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

Name of Center: Tiny Treasures Lutheran Preschool **Enrollment:** 74 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28312

Street: 8301 Aurora AVE **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50322 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 8301 Aurora AVE, Urbandale, IA, 50322

Director's Name: Heather Schmitz **Phone Number:** 515-777-3902

On-Site Supervisor(s): Rachel Kent **E-Mail:** heather.schmitz@gdlc.church

Date(s) of Visit: 09-17-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 09-19-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-12-2023

Comments : State Fire Marshal 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: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA X Other NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) X 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	8	58	0	66
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2023 to 11-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 09-18-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 9/17/24. The director was present throughout the visit.

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

Tiny Treasures Lutheran Preschool is located in the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Urbandale, IA. The center serves children ages two and a half to five years in age during the school year. The center has four classrooms. Children attend Monday - Friday but times may vary based on their ages. Some children attend full-days, 9:00am - 2:30pm. The center utilizes a combination of the Creative Learning Curriculum as well as a Bible based curriculum.

The center is overseen by a Board. Heather Schmitz is the director. Heather has a Bachelor's degree and past experience working in child care. Rachel Kent is the on-site supervisor. Rachel has a Bachelor's degree and past experience working in child care.

During the visit, children were initially having chapel time. Later, a tornado drill with all classrooms participating was observed. Staff were guiding children to the finished basement for this drill. One staff was observed providing comfort to one young child who was struggling some with the drill. At the end of the visit, some classrooms were observed going outside to the playground area.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

There are phones in every classroom.

The center is also involved with ITERS and ECERS. The center also participates in IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

Parents receive a weekly newsletter from the director as well as a classroom newsletter from specific teachers. Monthly calendars are sent home to parents. The center has a website through the church website www.gloriadeionline.com. Also, there is one parent teacher conference a year and one home visit a year for four and five year old children.

The center uses the online app, Brightwheel.

The center works well with other church personnel.

There are monthly staff meetings and Board meetings for the program.

There is a washer and dryer on site.

There is a secure entrance into the center during center hours of operation. There is also a camera security system in place.

There is a free eye exam given to kids once a year by a clinic. There are also free speech screenings provided to children if needed.

Staff pictures are posted near the entrance.

Enrollment remains steady,

The director is organized.

Over the past year, new flooring has been installed and hallways and classrooms have been painted.

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

109.15(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.
There was one issue with dry food storage observed during the visit. Food not entirely consumed should be stored in zip lock bags and/or plastic containers.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last tested 8/27/21 - 8/30/21. Radon levels in the classrooms came back below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual furnace inspection was last completed the week of 9/9/24 per the director. The center will need to have a copy of the invoice for their records.

For transportation/field trips, the center is currently not doing any field trips. In the past, parents have been responsible for getting their children to the field trip destinations. The center will bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

I-Power was discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have I-Power profiles and are uploading training.

*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.