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

Name of Center: Stepping Stones Learning Center LLC **Enrollment:** 89 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 20495

Street: 2205 2nd AVE **City:** Muscatine Iowa **Zip** 52761 **County:** Muscatine

Mailing Address: 2205 2nd AVE, Muscatine, IA, 52761

Director's Name: Shawna Martin Assistant Director: Jacob Martin **Phone Number:** 563-264-1871

On-Site Supervisor(s): Michelle Sebastian **E-Mail:** daycare97@machlink.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-21-2023

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:** 05-03-2023

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

Date Inspected: 02-17-2022

Comments : Does Comply.

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	22	14	49	8	93
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2023 to 07-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown **Date:** 07-30-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker arrived at Stepping Stones Learning Center LLC on 7/21/2023. The center provides childcare for infant to preschool aged children. The center is open from 4am to 5:30pm.

The center has 89 children enrolled. The center is located inside of a commercial building. The center is for profit. The center's fire inspection was completed on 2/17/2022.

The director is Shawna Martin. Shawna opened the center in 2007. Shawna has her Child Development Associate's Degree.

The assistant director Jacob Martin. Jacob started in 2014. Jacob has a Child Development Associate's Degree.

The onsite supervisor Michelle Sebastian. Michelle started in 2007.

This worker observed all classrooms. The center uses Creative Curriculum.

Nutritional practices were checked. The center provides breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The kitchen was maintained in a clean/orderly fashion.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed.

The center does not offer field trips.

The center's policies, licensing notebook, staff files and child files were reviewed. The center also had required postings.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

-The center regularly works with CCR&R and their Nurse Consultant.
-The center accepts Child Care Assistance.
-The center is on the Child and Adult Care Food Program.
-The center has Quality Rating Scale Level 4.
-The center is well maintained, clean and nicely organized.
-Shawna Martin and Jacob Martin are ServSafe certified.
-The center does an excellent job of maintaining staff.

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

109.10(7): Staff hand washing: The center shall ensure staff demonstrate clean personal hygiene. Staff immediately was

hands before eating or participating in food service activity.
-A staff member was doing a child's hair at the lunch table prior to lunch. Staff did not wash her hands prior to participating in food service.
-The director will review and post this information:
https://hhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/portals/1/userfiles/128/handwashing%20poster%202017.pdf

109.10(16)a: The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.
-Careful supervision was not provided in the 1 to 2 year old room. One staff was assisting children with handwashing. The other staff was cleaning up and had her back to the whole room. Both staff did not provide supervision at the table one was in the restroom and one was in the corner.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
-The center must ensure that choking hazards are inaccessible to the children under the age of three years.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

The following agencies are available to provide consultation, support, and educational opportunities:
CACFP: https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/nutrition-programs/child-and-adult-care-food-program
Child Care Resource and Referral: https://iowaccrr.org/staff/region_5/
Early Childhood Iowa: https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/
First Children's Finance: https://www.firstchildrensfinance.org/
Healthy Child Care Nurse Consultants: https://idph.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants
Iowa AEYC: http://www.iowaaeyc.org/
Iowa After School Alliance: https://www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org/
Iowa State University: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/early-childhood
4c's of Johnson County: https://www.iowa4cs.com/

*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.