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

Name of Center: Zion Child Care Preschool **Enrollment:** 210 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18565

Street: 430 3rd AVE S **City:** Clinton Iowa **Zip** 52732 **County:** Clinton

Mailing Address: 430 3rd AVE S, Clinton, IA, 52732

Director's Name: Kelly Bork **Phone Number:** 563-243-9393

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** zioncc-ps@hotmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 03-22-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 01-31-2024

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: 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	8	16	70	21	115
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 10-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 04-01-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 3/22/24. Center director, Kelly Bork, was present along with other staff. Kelly has been the director for many years and had been employed at the center for many years even prior to that. She was the assistant director before taking over director responsibilities. This is a non-profit program, owned and operated by the Zion Lutheran Church, and is located in a building across the street from the church. The center was built in 2007. The center does support itself financially. This center does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program.

The program rooms operate out of the main level of the building. Program rooms include: Preschool Room #1 (four/five year olds school year, school-age in summer); Preschool Room #2 (four/five year olds school year, school-age in summer); Multi-Purpose Room (mixed age group at center opening and closing times, three year old preschool area, school age before and after school and non school days during the school year); Twos Room (age 18 months up to three years); Threes Room (child care); Fours Room (child care); and Infant Room. The rooms are bright and spacious. Program rooms generally include a good supply of books, crafts, toys, blocks, games, music, computers, puzzles, sensory, and creative dramatics that are displayed nicely. Materials are organized and child accessible. There are restrooms adjacent to each program room except for the infant room and one of the prek/school age rooms. The two prek/school age rooms share a restroom area that is adjacent to one of those rooms. The center director reports that the center does have a staff available to travel with children to use the restroom so that ratio and supervision can be maintained. Extra sinks are also available within each program room. Diapering stations with adequate hand washing facilities were located in the infant and two year old rooms. Diaper stations were also observed in the two restroom areas adjacent to the multi-purpose/three year old preschool room. All program space was observed.

The program does not participate in the CACFP. The program provides the children with breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. School age children are required to bring their own lunch from home during the summer. Breakfast and snack are prepared for the children on-site. The center contracts for lunch which is prepared at a nearby elementary school from an IDPH licensed kitchen. Staff travel to the school to pick up the lunch service. The center cooks lunch on site during a two week period near the end of summer when the school program closes and also on non-school days during the school year. There is a separate kitchen area within the center, and the center employs a cook staff person. The kitchen continues to be clean and highly organized.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center continues to be very well managed, and the staff work well together. The center director continues to report low turnover of staff. The center director states that the center employs two staff during preschool hours who are dually certified in early childhood education and special education. The center participates in fundraisers and uses the profits to make center improvements. The program has partnerships with many community agencies including the school district, IQPPS, I smile, Lions Club, Kidsight, and AEA. Rooms are bright with large windows, spacious, and nicely painted and decorated to present a child-friendly environment. Materials continue to be highly organized, accessible, and well maintained. The center director states that each room gets yearly budget for the purchase of new toys and manipulatives for their room. The staff

were once again observed to be positively engaged with the children in activities in all rooms. The nursery completes a lesson plan for three different age/developmental groups. The center continues to offer a lending library for family to borrow books from the center. Licensing documentation continues to be highly organized, and the center maintains a tracking system to ensure staff file compliance. The attention to detail in every aspect of this center's operation is notable.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Consultation has been provided to the center regarding the updated rules regarding combining different age groupings of children and what is allowed and when. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure they are in compliance with this moving forward.

1. Ensure specific authorization is obtained from parents and updated annually to release children to the school bus.
2. Phone posting is needed in the four year old room.
3. Ensure children from preschool two room are always supervised (in ratio) when traveling over to preschool one room to use the restroom.

This center will continue with a full license. This report does not require a written response, however, please address concerns noted in the report so that corrections are obvious and ensure that items remain in compliance. Thank you.

*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.