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

Name of Center: Y's Kids at Cunningham **Enrollment:** 20 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46509

Street: 1224 Mobile ST **City:** Waterloo Iowa **Zip** 50703 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 425 Lafayette ST, Waterloo, IA, 50703

Director's Name: Mindy Sternhagen **Phone Number:** 319-234-7589

On-Site Supervisor(s): Sherry Davenport **E-Mail:** ywcakids@ywcabhc.org

Date(s) of Visit:

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 09-09-2020

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age X 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	0	0	7	35	42
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 08-21-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 12/07/22 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Y's Kids at Cunningham Elementary in Waterloo. I met with Sherry Davenport, the on-site supervisor. Rachel Scott is the director for the program. Ms. Scott has been with the center since 2000 and has previous childcare experience. Ms. Scott has a BA in biology and philosophy. Mindy Sternhagen has taken a new position within the YWCA. Rhonda McCulloch will be the new co-director for the program. The program has two staff members present while it is in operation.

The program is in Cunningham Elementary. This program does not offer before school care. The after-school program operates from 2:30-6:00 pm. It serves children who are in preschool through fifth grade. There are currently 20 children enrolled.

The cafeteria and gym are open spaces that allow for free play and organized activities. Natural lighting is available in the cafeteria and artificial lighting is primarily used in the gym. The centers observed include art, library, blocks/Legos, games, table toys, transportation and puzzles. Centers are stored in a closet located in the gym.

The children use two bathrooms in the hallway outside the cafeteria. The girl's bathroom has six toilets and a birdbath sink and the boy's bathroom has two toilets, five urinals and a birdbath sink. Handwashing procedures must be posted in both locations. These was cited in last year's report also and must be corrected. There are additional bathrooms located in the school. While I was present, I observed children walk to the bathroom unsupervised. You must always maintain visual supervision of the children. You can do this by standing in the doorway to see both the cafeteria/gym and the child walk to and from the bathroom.

The number of children at the program at any one time is always changing because of children arriving and leaving. The program was in ratio during my visit.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was last completed in December 2021 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed by the Waterloo School System and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector could not be located the day of the visit. It has previously been in the storage closet. You must add a carbon monoxide detector because you serve preschool children. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 09/09/20.

The program has a cell phone they use, and emergency numbers were programmed in the phone. A posting with the program's address and phone number were posted on the door inside the gym. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program and outdoor exits in the cafeteria but must also be posted near all three exits out of the gym.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the cafeteria. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the

entrance. A daily schedule was posted on the parent board.

The YWCA offers an afternoon snack that is provided by the school. Snack menus were posted. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary. The program uses a milk cooler located in a small space off the cafeteria. The school places the snack and the drink in this location for staff members to serve children. A thermometer was present. Snacks items were stored according NHSPS guidelines.

The center uses bleach and water to sanitize the food tables. I observed the teacher prepare the tables after snack and proper procedures are followed. You must store the bleach out of the reach of the children. On the day of my visit, it was on a table in the cafeteria where parents sign in and out.

The program uses the elementary school's playground. The area is mostly fenced in. Woodchips are used for surface cushioning. Woodchips need to be raked under the equipment. The fall height should not be greater than 18 inches. There are multiple pieces of climbing equipment located in the play area. Some of the items available include slides, a climbing wall, monkey bars and swings. There is a tunnel and steppingstones. There are benches available. There is a large grassy area for the children and a concrete area that has basketball hoops. Shade is provided by trees.

There is a gym available when the children cannot go outside.

Staff members were enthusiastic and kept the children entertained. They actively engaged in playing games with the children while they were in the gym. They had good teamwork. They used positive redirection when necessary and were flexible with the schedule. The children were obviously having fun and enjoyed their time in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Davenport states they love what they do, and they love their time with the children.

D'Arci Phillips is the assistant for the program. She states being with the children everyday and providing them someone to talk with and to support them is a strength.

Ms. Davenport and Ms. Phillips states they have great interaction with the children and the parents.

Ms. Davenport and Ms. Phillips state they provide a positive environment for the children so when they leave the program they are in a positive mood.

The program meets a need for parents who require care for their children before and after school.

The program is a leader in the field of inclusive childcare.

The program serves a diverse population. They serve children with different ethnic backgrounds, abilities, economic status and social abilities.

The program strives to provide consistency in the childcare providers that work at the program in order to provide the children and families stability.

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

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.

109.10(16)a: The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

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:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

An administrative change is being made to name Rhonda McCulloch as a co-director. She has been approved but must go into I-Power to formally request the director role as soon as possible.

On 08/16/23 an administrative change is being made to name Mindy Sternhagen as the director for the program. Rachel Scott is no longer with the program. This change will be in effect for YWCA of Black Hawk County as well as the Y's Kids programs at Hansen, Kittrell, Lowell, Highland, Kingsley, North Cedar, Cedar Falls Lincoln, Cunningham, Lou Henry, Hudson, Irving and Lincoln Waterloo. Rhonda McCulloch-Lewis, the co-director has also left the program. Ms. Sternhagen was previously a co-director for the program.

*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.