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

**Name of Center:** Northern Dallas County Head Start **Enrollment:** 52 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28405

**Street:** 2816 First Ave **City:** Perry Iowa **Zip** 50220 **County:** Dallas

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 427, Carroll, IA, 51401

**Director's Name:** Tonya Weber **Phone Number:** 515-465-5972

**On-Site Supervisor(s):** Becky Freeman and Maren Meosburger **E-Mail:** tweber@newopp.org

**Date(s) of Visit:** 04-13-2023

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:** 04-12-2023

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

**Date Inspected:** 03-24-2022

**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 Other X NA

**Program Serves:** X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

**SCHEDULE:** X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

| **HOURS:** | *Year-round* | *School-Year* | *Summary Only* |
|---|---|---|---|

| LICENSE CAPACITY | Infants | 2 Years | Preschool | School-Age | Capacity |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General | 16 | 16 | 60 | 0 | 92 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

**QRS Rating:** 2

| RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE: | |
|---|---|
| X | **FULL** license from 05-01-2023 to 05-01-2025 |
| | **PROVISIONAL** license from |
| | **DENIAL** of initial application |
| | **SUSPENSION** of license |
| | **REVOCATION** of license |

**Licensing Consultant:** Nate Knepper **Date:** 04-14-2023

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

N/A.

**II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:**

A licensing visit was conducted on 4/13/23. The director and one of the on-site supervisors were present throughout the entire 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. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Northern Dallas County Head Start is a Head Start program located in Perry, IA. The program serves children six weeks in age through age five years in age Monday through Friday. Children can attend all day programming. All three classrooms serving children three - five years of age are licensed for 20 children. The four Early Head Start classrooms are capped at a capacity of eight children each. Classrooms serving three to five year old children are only in operation during the school year. The four Early Head Start classroom are open year-round. The center utilizes the Creative Learning Curriculum-Gold in their teachings.

This Head Start program is operated by New Opportunities Inc. which is based in Carroll, IA. New Opportunities operates several Head Start and Early Head Start programs licensed by this consultant. There is a church in the same building as the center, but there are separate and secure entrances for both businesses.

The director of this program (and other New Opportunities Head Start programs) is Tonya Weber. Tonya has been the director since 7/2013. Tonya has a BA degree. The on-site supervisors are Becky Freeman and Maren Meosburger. Becky has a CDA and has worked at this program since 2006. Maren is new this year and has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

During the visit, children were observed playing outside, washing their hands, being fed by staff, napping in cribs, and eating lunch. Good child - staff interactions were observed.

**III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

All teacher assistants and program aids are bilingual in English and Spanish. Also, many of the postings observed are in English as well as in Spanish as there are a number of Hispanic families the program serves.

Monthly newsletters are sent home to parents (again in English and Spanish).

Monthly staff meetings are held.

The preschool participates in the food program (CACFP).

Parents are encouraged to actively participate in their child's programs/activities. Communication is kept open. In addition,

there are two parent teacher conferences a year as well as two scheduled home visits per year.

The program has a few in-service days each school year where there are no classes. This allows staff to stay current on certificates and/or gain additional developmental training hours.

There is a secure entrance into the building. Cameras are also in classrooms.

Children under three years in age have their own separate playground.

Good child/staff activities were observed in all three classrooms.

Management believes they have a good staff and they all work well with one another.

Files were nicely organized.

The center participates in QRS and is looking into IQ4K.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
In two classrooms, there were dangling cords that need to be more securely fastened to the walls and/or tucked behind other shelving. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

**V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Radon testing is due every two years and was last completed 4/9/21 - 4/12/21 and 11/12/21 - 11/15/21. Radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff. The center should conduct radon testing again in 11/2023. If levels in classrooms come back below 4.0, the center can move to testing every five years so long as levels remain below 4.0 each time.

The last annual furnace inspection was completed 3/30/23.

Each classroom has a functioning carbon monoxide detector.

Daily playground checks are conducted.

The center contracts with the school district for any field trips. The center will also bring agencies into the center for presentations to children.

IQ4K and I- Power were discussed at the visit.

The food menu should also be posted at the main entrance.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. The application and payment was sent in on 4/12/23 per the director.

*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.