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

Name of Center: The Arc of East Central Iowa-Summer Day **Enrollment:** 50 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 35711

Street: 4545 Wenig Rd NE **City:** Cedar Rapids Iowa **Zip** 52402 **County:** Linn

Mailing Address: 680 2nd St SE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52401

Director's Name: Tara Cornelius **Phone Number:** 319-365-0487

On-Site Supervisor(s): Pam Razor & Heather Filling **E-Mail:** tcornelius@arceci.org

Date(s) of Visit: 06-24-2019

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:** 06-17-2019

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

Date Inspected: 01-11-2018

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round School-Year X Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General				60	60
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2019 to 07-01-2021
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons **Date:** 06-25-2019

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

Not applicable.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

The Arc of East Central Iowa (ECI) - Summer Day is a non-profit program designed to serve children and/or consumers age 5 to 21 years of age. The program operates summer only for 7-weeks Monday through Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm. During the 2019 summer, the program operates 6/18/2019 to 8/1/2019.

Tara Cornelius is a multi-site director for The Arc of ECI. Ms. Cornelius has a BA degree in elementary education and has several years experience working with children and persons with disabilities. Ms. Cornelius also continues to participate in child development related training that exceeds Iowa Code requirements.

On 6/24/2019, all program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The Arc of ECI offers a variety of full-time and part-time program options to help meet the needs of families in the community. The Arc of ECI operates the following two programs in the Linn County area: The Arc of ECI - Daycare Enrichment and The Arc of ECI - Summer Day.

The Arc of ECI has the following website for families and the community to learn more about their programs and services: https://www.arceci.org/services.html.

The Arc management team (multi-site director and on-site supervisors) is professional - educated and experienced. Management has established systems of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a confidential manner.

Employee annual professional growth hours completed exceed what is required by code. At least one Arc employee is also a certified lifeguard. Ms. Cornelius discussed how staff have created a good sense of camaraderie by being willing to help at either Arc location when needed.

The Arc of ECI partners well with Kennedy High School. Rooms and grounds are well-maintained. The Arc staff and school custodial staff work well together to help ensure program space is sanitary and hazard free each day. The Arc of ECI has access to the Kennedy High School swimming pool located on-site. There is an elevator on-site which helps increase building accessibility for all.

The program seeks out grant opportunities to help make improvements and increase program supplies. Program has supplies that are developmentally appropriate and easily accessible to the children. The program continues to facilitate small group experiences.

The Arc has support from the community. The program collaborates well with various community agencies and programs including the nearby YMCA, local library, Northwest Rec center, and city recreational departments.

Ms. Cornelius discussed how The Arc has a behavior consultant to provide further support to children/consumers/families when needed. The Arc continues to use the "Remind App" to help increase family/program communication.

The Arc supports a “safe shoe” policy (tennis shoes and discourages open toed shoes) to help prevent foot injuries when children/consumers are outdoors. The program has access to the outdoor school track for walks.

Staff are hands-on. Staff encourage all children/consumers to participate in activities and assist as needed. Communication between staff and children/consumers occurs a variety of ways including through verbal cues, picture cues, and sign language. Staff were observed providing the children/consumers with verbal praise, encouragement, meaningful conversation, and positive redirection. Children/consumers appear comfortable at the program and respond well to staff.

Curriculum is inclusive and incorporates field trips, guest speakers, swimming, physical activities, and cooking projects. The program sponsors off-site field trip experiences including trips to the YMCA, local movie theater, local libraries, and nature center. Many of the off-site field trips are within walking distance. The program also incorporates on-site guests including persons from the ceramic center. On the day of the monitoring visit, off-site field experiences included trips to the on-site swimming pool and local parks. The week's theme included "Robots". On-site experiences included board games, book reading, and crafting. Routine transitions went smoothly.

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

None noted.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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.