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

Name of Center: Joyful Noise Daycare **Enrollment:** 30 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22312

Street: 801 8Th St **City:** Grundy Center Iowa **Zip** 50638 **County:** Grundy

Mailing Address: 801 8th St, Grundy Center, IA, 50638

Director's Name: Terri Simms **Phone Number:** 319-825-4569

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** jnd@gcmuni.net

Date(s) of Visit: 05-08-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 04-06-2023

FIRE INSPECTION X **State** **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: 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	22	11	10	5	48
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2023 to 06-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 05-16-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Joyful Noise Daycare on 05-08-23 where I met with the center director, Terri Simms. Terri is well qualified for the position having extensive experience and on-going training in early childhood care. This program is located in the First Presbyterian Church in Grundy Center with the majority of the programming on the lower level and one classroom on the upper level. The center provides daycare programming to infants through school age children. There are currently 30 children enrolled in the program served by 9 teachers. All areas of the center subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general design and layout of the center and classrooms remains the same as in prior reports. As noted the program makes use of four classrooms on two levels of the building. The two year old classroom is located on the upper level, and the remaining classrooms serve the other age groups with two infant rooms, and one preschool/school age room. There continue to be some minor issues related to maintenance such as peeling paint and plaster damage, but nothing that rose to the level of being an immediate safety concern. The classrooms on the lower level have windows located along the upper edge of the walls which provide natural light. Restrooms are located off the main hallways outside the classrooms on both levels. Sinks are located in both infant rooms, and the 2 - 3 year old classroom to facilitate hand washing and diaper changes. Each room had a refrigerator present for snack items that may require cold holding temperatures to be maintained. All rooms have secondary exits from the classroom with the exception of the young infant room.

Each room is divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture and play structures. Each room had a good variety of toys and materials that were appropriate to the ages of the children present and were generally in good repair. One issue that was noted was the presence of toys that had been labeled as being produced as promotional items for food vendors. These are prohibited and need to be removed. Ratios were maintained in the classrooms as required by age. Good interactions were observed with the staff being engaged with the children and attending to their needs. Each classroom did have a daily schedule and curriculum posted. As an example the preschool room had a planned curriculum related to Mothers Day and during the visit the teacher did assist children in a one on one project for their mothers while the rest of the children engaged in free choice center play. One issue that was noted was with regard to supervision of the preschool room where as noted the restrooms are located outside the classroom. One child was allowed to leave the room unescorted to use the restroom and while Terri was positioned so as to be able to observe the restroom and also checked on the child the teacher was positioned such that she would not have been able to provide supervision during the normal course of the day. Options for changing the room layout were discussed where the teacher would be able to have direct line of sight to the restroom while still being able to supervise the other children in the classroom. Engagement and behavior management was noted to vary by classroom with some teachers using a more observational approach and other a more interactive approach to supervision. Similarly behavior management varied with some teachers using more proactive methods such as transition planning and recognition of positive behaviors while others were more reactive with a reliance on consequences such as time out. One issue that was discussed with Terri was a situation in which a teacher made a comment about a child that was being very active during lunch that she would duct the child to the chair if the child didn't sit down. While it did appear obvious that the teacher was not serious in this threat it was reviewed with Terri that Licensing Standards do prohibit the use of threats, and restraint and this is a situation that could easily be misunderstood by someone and result in a complaint for a violation.

Good health and safety practices were generally observed. I was able to observe a diaper change and appropriate procedures were generally followed. The center does need to ensure that separate trash cans are present for diapers and other trash. Bottles for chemical cleaners, purses, medications, and other items that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas that were not readily accessible to the children. Over the counter medications were labeled with the name of the individual to whom it belonged. First aid kits were present and contained materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Safe sleep practices were followed.

The center is able to make use of the church kitchen and meals are prepared on-site. A copy of the planned menu was posted and identified a good variety of nutritious meal options. The meal served on the day of my visit consisted of chicken nuggets, pears, cooked carrots, and milk which did match the planned menu. Good food storage practices were generally observed though thermometers in classroom refrigeration units were non-functional and need to be replaced. Meals were pre-portioned for the children and measured scoops were used to ensure each child received a full serving. The staff do eat with the children at the table to provide supervision and model good eating habits.

The playground was observed and has a variety of dramatic play and climbing structures. The equipment was generally observed to be good repair but some hardware was loose and needs to be tightened. The center makes use of pea gravel, and rubber mulch for fall surfacing and some hard panning of the material was present. The center does need to aerate or supplement the existing material to ensure good depth of loose material is present. The playground is fully fenced and the fencing was observed to be in good repair. Shade is provided by the buildings, play structures, and mature trees.

All required notices were posted in an area readily accessible to parents and visitors. The emergency evacuation notices for the 2 year old classroom were missing and need to be replaced. A random selection of 25% of child files were reviewed and generally found to contain all required information with the exception of 1 that needed an updated physical. All staff files were reviewed and 3 had a missing, 2 expired, and 1 invalid physical. 4 needed renewed Iowa SING background checks, and 4 also needed updated Federal FBI Fingerprint background checks. It is noted the in those files all had only recently expired within the past month were run as a batch with each expiring on the same date. Renewed training certificates for 1st aid/cpr was needed for 4 staff, and on-going training was also needed for 1 employee. Inspection logs and certificates were current and available for emergency drills, fuel burning appliances, fire inspection and radon testing. It is noted that the center does have a radon mitigation system and it was reviewed that recent changes do allow for the center to conduct renewed testing at 5 year intervals. The center handbook has been previously reviewed and found to contain all required written policies.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center does have plans to make renovations and upgrades such as new carpeting and is in the process of doing fund raising.

Terri identified that there is center wide 1st Aid/CPR training scheduled for the evening of the 9th so that all staff will be current on that training requirement.

The center does have strong group of core staff who have been with the program for several years which has resulted in stable programming for the children.

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: 4

109.6(6)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.
-- Number not in compliance: 4

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: 6

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
-- Number not in compliance: 4

109.12(4): Sufficient toilet articles are provided for handwashing.Sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture that conforms with CPSC or ASTM.Play equipment, materials, and furniture meet the developmental, activity, and special needs of the children.Room's arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children.Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap.Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.Sufficient spacing is maintained between equipment to reduce transmission of disease and allow ease of movement by children and staff to respond to activities and care needs.Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.
-- Toys that are labeled as being produced as promotional items for food vendors are prohibited and need to be removed. A non-porous mat or other option is needed for the 2 year old room to allow for proper sanitation when assisting children with toileting accidents or diaper changes. Loose hardware on the outdoor play structures needs to be tightened and the fall surfacing needs to be aerated to ensure a proper depth of loose material.

109.15(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.Staff preparing food that have injuries on hands wear protective gloves.Staff serving food use clean serving utensils and have clean hands/wear protective gloves.
-- Thermometers in several refrigeration/freezer units were non-functional and need to be replaced to ensure that proper cold holding temperatures are monitored and maintained.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended 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 non-licensing 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.