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

Name of Center: Carousel Preschool and Daycare **Enrollment:** 57 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 29230

Street: 3575 Zenith Ave **City:** Spirit Lake Iowa **Zip** 51360 **County:** Dickinson

Mailing Address: 3575 Zenith Ave, Spirit Lake, IA, 51360

Director's Name: Darcy Sundall **Phone Number:** 712-339-5947

On-Site Supervisor(s): Brianna Nattress **E-Mail:** darcysundall@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 06-09-2023

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:** 05-26-2021

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

Date Inspected: 07-29-2020

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*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	24	10	23		57
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2023 to 07-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 06-09-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited center on 06-09-23 and spoke with Director, Darcy Sundall. Carousel Preschool & Daycare is owned and operated by Darcy Sundall. Darcy Sundall has a four year degree and many years experience working with children. The program moved into their building in August 2020 which was built specifically for childcare. There are four rooms; infant, 1 year old, 2& 3 year old and 4-5 year old. A fenced in playground area is located next to the building. The playground is designed with a nature theme and has been certified as one. The center provides year round preschool to children ages 3 & 4. The center provides care for 6 weeks to Kindergarten. The center operates Monday through Friday 6:15am to 5:30pm.

There are 57 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit there were 37 children present. 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. The center continues in following all guidelines put forth by DHS regarding the corona-virus and doing everything they can to support their staff and families. The center has been cleaning toys daily that children use.

The center has the following areas throughout the rooms for the children to explore and learn: blocks, books, toys, games and puzzles. The center uses the creative curriculum and high scope. They have their daily schedule of activities posted. Children have access to bathrooms. In August 2021, the center rearranged rooms due to 4year old preschool program going to the schools all day. They have an infant to 10 month, 10 months to 2years, 2/3 year old room, and 3/4 year old room. The center had applied for the IPPP grant to help with improvements to the center; pave parking lot, range hood for kitchen, expanded the nature playground, infant playground as well as new equipment/toys for the center.

The center also added newer flooring in some areas, tiling on walls to help protect walls from scratches, and landscaping and adding several trees. The center uses the pro-care app for parents to sign children in, billing, and communication with families.

Refrigerator is clean and kept at the appropriate temperature. Food storage practices observed need to improve. The center is not on the food program at this time. Even though they are not on the food program currently they follow CACFP guidelines for nutrition. Menus were posted. Nutritious meals and snacks are made onsite in a kitchen that is inaccessible to the children.

Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. However, at this time there is no child on meds. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon test was in normal range. Annual heating inspection are complete. Good sanitary procedures are followed. Center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Good health and safety policies /procedures are in place.

Center Playground

The center has a large fenced-in playground for 2 and up and an infant/toddler playground. Playground is designed to be a nature playground. It has a nice shelter area for shade for the 2 and up playground but need a shade structure for the infant/toddler playground. The surfacing for the infant area is turf. There is a swing set and climbing structure on the 2 and up playground which has rubber mulch for surfacing. The center does have a riding area for kids to ride bikes or cars, sandbox, and various nature areas for the children to explore. They also have an fenced in area that adjoins to the 3 and up playground that was recently updated as a nature playground. They are continuing to add to both playground.
Center does not transport they walk to go on field trips in the area.

Goals of the center are to apply for IQ4K(Quality Rating System) for the center. Look at expanding and adding a 2nd building for 2 year olds to school age, add a garden area, complete and asphalt parking area for staff, staff getting their CDA's, and find quality in person trainings for staff.

Strengths of the center is that staff works well as a team and feel like they are a family. Center tries to have staff do extra training's beyond the required training's. A lot of community support from families and businesses in the community. The center focus's on the social emotional for the kids and let them lead on the things they want to do. They utilize 2nd step for discipline which helps the child problem solve.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center emails the parents a newsletter each week regarding what is happening at the daycare that week.

Staff at the center are well educated and have been there for a few years,

Staff had good interaction with the children and engaged in the children activities. Each room has a daily schedule and curriculum which were being implemented at the time of the visit.

Center is interested in getting on IQ4K.

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

109.7(3): During their first three months of employment, all staff shall receive the following training: Two hours of Iowa's training for mandatory reporting of child abuse. At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control. Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained. Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained. Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the department.
3 staff did not complete essential trainings within 90 days of employment.

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: 2

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Number not in compliance: 1

109.15(5): Food preparation and storage procedures are consistent with NHSPS.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Director needs to email consultant by 07-15-23 confirming that those items that fall below standards have been corrected.

A full license is recommended 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.