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

Name of Center: NICAO Head Start-Clarksville **Enrollment:** 16 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22878

Street: 219 N Mathers St **City:** Clarksville Iowa **Zip** 50619 **County:** Butler

Mailing Address: 221 N Mathers St, Clarksville, IA, 50619

Director's Name: Trina Cox **Phone Number:** 319-278-4213

On-Site Supervisor(s): Alecia Feckers (Lead Teacher) Karen Krumwiede (supervisor) **E-Mail:** tcox@nicao-online.org

Date(s) of Visit: 02-27-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 04-10-2020

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 X NAEYC NSACA Other NA

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	20	0	20
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2023 to 04-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 03-02-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to NICAO-Clarksville Head Start in Clarksville on 02-27-23 where I met with Alecia Feckers, the lead teacher. Alecia took over as the lead teacher in 2022 and is well qualified for the position based on her education and experience in early childhood education. Karen Krumwiede is the area supervisor. The program operates out of a free standing building which was built specifically for the Head Start program and they have been located here for over twenty years. The center provides preschool programming serving 4 year old children only. There are currently 16 children enrolled in the program served by a teacher, and two assistants. All aspects of the program subject to Licensing Standards were reviewed during the visits.

The general layout and design of the facilities remain the same as in prior visits. The program operates out of one large classroom but a second room that is currently being used as storage is available if needed. A half wall and door separates the classroom from the hallway accessing the rest of the building. Windows provide ample natural lighting, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. There are secondary exits providing direct egress to the playground from both classroom spaces. All exits were observed to be free of obstruction and opened easily and freely. Restrooms are located just off the classrooms and the staff do provide supervision and assistance as needed. The facilities were observed to be clean with no concerns related to maintenance.

The main classroom is divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture, low shelves, and play structures. The placement of activity centers was rearranged from the prior year but was such that the children had ample room to move and play without creating any blind areas. The center play options remain the same with group learning, dramatic play, large & small manipulatives, art/crafts, discovery, reading, science, and math. Each center was well stocked with materials that are appropriate to the ages of the children present and which were in good repair. A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum were posted. The curriculum had a learning focus of Exercise and the activities were reflective of that focus. This included discussions of what exercise is and what exercise if each child's favorite during a teacher lead group discussion, and using videos with directed physical actions during the Music & Movement activity. Positive behavior management techniques were used with the teachers recognizing positive behavior, using transition planning and redirecting children. During the visit there were children who became distracted during the teacher lead activities and while they were encouraged to rejoin the class were not required to do so. This was very effective in preventing behaviors from escalating and improving response when the teachers would set a firm limit on behavior when identifying that it was not safe.

Good health and safety practices were observed during the visit. During the visit the teachers were observed to assist the children in the restroom as needed, and ensured that the children not only washed their hands but did so in an effective manner. This included times such as following restroom use, blowing their nose, or touching other soiled surfaces. The center did have well developed response plans for children with diagnosed allergies. First aid kits are present in the center and stored in areas where they are available but not accessible to children. The kits were stocked with items necessary to address most common first aid needs. Good cleaning practices were observed with the teachers waiting for children to be out of the immediate area when using chemical cleaners, and redirecting from treated surfaces that were still visibly wet.

The center does have a full kitchen and meals are prepared onsite. A copy of the planned menu was posted and was

consistent with the prepared meal of cheeseburgers, fries, and peaches. Good food storage practices were generally observed for both refrigerated and dry pantry storage though there was one bag of bulk packaged cereal that was not stored in an air tight container after having been opened. Good food handling practices were observed with the staff wearing food service gloves, and use of covered containers. Meals are served in the classroom family style with the teachers sitting and eating with the children.

The center has a playground with a climbing structure, paved riding track, and grassy area. The climbing structure and equipment were observed to be in good repair. The fall surfacing consists of a unitary foam rubber surface. The playground is fully enclosed by fencing which was observed to be a couple of retaining clips used to secure the fence to the support posts and these do need to be replaced. Mature trees provide shade.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices were present and posted in an area readily accessible to parents and visitors. Staff files are maintained at the program central office where they are reviewed annually during a separate visit and any concerns identified are addressed at that time. Child files were reviewed and found to contain all current information. The program handbooks have been previously reviewed and found to contain all required policies. All inspection logs and certificates were available and current with the exception of the Fuel Burning Appliance inspection. This was cited in the prior report though it had been noted at that time that there had been recent work completed. As a reminder all fuel burning appliances must be inspected each year to ensure that they are in proper working order with no gas or carbon monoxide leaks. This should be completed in fall prior to the start of the heating season.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is participating in the Quality Rating Scales program which seeks to implement best practice recommendations and is currently rated a 4 STAR program out of a possible 5 STAR scale. The program is also accredited by NAEYC.

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

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034. -- The fuel burning appliance inspection was expired. Inspections must be completed and documentation maintained each year. Acceptable documentation can consist of copy of service invoice, letter of inspection results, or other attestation of proper functioning from a licensed or accredited technician. -- NOTE 2nd Year Cited

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 next year.

NOTE: The fuel burning appliance inspection shall be scheduled to be completed prior to the start of the 2023 heating season and shall be completed no later than 10-15-23 when normal historical temperatures as identified by the National Weather Service drop below 65 deg. F. and centers would be required to provide heating.

*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.