Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Metro Kids - South Union

Provider No.: 36577

Address: 4201 S Union St, Des Moines, IA, 50315

County: Polk

Director's Name: Kelsi Stanley

On-Site Supervisor: Fatima Astudillo - Sanchez

Phone Number: 5152427951

E-Mail: Kelsi.Stanley@dmschools.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/06/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/19/2023

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	2:30 PM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	2:30 PM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	2:30 PM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	2:30 PM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	2:30 PM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General				120	120
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Metro Kids - South Union has been in operation for many years. The center provides care child care services to children who attend this school. The school has secured entrances. The center has it's own secured entrance. The school's gym, cafeteria and library are used by Metro Kids for programming space. The center also uses the school's playground. Kelsi Stanley is the director of the Metro Kids programs. Fatima Astudillo - Sanchez is the on site supervisor.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules and standards were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the entrance and in the gym. A daily schedule/lesson plan was posted. Children's coats and backpacks are kept on a coat rack in a hallway by the cafeteria. The center sets up interest areas and table activities in the cafeteria for programming.

Fatima wasn't at the center today. There were four staff working today. Twenty eight children were in attendance. Children were observed in the cafeteria. Child were observed during child directed play activities and snack time was observed. Children were playing within small groups and individually. Staff were spaced throughout the cafeteria, interacting continuously with the children.

The center provides after school snack during programming. Menus reflect the center is compliant with CACFP standards. Food storage is sufficient. Snack served today was crackers, apples and 100% juice.

The center uses the school's playground. The playground is maintained by the school. The center completes monthly playground checks.

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Metro Kids uses Des Moines School buses for field trips.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center has spacious programming space. The center has a good amount of age appropriate toys and learning materials. Children can participate in large motor activities daily through the use of the school's playground and the gym.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

There were no licensing violations cited today.

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

NA

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.

Date: 04/21/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing 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**.