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

Name of Center: Yellow Brick Road ECDC - Huxley **Enrollment:** 70 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52002

Street: 201 S US HWY 69 **City:** Huxley Iowa **Zip** 50124 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 756 9th ST, Des Moines, IA, 50309

Director's Name: Kenedy Balentine **Phone Number:** 515-597-2060

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kerigan Balentine **E-Mail:** kylie.schrader@ybrecdc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-24-2023

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:** 05-05-2023

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

Date Inspected: 02-11-2021

Comments : Fire inspections are due at least every three years.

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit 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	12	24	51	40	127
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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: Debbie Hammer **Date:** 05-25-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A full licensing visit was conducted on 5/24/23. The director and general manager were present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Yellow Brick Road purchased this Tender Years Center, and the other 5 Tender Years Centers that were owned by Paula Eichinger in October of 2022. This center will now be named Yellow Brick Road. The new owners are Jessica Johnsen and Kylie Schrader. Jessica and Kylie own centers in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota. They are not a corporation.

Jamie Balentine is the general manager for the 6 centers that are now Yellow Brick Road and used to be the Tender Years centers. Jamie has 30 years of experience in the child care field, and has been a director previously. Kenedy Balentine is the Director of this center, starting in this role in October of 2022, she was the On-Site Supervisor. Kenedy has over 5 years experience in the childcare field and meets qualifications for this position. Kerigan Balentine became the on-site supervisor in October of 2022, she was the director. She has over seven years of experience in the childcare field and meets qualifications for this position.

The center has five enclosed classrooms, a cafeteria area and two separate playground spaces. The infant room has a capacity for 12 infants, the toddler/two year old classroom has a capacity for 24 children, the three year old classroom has a capacity for 24 children, the four year old classroom has a capacity for 27 children, and the school age classroom has a capacity for 40 children.

The center serves children from age 6 weeks up to age 12. The center hours are from 6:00 am - 6:00 pm.

The center is using a new curriculum called Funny Daffer. Funny Daffer is a curriculum designed by Yellow Brick Road and assists in lesson planning and ideas.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center will be applying for an IQ4K rating.

Enrollment is good. The center offers part time and full time care for families.

The staff are flexible and show pride in the center. The staff are dedicated and view this as a career, not just a job.

The center has strong communication with families and has developed a good relationship with parents.

The rooms are set up well with age appropriate equipment and activities.

The center has two separate playground areas that can be accessed from all of the classrooms.

The center has strong community support.

The school district will pick up and drop off the school age children during the school year.

The center has many field trips and activities planned for the summer.

The center has strong partnerships and relationships with outside agencies, such as AEA and CCR&R.

The center has received grant money and has been able to purchase new toys and equipment.

Yellow Brick Road has an enrollment specialist.

The staff and administrative team have adapted to the changes with being purchased by another owner.

The Huxley library comes out to the center twice a month to read and sing songs to the preschool children.

The center closes 3 days a year for professional development training.

The management team works well together.

The management team works hard to let staff know they are valued and appreciated. They had teacher appreciation week for staff in May, doing something different every day to show staff appreciation. They had food, games, prizes and gifts. The administration team shows Acts of Appreciation each week.

The center now has a secure entrance.

The center uses an App called Kangaroo time for real time communication, daily notes and pictures.

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

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.
Six child files reviewed did not have an annual update.

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for medical: 1
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: One child file reviewed did not have information for a doctor, dentist or preferred hospital.

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Number not in compliance: 2

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
Two slides over 18 inches were placed on grass on the older playground, they required ASTM 1292 surfacing for the fall zone. A large octagon climbing metal structure was placed on dirt on the older playground, this was approximately 6 feet tall. This required ASTM 1292 surfacing for the fall zone and safety. The rubber tiles were coming up and were swollen and at angles sticking out, creating a tripping hazard; this was under a climbing/slide structure on the playground.

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.
The documentation for monthly playground inspections could not be located for the months of June through December of 2022.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The menu's reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines.

Radon testing is now due every five years if testing is under the 4.0 cutoff. The center completed radon testing in January of 2021 and all rooms fell under the 4.0 cutoff.

The furnace is inspected annually.

The director will ensure the playground inspections are documented monthly. These are taking place, however they are not being documented.

The two slides were removed during the visit and they will remove the octagon structure by the end of the day. The new owners were emailed about this structure and the need for surfacing. The new owners plan on putting in new surfacing on the older playground this year.

The director will do a child file update in August.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.