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

Name of Center: HACAP Head Start-Anamosa **Enrollment:** 28 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25097

Street: 100 Park Ave **City:** Anamosa Iowa **Zip** 52205 **County:** Jones

Mailing Address: 105 Broadway Place, Anamosa, IA, 52205

Director's Name: Kelli Hacke **Phone Number:** 319-462-4336

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kelli Hacke **E-Mail:** khacke@hacap.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-08-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **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: 06-29-2020

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: X Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 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	2	6	31	0	39
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2023 to 03-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons **Date:** 03-10-2023

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

Not applicable.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

HACAP Head Start (HHS) - Anamosa is located inside of a commercial building designed for child care. This program operates year-round and includes an early head start classroom as well as head start classrooms. The program serves older infants through preschool-age. Current enrollment is 28.

Multi-site HHS early childhood program director is Christi Regan. Ms. Regan has a BA degree in elementary education with early childhood reading, has been employed with head start for over 20 years, and continues to participate in much child development related training. HHS - Anamosa site specific combined director/on-site supervisor is Kelli Hacke. Ms. Hacke has been the combined director/on-site supervisor since August 2020. Ms. Hacke has a BA degree in elementary education with early childhood endorsement, over 20 years experience working with children, and continues to participate in much child development related training.

On 3/8/2023, program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

HACAP is a community action agency currently providing head start services throughout 9 Iowa counites. HACAP began in 1968 serving families in Johnson, Jones, and Linn Counties. From 1973-1981, HACAP expanded to provide services in Benton, Iowa, and Washington Counties. Then, in fall of 2020, HACAP again expanded to provide services in Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson Counties. Specifically, HHS - Anamosa is located in a predominately rural community and has been operating for several years.

HACAP's mission and goal is "...helping people develop skills to become successful and build strong communities..." and "...to bring about a greater degree of social competence in the young children..."

HHS has community support and operates under a Board of Directors. HHS has the following website for families and the community to learn more about the program: http://www.hacap.org.

HHS has a history of participation in quality initiatives including QRS/IQ4K, national accreditation, and local quality initiatives. HHS - Anamosa has achieved QRS 4-Star.

Executive management of HHS has remained consistent. This program's management team (e.g. Ms. Regan, Ms. Hacke) has systems of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a confidential manner. Management is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures.

Since the last review, HHS - Anamosa has retained seasoned staff as well as hired a few new ones. Staff reported celebrating 18 years and 10 years with HHS. The center cook has been with HHS - Anamosa since spring 2021. All staff have at least a CDA and/or are working towards a CDA. Many staff have advanced degrees in education and early

childhood development. Documentation indicates that employees often complete annual professional growth training that exceeds Iowa Code requirements. Ms. Hacke reported being grateful for their team of employees at HHS - Anamosa.

HHS has a Parent Committee, Policy Council, and family support workers. In the program's main entrance/exit area, there is a parent board with required postings as well as program reminders. There are additional resources posted for families in the area of nutrition, upcoming area events, community resources, skill building, and community involvement opportunities. There is also an area encouraging parents to become involved in the parent committee. Family involvement is highly encouraged including holding parent committee meetings and conducting annual home/conference visits.

HHS - Anamosa collaborates well with many community partners including local area access, local school districts, other early learning programs, local businesses, and health professionals. HHS - Anamosa has a unique partnership with the local school district. Children who are eligible to also attend the local school's 4-year-old statewide voluntary preschool program or other specialized educational services are able to do so outside of head start programming due to coordination of school bus transportation.

HHS - Anamosa has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. HHS - Anamosa was able to successfully navigate through past historic Jones County flooding events, 2019 Polar Vortex, 8/10/2020 Derecho Storm and 2019 pandemic.

Since the last review, the early head start classroom received new area floor carpets. HHS - Anamosa obtained new tricycles, an outdoor basketball hoop and updated fine motor manipulatives. Future goals include a kitchen refresh (spring 2023) and outdoor playground improvements (e.g. surfacing, shed gaps). HHS does have a maintenance team which assists with building projects and repairs as well as also helps ensure program space is sanitary and hazard free each day. A monthly facility checklist is completed. HHS participates in an annual all site shutdown week in order to prepare for each new academic year. Children's accomplishments (e.g. artwork, unique project display for EHS room) are displayed throughout the program space. HHS - Anamosa classrooms continue to be arranged in a thoughtful manner with learning at the forefront. Materials are accessible to children. Creative Curriculum is the primary curriculum with online goals for enhancing teaching strategies and a project approach. Ms. Hacke discussed last summer and fall's garden projects related to herbs and vegetables as well as their very own on-site pumpkin patch.

Each child is engaged in a daily health check upon arrival for early detection of apparent illness, communicable disease, or unusual condition or behavior which may adversely affect the child or the group. Staff discussed the program's policies and procedures for hand washing, cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing. Cleaning checklists and daily sanitation reminders were observed to be posted in various areas of the program space.

On the day of the monitoring visit, staff were nurturing and attentive to the children's needs. Areas of study included healthy foods and butterflies. Children have access to an array of materials (e.g. books, imaginative play options, sensory items, building materials, art supplies, puzzles) that encourage innovative play. Activities observed were many (e.g. circle discussion with book reading, center play experiences). Staff provided a companionable presence allowing children to have many choices in their play experiences. Routine transitions (e.g. cleanup, food service/breakfast activities) worked smoothly into the program's welcoming and cooperative play environment. Staff were overheard providing children with many words of encouragement and engaging children in much meaningful discussion. Children responded well to staff and appeared to be enjoying their day.

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

None noted.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Ensure staff's (KK) national record check results are placed into his/her file upon receipt.

Licensing observed this program's outdoor play area continues to be in need of significant cares (e.g. surfacing, gap under shed, gap behind shed). Management discussed challenges related to acquiring and installing items ordered. Management indicated HHS has a facility team member that is a certified playground inspector and they are working on prompt remedies. Please forward documentation (e.g. email photographs) to licensing of remedies as they are completed.

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A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

*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.