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

Name of Center: Kids Korner **Enrollment:** 43 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25885

Street: 1106 Linden St **City:** Dallas Center Iowa **Zip** 50063 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: PO Box 165, Dallas Center, IA, 50063

Director's Name: Carie Burgher **Phone Number:** 515-992-4942

On-Site Supervisor(s): Cherish Freestone and Misty Collinson **E-Mail:** dallascenter@kidskornertwo.com

Date(s) of Visit: 03-10-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-27-2025

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

Date Inspected: 07-06-2023

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due every three years.

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 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	17	18	85	0	120
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2025 to 04-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 03-11-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 3/10/25. The director and on-site supervisors were present for portions of the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Kids Korner is a child care center serving children ages six weeks in age to roughly five years in age. The center opened in 1998. The center is owned by Lezlie Ellerman and her daughter, Emily Ellerman. Lezlie also owns Kids Korner II in Adel and Kids Campuses in Stuart, IA and Dallas Center, IA. The director of this center is Carie Burgher. Carie has worked at this center for a number of years and meets the qualifications for director. The on-site supervisors are Cherish Freestone and Misty Collinson. Both individuals meet the qualifications for on-site supervisor. The center serves children using the Creative Learning Curriculum. There are five classrooms total and four are in use.

During the visit, the infant children were observed napping in cribs and children one and older were napping on cots. Staff were observed taking this time to clean and sanitize equipment and sweep and mop floors. Staff gave specific answers as to where they go for monthly fire and tornado drills.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

There is a good mix of mostly tenured staff and some newer staff. The director stated she has been around for many years because she enjoys working with children as do her staff. The director stated her position allows her to grow professionally every year.

The center has their own website. The also uses the Playground electronic application to communicate with parents and among each other.

There is a secure entrance into the center. Families have a code they enter. All other visitors have to ring a doorbell and be let in by staff.

The owner of this center also owns Kids Korner II in Adel and she also oversees Kids Campuses in Stuart, IA and Dallas Center, IA.

Enrollment remains steady.

There is a Universal Preschool component at the center through the school district. The center has a good working

relationship with the school district as well as other businesses in the community.

The director is organized.

Within the past year, the center has done some more interior painting to give the walls a fresh coat of paint. The center has also added an indoor play area when weather doesn't permit outdoor play.

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

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 lighting shall be provided.
1. There were some bolts longer than two threads showing on the new playground climbing structure. It is recommended another nut be added to these bolts.
2. It was too dark in the toddler classroom and lighting was marginal in another classroom while children were napping. There should still be plenty of light in classrooms to sufficiently see children.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was completed 1/30/23 - 2/2/23. Radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff in all classrooms. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual furnace inspection was last completed 02/18/25.

As previously noted, the center only goes on walking field trips to the surrounding areas.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have I - Power profiles.

As mentioned at last year's visit, staff can document using just Playground if they would like rather than documenting on Playground and paper medication forms.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.