

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

Name of Center: Asbury United Methodist Preschool **Enrollment:** 17 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18096

Street: 723 Bank St **City:** Webster City **Iowa Zip** 50595 **County:** Hamilton

Mailing Address: 723 Bank St, Webster City, IA, 50595

Director's Name: Brittney Clausen **Phone Number:** 515-832-5369

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** asburypreschool3@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 03-22-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X NA

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

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

Date Inspected: 04-19-2022

Comments : Notice was received from the Webster City Fire Department that the State Fire Marshal now does the fire inspection for this program. State inspection certificates are valid for 3 years from the date of issue.

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 05-01-2022 to 05-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury

Date: 04-04-2023

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Asbury United Methodist Preschool on 03-22-23 where I met with center director Brittney Clausen. Brittney took over as the director of this program in 2020. Brittney is well qualified for the position with a BA in general studies, and prior experience in early child care and education. The program is located in the lower level of the Asbury United Methodist Church and operated under a board of directors as a non-profit center. The program provides pre-school programming only in three sessions with two classes for 4 year old children, and one for 3 year old children though only the 3 year old program is operated under DHS licensing. The 4 year old program is operated in conjunction with the public school under the 4 Year Old Preschool Grant for which the school system provides the lead teacher. There are currently 17 children enrolled in the 3 year old program served by Brittney as the lead, and an assistant Teresa Gourley. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The design and layout of the center remains much the same as in prior visit. The program operates in a single classroom but also makes use of a large meeting room which is used as an indoor gym. Restrooms are located down the hallway from the classroom and children are escorted to the restroom as needed. The room has a secondary exit through a small kitchenette space, and an emergency egress window that provides direct access to the outdoors. All exits were maintained so that they were clear of obstruction. The room and building were observed to be clean and free of any safety concerns due to construction or maintenance. The room is divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture, shelving, and play structures. The arrangement is such that these do not create any blind areas.

Activity centers include choices such as art/crafts, library, group learning, dramatic play, large and small manipulatives, and experience tables. Each center was well stocked with toys and materials that were in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present. A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum were posted. The center does provide a parent newsletter to identify the planned curriculum. The curriculum theme on the day of my visit was Dr. Seuss, with a specific learning focus on Rhyming Words. In addition the program also has specific learning concept focuses for shapes, colors, numbers, and letters. The teachers did follow the planned curriculum with engaging in a teacher lead group activity of reading a book, "Fox In Socks", and then a small group art activity of decorating paper sock cutouts. Good interactions were observed with the teachers being actively engaged with the children and implementing the planned activities. Good behavior management practices were observed. Overall the strong curriculum and schedule plan served to keep the children engaged and reduce behavioral problems but when issues did arise the teachers would use positive approaches such as redirection, and recognition/praise of appropriate behaviors.

Good health and safety practices were observed during the time of my visit. When cleaning the teachers would wait for the children to be involved a teacher lead group activity and the other teacher would then clean table surfaces. Chemical cleaners, staff personal items, and other items that could be a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they are not accessible to children. Good hand washing practices were observed with the teachers escorting the children to restroom and ensuring that they not only washed their hands but did so in an effective manner. A first aid kit is maintained in the classroom and contains a supply of materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. The center did have a child with an identified allergy and does maintain an epi-pen where it would be readily accessible. Due to the limited hours of operation medications are not routinely administered by policies are in place should it become necessary in the future. The

center did have allergy plans, and other treatment plans for children with identified concerns.

Due to the limited hours of operation meals are not served but snacks are provided. The parents take it in turn to provide snacks and a list of appropriate snack options is provided. The center also maintains a list/menu of snacks that were provided. In general the snacks provided do include nutritional options but some would be considered non-credible under CACFP guidelines. A limited supply of snack items is maintained in the center to supplement as needed when this occurs. The snacks that were present were all prepackaged single serving items. The teachers do not eat with the children but do provide supervision at the tables.

The center does make use of a court yard area for outdoor play which is a grassy play space that has a sandbox and a shed where additional materials are stored. A climbing structure has been installed with unitary foam tiles used for fall surfacing. The center also has a large indoor area which can be used for large motor skill activities when weather conditions do not allow for outdoor play. A variety of toys and non-climbing structures are present for the children to play with in that area.

All required notices were posted in an area that was readily accessible and visible to all parents and visitors. Inspection logs and certificates were available and current for all required elements. All child files were reviewed and found to contain all required information. Both staff files were reviewed and a renewed SING check, and physical is needed for Brittney, and Teresa also needed to complete the Essentials of Child Care training. The center handbooks were reviewed and have been updated to include all required policies.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This program has been very consistent in strong over the past several years with regard to staffing and curriculum. This stability has resulted in a program where the teachers are very comfortable and confident with the materials presented, and how they engage with the children. The routines and interactions are such that there were very few behavioral issues, and those that did arise were easily addressed with simple redirection of the children.

The center is looking at options to renovate the space by removing an intervening wall with another classroom to increase the room size. While the center may increase the enrollment the focus would be to provide the children with more activity options and room to play.

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

109.6(6)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.

-- Number not in compliance: 1

109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross,American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department.A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.

-- Number not in compliance: 1

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. 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.