Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Carousel Child Care Center

Provider No.: 18673

Address: 300 E Howard ST, Manchester, IA, 52057

County: Delaware

Director's Name: Vicki Ries

On-Site Supervisor: Cindy Bradley

Phone Number: 5639273900

E-Mail: vickiries@iowatelecom.net

HHS Visit Date: 03/18/2026

Licensing Period: 04/01/2025 to 04/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 12/20/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 3

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	Year-round	School-Year	Summer Only
Sunday			
Monday	5:45 AM to 6:15 PM		
Tuesday	5:45 AM to 6:15 PM		
Wednesday	5:45 AM to 6:15 PM		
Thursday	5:45 AM to 6:15 PM		
Friday	5:45 AM to 6:15 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	19	18	18	26	81
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Community Childcare of Manchester is a nonprofit organization established in 2007. Community Childcare of Manchester offers the following two licensed childcare programs in the community: Storyland Child Care and Carousel Child Care Center. Specifically, this annual monitoring visit and inspection report pertains to Carousel Child Care. Carousel Child Care Center offers licensed childcare M-F 5:45am-6:15pm for children age birth through school-age. Total enrolled and attending children were reported to be 63 on 3/18/2026.

Community Childcare of Manchester has a multi-site director that oversees both childcare programs. Vicki Ries has been the multi-site director since August 2011. Ms. Ries has been with Community Childcare of Manchester for over 30 years, holds National Administration Credential (NAC), is a member of the NAEYC and continues to participate in professional development. Cindy Bradley has been with Community Childcare of Manchester for 25 ears. Ms. Bradley continues as assistant director/on-site supervisor (OSS) and continues to participate in professional development.

On 3/18/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in age defined classrooms. The building has sufficient restrooms and handwashing sinks to accommodate capacity. The center has an on-site kitchen and outdoor play area. On the day of the monitoring visit, the aroma of homemade French Toast (center's lunch time food) was filling the center! The program's culinary expert Lori has been with Carousel Child Care Center for over 10 years and has completed ServSafe certification. Curriculum throughout the center on the day of this monitoring visit was observed to allow for a variety of play experiences that piqued child interest as well as encouraged social emotional growth, innovation and child choice. A very noteworthy small group game of "Mystery Nutrition Lotto" was being greatly enjoyed in Room 3 as evidenced by all children actively participating, laughing, clapping hands and taking turns! On 3/18/2026, staff were observed to be in ratio and actively engaged with the children in all activities including infant cares, center play events and

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daily routines (e.g. lunch time rituals, nap time preparations). Staff were overheard engaging children in good discussion, providing positive redirection when needed and encouraging the use of social graces. Children responded well to staff and appeared to be truly enjoying their day.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The mission of Community Childcare of Manchester is "...to provide an affordable, safe, developmentally appropriate environment for children. Our focus is to provide a stimulating early care and educational experience, which promotes each child's social/emotional, physical and cognitive development..."

Community Childcare of Manchester sponsors the following website: https://www.communitychildcareofmanchester.com/.

Carousel Child Care Center has achieved IQ4K 3. In 2013, Community Childcare of Manchester received a Distinguished Service Award. In 2019, Community Childcare of Manchester established an endowment fund to help support sustainability.

As of 3/18/2026, Community Childcare of Manchester continues to be overseen by a board of directors. The program's management team (e.g. Ms. Ries, Ms. Bradley) continues to be mentors in the community partnering with academic institutions offering experiences to young people expressing a desire to become familiar with the childcare profession. The management team maintains system of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained in a secure manner. The management team is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. Ms. Ries has discussed continued quality efforts-goals while also needing to keep costs low for families. Ms. Ries has acknowledged continued partnerships including those with local businesses, the economic development office, and the Iowa Women's Foundation to offer community engagement activities (e.g. golf tournament, BINGO, annual appeal). Since the last review, Ms. Ries indicated Community Childcare of Manchester has invested in working with a grant writer. Many staff throughout the classrooms are seasoned and reported celebrating 12 years, 8 years, 3 years and 2 months of employment with this childcare. Ms. Ries continues to describe her team of staff as exceptional, reliable, innovative and professional.

On 3/18/2026, Carousel Child Care Center was again found to be maintaining required posting, maintaining parent-staff-program information centers, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Curriculum continues to include teacher-inspired ideas, phonics work, math concepts, small and large gross motor, imaginative play experiences, and crafts. Curriculum also incorporates added enrichments of walking field trips, guest speakers, themed days, and seasonal-holiday parties. Community Childcare of Manchester childcare locations do collaborate on the sharing of materials, curriculum, ideas/planning, and professional growth training. Carousel Child Care Center also reports having additional supports from CCR&R due to participation in IQ4K and having supports through participation in CACFP.

Carousel Child Care Center continues to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On 3/18/2026, management and staff discussed how they continue to help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following the policies and procedures. Management also reported continuing to have support from their board as to building conditions and repairs.

Community Childcare of Manchester has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. Community Childcare of Manchester sites have successfully navigated through local flood events (with relocations), 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, air quality alerts (2023, 2025), and repeated technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage).

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

None noted.

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

Not applicable.

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5. Special Notes/Recommendations

There's a small gap between the bottom of the outdoor shed and the ground that has potential to become a nice home for animals. Please remedy.

To help with building refreshes as well as updating of furnishes and supplies (e.g. carpets, shelves, countertops, high chairs, child proofing, flooring, paint), licensing supports continuing to apply for various funding opportunities as any become available (e.g. prior fall 2025 "Growing Iowa" fund designed to support childcare in Iowa by connecting with CCR&R).

The program's license is in full status. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 03/20/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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**.