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

Name of Center: Kinder Cottage Preschool **Enrollment:** 29 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30203

Street: 3204 S Lakeport **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51106 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 3204 S Lakeport, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Tara Vander Weil **Phone Number:** 712-224-2276

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** kcpreschool1976@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-16-2023

Licensing Visit **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 11-03-2022

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

Date Inspected: 09-05-2023

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 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		10	18		28
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2022 to 12-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 11-20-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A visit was made to Kinder Cottage Preschool on 11-16-23 and spoke with Michelle Prescott as the director Tara Vander Weil was not present. Ms Vander Weil has an elementary Education degree and thirty three years of experience working with children. Kinder Cottage Preschool is housed in the Redeemer Lutheran Church. The preschool occupies one large room with a bathroom located inside the room in the upper level of the church. In January 2022 they did a pilot to where they extended their day until 3:15pm and only serves 3-5 year olds. The program operates during the school year 9:00am to 11:30am and those that want extended stay will start at 11:30am to 3:15pm daily. The program has 4/5 year olds Monday, Wednesday, Fridays, and 3 year olds Tuesday/Thursdays. The church renovated the lower level of the building to where they had a Mom's Day out program. They currently are not providing the Mom's Day out program due to low numbers and staffing. The room has a capacity of 10 for children 2.5 years and older(Fire Marshall has stated that they require children age 2 1/2 and older can occupy room). Capacity between both programs is 28(18 preschoolers 3-5 year olds & 10 for 2 1/2 to 5 year olds for Moms day out.

There are 29(16 - 3yr olds and 13 - 4 yr old) children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit there were 14 children present. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, 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 that children use. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, five senses, globe of the world, picture schedule for the children, job chart, children's artwork and the alphabet. The preschool has a bible based curriculum. They have cots for the extended children.

The room for the Mom's Day Out program remains closed for the 2023/2024 school year. This part of the program will be accessed yearly to see if there is a need.

Center Nutrition Practices Observed
The Extended day program serves lunches thru the Sioux City Community School which is delivered and they the center then preps the meal for those children who stay to eat lunch. They are not currently on the food program but follows it. The center provides nutritious snacks for the the children. Menus are sent home monthly with the children and are posted on the parent board. Refrigerator is clean and kept at the appropriate temperature.

Center Health & Safety.
Center need to have medication documentation. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented. Monthly fire/tornado drills are completed. Radon test was and Annual furnace inspection was not available at the time of the visit. 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 fenced-in playground adjacent to the building. The playground has slides and climbing equipment.

Surfacing material has rubber mulch around all the equipment. Monthly playground inspection completed. Shade is available on the playground. The church gymnasium is also available for gross motor skill activity during inclement weather.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
The preschool program has one field trip a year and the staff drive rented vans. Speakers usually come to the center. The Mom's Day out program does not go on field trips.

Goals of the center: Mom's Day out to reopen next year and if this program does not open perhaps look at using the room for an additional preschool room.

Strengths of the program is that they are Christian based and have smaller numbers in their classrooms to provide more one on one with the children. The program allows for choice of 1/2 day Preschool or to do extended stay as well as they have a good relationship with the children and their parents.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Staff are invested in the program and work well with parent's and the children. Center is a Christian based program.

The center has some fundraising events throughout the year. A newsletter is sent home each month to keep parents aware of what is going on in the program.

Center has parent/teacher conferences two times a year to inform parents of their child's progress and what they need to work on.

Children's toys are at their level and accessible.

Display children’s art work in the room.

Center has child size furniture.

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain:A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information.Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
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: 2

109.10(3)b: For every day an authorization for medication is in effect and child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of medicine, date, time, dosage, given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given.

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program director will email consultant by 12-20-23 confirming that all 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.