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

Name of Center: Yellow Brick Road Early Childhood Development Ctr **Enrollment:** 154 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52001

Street: 2860 SE Grimes BLVD **City:** Grimes Iowa **Zip** 50111 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 756 9th ST, Des Moines, IA, 50309

Director's Name: Bridgett Smith **Phone Number:** 515-494-8830

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lizzy Sellner **E-Mail:** Smith@ybrecdc.org kylie.schrader@ybrecdc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 01-13-2023

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:** 09-30-2022

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

Date Inspected: 02-19-2020

Comments : Fie inspections are due at least every three years. The fire marshal is scheduled to inspect the center after re-modeling is completed.

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 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	34	18	62	36	150
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2022 to 02-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Debbie Hammer **Date:** 02-14-2023

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 1/13/23. The director and regional director were present throughout the visit.

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.

Yellow Brick Road purchased this Tender Years Center, and the other 5 Tender Years Centers that were owned by Paula Eichinger in October of 2022. The curriculum will remain the same at this time, and a new curriculum called Funny Daffer will be added soon. Funny Daffer is a curriculum designed by Yellow Brick Road and assists in lesson planning and ideas. This center will now be named Yellow Brick Road. The new owners are Jessica Johnsen and Kylie Schrader. Jessica and Kylie own centers in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota. They are not a corporation.

The director and on-site supervisor remain the same. Bridgett Smith is the Director, beginning in this role officially in the winter of 2021. Bridgett was the On-Site Supervisor, she has her CDA and worked for Tender Years for 14 years before taking on the role of director. Elizabeth (Lizzy) Sellner is the On-Site Supervisor, beginning in this role in December of 2021. Lizzy worked for Tender Years in Grimes for 8 years prior to becoming the On-Site Supervisor. Both meet qualifications for their positions. Jamie Balentine is the Regional Director.

This building first opened for childcare under the previous ownership in February of 2014.

The center provides care for children who are infants up to and including school age children. They offer full and part time care. They are open from 6:00 am-6:00 pm. Children are separated into 7 classrooms according to their ages, plus there is an open area used for play throughout the day. The center uses the Learn Everyday Curriculum and will be slowly incorporating the Funny Daffer curriculum.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director feels she has a good team of staff working at the center. The staff are devoted, energetic and on time to work. The staff communicate well with families and have good interactions with the children. The children respond well to the staff.

There are many long term staff at the center, with staff at 9 years, 8 years, 6 years and 3 years. The Director has been at the center for 15 years.

Twelve staff are currently in the TEACH program working toward a CDA and higher degrees.

The center director has assisted staff in the WAGES program.

The director feels as though the center provides a family environment and atmosphere for the children.

The center has a Website and they send out monthly newsletters with updates every couple of weeks if needed.

The center has a secure entrance.

There are staff profiles on each classroom door for the staff working in that classroom. This allows for parents to get to know the staff better and know which staff is in the classroom. There are professional staff pictures posted in the entryway.

The center has high enrollment. Their enrollment includes part time, which is a benefit to families.

The center purchased walkie talkie's and this has helped with communication between staff.

The parents are appreciative of the center and happy with the care their children receive.

The director and staff have worked hard to establish and maintain relationships and strong communication with families and children.

The new owners are a strong support for the center.

The center will be getting an App called Kangaroo time and will use this app for daily notes and real time communication with families. The center will be getting tablets for every classroom. The Funny Daffer curriculum will be on the tablets as well.

All of the staff have taken the Passport training and the director is working toward applying for an IQ4K rating of 3 stars.

The center will be receiving upgrades and remodeling. A wall be added for an office and the wall in the infant classroom will be taken down to allow for one large infant classroom. The area for the school age children will become one large classroom and fully enclosed. The center will have new flooring and paint throughout and classrooms will receive new shelving units. New toilets and sinks with a vanity will be put in both bathrooms. The kitchen will have a new refrigerator and stove. The playground will receive new surfacing in the summer.

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

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.
One child file did not have an update since August of 2021.

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: One child file reviewed did not contain any information for a preferred dentist.

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, 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
One child file did not have an update physical since 2021.

109.10(1)b: School-age (for children five years and older and enrolled in school): Annual statement of health status signed by parent is submitted prior to admission, certifies that the child is free of communicable disease, and lists allergies, medications and acute/chronic conditions.
Number not in compliance: 1
One child file did not have a Statement of Health.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
The surfacing on the outdoor playground is no longer sufficient and has large gaps between the tiles, creating tripping and fall hazards, as well as not providing for adequate protection in the event of a fall off of a structure.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is due every two years. The center completed radon testing in April of 2022 and all rooms tested below the 4.0 cutoff. The center installed a mitigation system in 2022.

The furnace is inspected annually.

The menus reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines.

A Statement of Health Form to use for school age children was sent to the center after the visit.

The center will be conducting a full child file update with new Yellow Brick Road forms in February of this year.

The playground will receive new surfacing this summer.

*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.