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

Name of Center: ChildServe Ames Day Programs **Enrollment:** 40 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52716

Street: 1915 Philadelphia St **City:** Ames Iowa **Zip** 50010 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 5406 Merle Hay Rd, Johnston, IA, 50131

Director's Name: Emily Hofer **Phone Number:** 515-232-7220

On-Site Supervisor(s): Rachelle Flory **E-Mail:** emilyho@childserve.org

Date(s) of Visit: 10-22-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 11-14-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-10-2023

Comments : A fire inspection was completed 8-10-2023 by Ames Fire Dept.

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 X Other NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care X Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General		17	14	28	59
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-22-2024 to 07-31-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 01-02-2025

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This report is to reflect an administrative update/change to the licensure of this center; the space in this center utilized for programming was previously licensed. A site visit took place on 10-22-24; with Emily Hofer, center director present.

Childserve Ames Day Programs offers child care for specifically for medical specialty with programming meant to serve as early intervention for autism and is intended to serve children ages 2 to 6 years in age.. The administrative offices are located in Johnston and Barb Williams is the service manager for the ChildServe centers. Emily Hofer is the director of this center. She has a degree in Family and Consumer Sciences and has worked at this center since 2005. Rachelle Florry is the on-site supervisor, as well as the Ames Child Serve manager. Rachelle has a Bachelor's of Science degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences, she has worked at Child Serve for over 20 years. Both meet the requirements for their positions.

This center is located within the main building for childserve in Ames; which is located in a newly constructed building that was design to be utilized for this programming; and is comprised of three classrooms with the capacity for 14 children each (utilized for autism day programming); with additional programming space located in the same building for serving children with special medical needs, capacity in this area is calculated at 31, however Childserve utilizes a much lower staff/child ratio for these specialized programs.

The Childserve Ames Day Programs uses the components of a curriculum known as the STAR curriculum; which is to align with therapy goals identified for each child within their individual plans of care. The STAR curriculum incorporates aspects of skills building and tracks progress. The program hopes to help improve the long-term goals for the children--specifically with independence and social/emotional aspects. The rooms were observed to be in ratio; with a variety of developmentally appropriate toys and play centers. Staff were engaged and nurturing with the children in their care. The ADP classrooms offer restrooms within the classroom themselves.

Lunch and snacks are provided, and menus are in-line with CACFP guidelines for a healthy variety in dietary offerings.

There are also occupational and speech therapies available on-site.

Childserve has dedicated maintenance staff.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center provides care for children with specialized needs; where special plans of care and goals are developed for the children attending.

This center utilizes a much lower ratio of staff/participants then is required by Iowa Code, enabling smaller groups of classes.

This center offers nursing care; if needed to participants.

This center utilizes a variety of funding sources; and offers on-site occupational and speech therapies to participants.

This program has strong interest and enrollment.

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

NA, this is an administrative change to already licensed programming.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This program offers a unique and needed care for children ages 2-6 with medical and/or needs arising from developmental goals identified by each child's care plan.

Staff to child ratios are much lower with this program then is required by state law; enabling smaller groups in the classrooms.

*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.