya has a BA and a Master's degree. Tonya has past experience working in child care and has been the director over all of the New Opportunities programs for quite some time. Sandy Day is the on-site supervisor at this location. Sandy has a CDA and also has past experience working in child care and the school district.

During the visit, children, the AM children were observed eating lunch, then washing their hands, and finally dismissing for the day. Later, the PM class arrived. The first thing children did when arriving was to wash their hands. Children then sat down for lunch. Staff were sitting at the table with children as they ate. Meals are served family style. Toys and other

equipment are being sanitized daily.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This is a newer program that meets a need in the community. Enrollment remains steady.

The director has a lot of experience working in child care. The director is also the director over all of the New Opportunities Head Start programs. All of the programs run in similar fashion and have continuity.

Staff and child files were nicely organized.

The center uses an electronic application for extra communication with parents. Special events and activities are held throughout the year to keep parents involved and updated on their children's activities, progress, learning, etc.

Weekly and monthly staff meetings are held (with all staff and at times within the different programs).

Staff reportedly work well together.

The program has good community partnerships.

Children receive free dental, vision, and hearing tests. Children also receive home visits and there are parent teacher conferences.

A radon mitigation system was installed over the past year.

The program participates in IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

The classroom was nicely decorated and children's projects were also displayed.

A new playground is being installed and should be ready to use in the near future.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

No below standards were identified at this year's inspection.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center is located within a classroom of The Children's Center (formerly known as Greene County ELC). This is a brand new building that was built in 2022.

Radon testing was completed again completed 9/26/25 - 9/29/25. Radon levels were below the 4.0 cutoff in this classroom. A radon mitigation system was installed in 2025. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual HVAC inspection on file was from 10/2/24. The director of The Children's Center stated this was again completed within the past two weeks and she is waiting for the inspection form.

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The center does go on field trips and they either walk or contract with the school district for transportation. The program will also bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

For nutrition, The Children's Center provides children breakfast and lunch. The local school district provides PM snacks. All food storage was sufficient. Family style dining is practiced.

I-Power was again discussed at the visit. Staff should continue to upload their training certificates into I-Power.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. The director stated the application and payment was sent in on 10/17/25.

Date: 10/30/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

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 **https://iowaccrr.org**.