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

Name of Center: Grundy Family YMCA SAC-Gladbrook Reinbeck Elem **Enrollment:** 20 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52226

Street: 300 Cedar ST **City:** Reinbeck Iowa **Zip** 50669 **County:** Grundy

Mailing Address: 102 E G AVE, Grundy Center, IA, 50638

Director's Name: Marquis Johnson **Phone Number:** 319-345-2822

On-Site Supervisor(s): Brice Clark **E-Mail:** mjohnson@blackhawkymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 09-19-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-23-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-24-2023

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years 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				75	75
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-08-2023 to 09-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 10-02-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced visit was made to the Grundy Family YMCA Reinbeck after school program on 09-19-23 where I met with the program director Marquis Johnson, and the lead teacher, Brice Clark. Both are qualified for the positions they hold based on their experience, education, and training. Marquis also oversees additional afterschool programs operated by the YMCA in the area. The program is operated out of the gym/cafeteria space of the Reinbeck elementary school but also makes use of the school library. While the program has a strong collaborative relationship with the school it is operated independently under a separate board of directors. The center provides programming for school age children only with Before & After School Programming during the school year, and full day programming during the summer. The program had begun operation at the start of the 2023 school year in August prior to receiving permission to open without a license which was granted on September 8th, 2023 when confirmation of the final fire inspection approval was received. There are approximately 15-20 children enrolled in the program though not all attend at the same time, and the enrollment may continue to expand as the program continues in operation. There are currently 2 teachers, Brice Clark, and Kinsey Fritz providing care. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

As noted the program makes use of the school gym/cafeteria, and library. Both have a general design that is consistent with their intended purpose. The gym/cafeteria is a large open space with folding trestle tables that can put out where the children can gather, eat snacks, or engage in games or activities that require a flat stable surface. The library has a number of book shelves, and some tables where the children can again engage in activities that requires a flat stable surface. The book shelves do create limited sight lines and blind areas where the staff do need to be aware of their positioning, and the activities of the children to ensure that supervision is maintained. Both have multiple exits and all exits were clear of obstruction. Restrooms are located outside the rooms off the main passage corridors.

Due to the multiple use nature of the space the program is not able to establish typical activity centers. The programs does maintain some equipment and materials, but also make use of school equipment such as balls and other items that can be used in the gym, and on the playground. The center does have a daily schedule and curriculum plan but these were not posted on the day of my visit. Despite not being posted it was obvious that these were being followed with the children having a snack when I arrived, then going outside to play, and then returning to the library for a teacher lead small group activity. The activity consisted of a craft project related to constructing paper apples. The staff were engaged with the children during the time of the visit but supervision practices do need to be reviewed. During the visit while the children were having snack one child was allowed to leave the gym to get a drink. While the drinking fountain was located just outside the door and the child could be seen from the gym depending on staff positioning it was noted that the staff were not in a position or attending to the children ensure direct line of sight was maintained. This was also noted for the arrangement of the library. In addition when on the playground the children were allowed to range throughout the playground area. At times staff were positioned so that they were in the same immediate area where the children were playing, and at others they were removed by a substantial distance. This was also coupled with the fact that when on the playground there were children who were not enrolled in the program that were co-mingled with the children attending the program which increases the risk of losing track of a child, or for issues related to conflict with another child. Establishing a defined area of use, or protocol for ensuring supervision when children wish to make use of various areas can help to ensure that supervision is maintained. Good behavior management practices were observed with the staff using positive recognition,

redirection, and guided problem solving with the children as needed.

During the visit the children were escorted to the restrooms and the staff did ensure that they washed their hands following restroom use. The school custodial services are responsible for the main cleaning of the facilities. The program also makes use of the first aid kit maintained by the school when on the playground, and first aid supplies that are maintained in the nurse/administrative offices of the school. While there are supplies necessary to address most common first aid needs it is recommended that the center maintain a separate first aid kit for their own use to ensure that they ready access to items as the kit used by the school for when the children are on the playground had very limited supplies.

The program does make use of the school playground. The pea grave used for fall surfacing has developed a hard pan layer and is insufficient. Some equipment also needed maintenance such as swings which needed S hooks closed so that the ends are no more than .04 inches from the barrel. It is understood that the school maintenance department is responsible for inspection and repairs but the program staff should still assess equipment and limit children from use of those items that do not have proper fall surfacing, or maintenance.

Due to the limited hours of operation meals are not served but snacks are provided. The children were eating snack when I arrived and the snack consisted of pretzels, and peanut butter. Initially no beverage was provided but the children were later given individual pre-sealed packages of apple juice. A copy of the planned menu was not posted and either one needs to be developed or if the center does not know what will be provided a menu of what is provided needs to be maintained. The staff did not eat with the children but did provide supervision at the table.

In reviewing administrative records the required notices for Consultant Contact, and Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting were not present or posted in an area where they were readily accessible. If these cannot be maintained in a parental notice area the center will need to maintain them in a notebook which can be brought out when the program is in operation where parents would be able to access it. This could also be used for the other notices and postings such as the schedule, curriculum, menu, evacuation plans, etc. In reviewing child files the center did have contact information for each child but the enrollment forms did not have an option for parents to provide a statement of health. The center is still within the first 30 days of operation and does have time to either obtain a physical for each child, or a statement from the parents that their children are healthy, free of communicable disease, have no allergies, can fully participate in care, and the program can access medical records and immunizations from the school if needed. Staff files are maintained at the program central office in Grundy Center and were previously reviewed and contained the required information for each employee. Inspections logs and certificates were available and current.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a new program that was started to meet a community need for older children who supervision for limited timeframes. The program as sought to create a plan of activities for the children that is engaging and supportive of learning and skill development.

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

109.4(3)b: Postings are required for:Mandatory reporter requirements.Notice of availability of handbook.Program activities.These shall be posted in area frequented by parents or public.
-- Notice was not present on the day of the visit.

109.4(5): Child Care Centers and Preschool Licensing Standards and Procedures shall be available in the center and a notice stating a copy is available for review. Contact information of the child care consultant shall be included in the notice.
-- Notice was not present on the day of the visit.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
-- The outdoor playground is not safe. The pea gravel used for fall surfacing has developed a hard pan layer and is insufficient. S hook connections on swings need to be closed so that there is no more than .04 inches between the end and the barrel. The program shall limit use of those aspects of the playground that are not safe until such time that corrections are made.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks.Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.

-- A copy of the planned menu, or list of items that have been served was not present.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.