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

Name of Center: Hope Lutheran Preschool **Enrollment:** 24 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28373

Street: 3857 E 42nd St **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50317 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 3857 E 42nd St, Des Moines, IA, 50317

Director's Name: Gina Acers **Phone Number:** 515-265-2057

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** preschool@hopelutheran-dsm.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-06-2025

X **Licensing Visit** X **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:** 02-19-2025

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

Date Inspected: 03-13-2025

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: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Tuesday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Wednesday			
Thursday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Friday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Saturday			

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

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2025 to 04-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 03-20-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Hope Lutheran Preschool is located within a single classroom in Hope Lutheran Church. The preschool has been in operation since 1989. There is a secured entrance at the church. The preschool provides programming for children ages three through five years. Gina Acers is the director and she has been in this position since October 2016. Gina has a Bachelors degree in Christian Education. She has previous experience as a teacher prior to coming to the center.

An unannounced visit was completed today. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. All mandatory postings are in place at the entrance. The lesson plan for April was posted. Classroom schedules are posted. The classroom has several well defined learning centers throughout the classroom. Children's belongings are kept on coats hooks in the hallway.

Gina assisted with today's visit. Two additional staff were working today. There were eighteen children present today. Children were observed in the classroom today. Today's theme was "How to Catch a Leprechaun"? The question of the day was "Do you have red hair"? Circle learning time was observed. Large group circle time was observed. Child directed activity time was also observed. Children's art activity was making a shamrock with paint and glitter. Staff were actively engaged with the children throughout the visit.

Parents provides snacks. Parents are provided a list of CACFP credible snacks. The center provides milk and 100% apple juice. Snack served today was fruit cups, graham crackers and milk.

The preschool has an outdoor playground. The area has fencing. Rubber mulch is in place for surfacing material. Staff complete the monthly playground checklist.

The center doesn't provide transportation. Children's parents transport their own children for off site field trips.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Gina has been the director for several years. The preschool has an outdoor playground. The church is very supportive of the preschool. The preschool's classroom has well developed learning centers.

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

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: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

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