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

Name of Center: Cherokee Daycare **Enrollment:** 73 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 29147

Street: 400 N Roosevelt **City:** Cherokee Iowa **Zip** 51012 **County:** Cherokee

Mailing Address: 400 N Roosevelt Ave, Cherokee, IA, 51012

Director's Name: Kathy Peterson **Phone Number:** 712-225-5728

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jessica Peterson **E-Mail:** CHdaycare@outlook.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-26-2024

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:** 07-03-2024

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

Date Inspected: 08-16-2021

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X 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	38	32	30	25	125
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 08-30-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited the center on 07-30-24 and 08-26-24 and spoke with Kathy Peterson, director of the center and onsite supervisor Jessika Peterson. Kathy has several years experience working in childcare in Iowa and has been director since 01-31-21. Cherokee Childcare is located in a school building in Cherokee. The center has an infant room, one year old room, 2 year old room, 3year old room, 4/5 year old room and school age room. They have a separate lunch area in the building.. The center operates 5:00am to 6pm Monday- Friday and serves children infants to school age.

There are 73 children enrolled in the program. 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 center has updated their facility. The center made their kitchen larger with a range hood; all new flooring in the rooms, new sinks in the infant and one year old rooms; new camera system, updated the toddler and infant playgrounds. Also, they updated bathrooms. Remodeling is now compelte.

The program has an office manager to help with files/scheduling and staff trainings to not only get them up to date but to help maintain them. The center's children's/staff files have improved. Director and onsite are in ratio but also has improved. The program continues to work with CCRR for support. Reminder It is recommended that the Director should not be in ratio since capacity exceeds 50 to be able to address administrative duties. The program did increase their rates in June 2024. They are working on curriculm for classrooms. The program uses the Procare childcare app. The program has monthly board and staff meetings.

Center Nutrition Practices Observed
Refrigerator is clean and food is kept at the appropriate temperature. Food storage practices were observed and items that are opened need to be sealed or put into a container and dated. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition and they participate in the CACFP food program. The Center provides lunch, breakfast, and snacks for the center. Kitchen had expanded their kitchen with grant money they received. They have a hooded vent above the stove.

Center Health & Safety
Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Hand hand washing procedures need to be done prior to lunch. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are done each month. Radon tests were competed, however, there were a couple of rooms that were high. The program has contact a mitigator and is working with them to ensure that radon is lowered to appropriate levels. Center will need to keep consultant informed on the results. Annual furnace inspection was completed. Good sanitary procedures are followed. Center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. A reminder for staff to keep cleaning products out of reach of children for safety.

Center Playground

There are 3 fenced-in playground areas behind the building: one for younger children and one for the toddlers children. These two playgrounds have been updated with new climbing equipment and rubber mulch for surfacing. They also have a playground for the PK and older children which has rubber tiles for surfacing. The playgrounds has climbing equipment and a slide.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
They use the school bus to and from school. Most of the time they do walking field trips.

Goals of the Center: To have all staff complete PBIS trainings which the center is in the process of setting up. work on IQ4K application which they are in the process. To continue incorporating curriculum for staff.

Strengths of the Center: Staff have a good relationship with families and staff work as a team. Center has a good core group of staff who enjoy being with the kids. The Board has been supportive of the center. CCRR has actively been working with the director and staff in licensing requirements. Staff have been steady with less turnover, but would like to have staff complete PBIS training.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center sends home to the parents a monthly newsletter.

Child size furniture in all the rooms.

Display children's art work in the rooms.

Pictures of the children involved in various activities and field trips are displayed throughout the center.

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

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
Number not in compliance: 1

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: 3

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Center will email consultant by 09-30-24 confirming that all aspects that fall below standards have been completed. It is recommended that the Director continue to work with CCRR for support.

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.