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

Name of Center: Lil' Hands Big Dreams **Enrollment:** 67 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 36394

Street: 810 North Avenue **City:** Norwalk Iowa **Zip** 50211 **County:** Warren

Mailing Address: 730 Main St, Norwalk, IA, 50211

Director's Name: Mary Ferden **Phone Number:** 515-981-0717

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jamie Grubb **E-Mail:** lilhandsbigdreams@live.com

Date(s) of Visit: 10-19-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 07-23-2021

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

Date Inspected: 03-26-2021

Comments :

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 Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X 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	24	26	40	25	115
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2021 to 07-01-2023
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 11-06-2022

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Lil' Hands Big Dreams opened in August 2011. The center has three buildings, located in a row in the same block. The center has secured entrances. The center provides child care for children ages infancy through 3rd grade. All the buildings have secured entrances. Mary and Brian Ferden and the owners. Mary Ferden is the director. Mary was a registered in home child care provider prior to opening up this center. She also had experience in a child care center working at Principal Child Development Center. Jamie Grubb is the on site supervisor. Jamie has been employed at the center since 2013. She has her CDA certification.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's visit. All areas subject to DHS licensing were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the entrances. Class schedules and lesson plans were also posted. The center has seven classrooms. The classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and furnishings. Children's artwork is nicely displayed in classrooms.

Mary and Brian were present and they assisted with the visit. There were eight infants present in the infants class. Two staff were working in this room. There were eight children in the toddler's class. Two staff were working with this group. PreSchool 1 (2/3's) had twelve children in attendance. Two staff were working in this room. PreSchool 2 (2/3's) had eleven children. There were two staff working with this class. The 4's class had eleven children in attendance. One staff was working with this class. These children were resting at the time of the observation. A combined class of 4/5's children had eight children. There was one staff working with this group. School age children weren't present at the time of the visit. Children were observed during child directed play activities, during transition time and during rest time. Staff provided age appropriate support and supervision during the visit. Staff were playing games and assisting the children with their activities. Staffs' interactions with the children were observed to be appropriate.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center participates in QRS and has earned a three star rating. Mary has a NAEYC director membership. The center was nominated as the favorite Warren County Daycare in 2021.The center started participating in the Universal PreK/Preschool Program through the local school district the 2018-2019. There are security cameras in the classrooms. The center has an app for parents' use, Brightwheel. This app allows parents to receive communication about their children's activities throughout the day.

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

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center’s care.
A few children's files were missing dental information.

109.10(1)b: School-age (for children five years and older and enrolled in school): Annual statement of health status signed by parent is submitted prior to admission, certifies that the child is free of communicable disease, and lists allergies, medications and acute/chronic conditions.
A few school health children files didn't have current statement of health forms.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines.Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals.Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.
Some snacks being served don't meet CACFP requirements.
The center has been given CACFP information.

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 mlarson@dhs.state.ia.us) 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 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.