Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Diamond Trail Children's Center

Provider No.: 16303

Address: 301 East St, Lynnville, IA, 50153

County: Jasper

Director's Name: Brenda Denmark

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 6415272200

E-Mail: diamondtrail@netins.net

HHS Visit Date: 03/03/2026

Licensing Period: 03/01/2026 to 03/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/12/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [X] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [X] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	17		21	32	70
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Diamond Trail Children's Center has been in operation since September 2005. This center provides child care for children ranging from infancy to school age children. The center occupies the majority of a single standing building. The center has one classroom that is used by the public school for the Universal PreK program. Brenda Denmark is the director. Brenda has been employed at the daycare since 2014. Brenda has been the director since August 2023.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the entrance. Schedules are posted by classrooms entrances. The current lesson plan for the center is Dr. Seuss Week. Classrooms have age appropriate furnishings, toys and supplies. The center has children's artwork displayed in classrooms.

Brenda assisted with today's visit. The infant classroom had six infants present. There were two staff working in the infant class. The toddler classroom had seven children present. There were two staff working in this classroom. The Little Tykes (2's/3's) had thirteen children present. This group had three staff working in their class. The Big Tykes (4's/5's) had eight children initially. Another five children came during the visit. Children were observed during lunch, during transition times, while napping and during child directed play activities. Staff were observed reading books with children, sitting on the floor assisting children prepare for nap and sitting at tables with children during lunch.

The center doesn't participate in CACFP at this time. The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. Menus were reviewed and show compliance with CACFP requirements. Lunch served today was sloppy joes on buns, fresh mixed vegetables, mixed fruit and milk.

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The center has some fencing around majority of the playground. The center is adding a border to help secure mulch from being washed away from the playground. The center has completed monthly playground checks.

The center doesn't take off site field trips.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Brenda has completed NAC training. The center is very supported by the community. The center works with the school district for their universal preschool classroom.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.12(4)e: The provider shall follow safe sleep practices for infants under one year of age:Infants shall always be placed on their backs for sleep.Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet.Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface.No child shall be allowed to sleep in any item not designed for infant sleeping, including but not limited to an infant seat, car seat, swing, or bouncy seat.No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.No co-sleeping shall be allowed.Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound.If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required and an expiration date.
There were two infants sleeping in containers during the visit. One of the infants had a fleece style blanket covering them. This worker told the two staff that infants can't sleep in bouncy seats or swings per HHS Licensing Rule and staff replied "I know" and neither staff moved the infants from the containers. Brenda was with this worker in the infant room. Brenda stated there are a few infants that struggle with sleeping in cribs and staff have been working to get these infants used to sleeping without being held. Some infants co-sleep and some infants are used to being held while they sleep. This worker made some suggestions to support the staff and classroom. This worker stated that infants sleeping in containers, including bouncy seats and swings could not be part of the plan. Staff did move the infants after several minutes. Brenda talked again about the challenge the staff were having with a few infants sleeping and that she was having ongoing discussion with staff. Staff did not talk to Brenda nor myself during the time spent in the infant classroom.
This worker addressed the violation and requested a compliance plan be completed.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

Brenda sent some emails after the visit with steps to address and correct infant classroom violations.
Brenda contacted CCR&R and scheduled a visit for March 17th for consultation/training for the infant classroom.
The center is communicating with parents about the importance of having infants sleep in cribs at home and daycare.
The center is placing a third staff in the infant classroom from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.
Infant classroom staff will be taking Sleepsafe training.

5. 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 melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) 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 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.

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Date: 03/10/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Consultant

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.