

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

Name of Center: Project Youth **Enrollment:** 140 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51498

Street: 2707 Discovery Dr **City:** Rock Valley **Iowa Zip** 51247 **County:** Sioux

Mailing Address: 2707 Discovery DR, Rock Valley, IA, 51247

Director's Name: Raelee Gregg **Phone Number:** 712-451-6939

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jill Meinerts **E-Mail:** projectyouth@premieronline.net

Date(s) of Visit: 06-12-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** NA

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-12-2023

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

Date Inspected: 06-10-2021

Comments : Raelee Gregg became the director on 03-04-24 as Danika Lynn resigned as director. Danika remained mentoring Railee for a couple of weeks.

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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	54	44	57	28	183
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

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: Jana Drew

Date: 06-13-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A visit was made to Project Youth Daycare Center on 06-12-24 and spoke with new center director Raelee Gregg as Danika Lynn had resigned. Raelee has her degree as a LPN, but has worked several years in a childcare center and was an in-home childcare provider for 6 years. Raelee became director in March 2024.

Project Youth built a new center which opened on 07-19-21 and houses a headstart classroom which has it's own license. The center's hours are 6:30am to 6:00pm Monday thru Friday. The program is located in a free standing building which the city of Rock Valley and the area community helps to support the center. The center is operated as a non-profit program overseen by a board of directors. The center serves infants to school age(children age out at age 8). There are 8 rooms, infant to 6 months, 6 months to age 1, 1 year old room, 2 year old room, 2/3 year old room, 3 year old room, 4/5 year old room and school age room.

There are 140 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit there were 72 children present. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center also continues in cleaning toys daily that children use.

Each room was observed to have a good variety of toys that were appropriate to the ages of the children present. Children have access to bathrooms. The center has the following areas throughout the room for the children to explore and learn: toys, puzzles, books, dress up, legos and kitchen. It is reminded that staff need to wash children's hands prior to eating meals.

The infant room has two rooms, 6 weeks to 6 months(non-mobile room) and 6 month to 1 year(mobile room). Good food storage and handling practices were observed. The center uses a procare app to communicate with parents. They do their daily sheets on procare to let parents know when babies are fed, diaper changed, as well as how their baby is doing throughout the day. It is recommended to remove all bobby pillows from the infant rooms.

Center health & Safety

Medication needs to be stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. When brought to staff's attention they removed it right away. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Tornado drills and Fire drills need to be documented monthly. Annual heating inspection was complete. Radon testing needs to be completed. Good sanitary procedures are followed. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Good health and safety policies/procedures are in place. The center has a van for transporting kids, however, they also will use the schools bus if needed. The program do field trips to the swimming pool on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays weather permitting.

Kitchen is a designed as a commercial kitchen. Breakfast, snacks, and lunch are prepared onsite. Menus are rotated every 6 weeks. The program is on the food program and follows CAFPC guidelines.

Center Playground has rubber mulch and turf for surfacing. It has climbing equipment. There are two playgrounds next to each other. A playground for toddlers and a separate playground for 3 and up. Monthly playground inspections need to be completed. Both playgrounds have shade structures.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips

The center does not transport children other than for field trips. They go on summer field trips for the school age children in the summer to the local swimming pool 3x week. Information on the van was documented.

Goals of the center is to obtain is to get on IQ4K. The program is working with CCRR for support and assistance.

Strengths of the center: They have good staff who work as a team and lead teachers are creative in their curriculum. The center has a good relationship with their parents and the community they serve. The program provides quality childcare. The program installed cameras in all the rooms. The program uses the procare app for administrative duties. They also recently hired an administrative assistant to help with staff/kids files.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center uses Procare for communicating with parents, billings, and parents signing their child in and out.

The program does monthly staff meetings.

Children's toys are at their level and accessible.

Center displays children's art work in the rooms.

Center has upgraded the rooms by painting all of them in bright colors

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain: A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information. Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted. Copies of national criminal history check results. Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.

Number not in compliance: 2

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.

Number not in compliance: 2

109.10(8): Children's hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children's hands shall be washed: Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity. After using the restroom or being diapered. After handling animals.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the new director continue to work with CCRR for support and guidance.

Program will email consultant by 07-12 -24 confirming that items that fall below standards has been corrected.

A full license is recommended at this time.

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.