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

Name of Center: Little Endeavors **Enrollment:** 120 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28320

Street: 205 SE Oralabor RD **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50021 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 205 SE Oralabor RD, Ankeny, IA, 50021

Director's Name: Tina Lykins **Phone Number:** 515-963-0500

On-Site Supervisor(s): Mekenna Magnuson/Katie Gennaway **E-Mail:** tina@littleendeavors.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-01-2023

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:** 04-26-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-29-2022

Comments :

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

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA X Other 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	32	24	118	32	206
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

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: Debbie Hammer **Date:** 05-03-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A full licensing visit was conducted on 5/1/23. The Director was present throughout the visit.

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.

This center was built specifically for child care and opened in the fall of 2001. Ownership changed in 2015. Tina Lykins became the director in September of 2022. Tina has prior director experience and several years of experience in a childcare setting. Mekenna Magnuson became the on-site supervisor (assistant director) in December of 2022. Mekenna has a Bachelor's degree in communications and has prior experience in a childcare setting. Katie Gennaway became the on-site supervisor in February of 2023. Katie worked as a teacher at this center for three years prior to taking on this role. All three meet qualifications for their positions.

Todd Figley and Eric Kohlsdorf are the owners of this center and recently purchased the building where the center is located.

Little Endeavors offers care for infants up to age 12. Hours of operation are 6:30 am-6:00 pm.

Recently, the center tore down the walls dividing the infants classrooms and the school age classrooms; there were four smaller infants rooms, now there are two larger infant rooms, both with a capacity of 16. There were two school age classrooms, now there is one larger school age classroom with a capacity of 32. This added two to the total capacity for the center, taking the center from 204 to 206 for total capacity. The center now has 14 enclosed classrooms and continues to have an inside large motor play area.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has a QRS rating of 3 stars. This is based on a 1-5 star scale.

The center has longevity with their staff; one lead teacher has been with the center for 21 years. Other staff have been with the center for 17-20 years.

The staff are professional and work well together as a team. The teachers are prideful of their classrooms and take ownership of their rooms.

There is good communication between staff and management.

The center conducts yearly parent surveys in the fall and receives good feedback.

The classrooms do monthly classroom newsletters and the classrooms have an Ipad for the Kids Report account to send messages to parents in real time. Each classroom also has their own email account to send emails to parents.

The center has a website and a Facebook page.

The center has a secure entrance.

Teachers call parents every couple of weeks to check in with them about their children and talk about how their children are doing.

The administration team shows their appreciation for staff. The administration team work well together, they are a strong team.

The staff work well together and they are willing to help each other and work overtime. The staff have strong relationships with the children and parents, they work hard on lesson plans and curriculum.

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

109.6(6)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
On staff file reviewed did not have a repeat SING check at the two year mark, this was completed after two years and six months.

109.9(3): Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.
Number invalid: 1
One child file reviewed did not have a signed and dated Iowa immunization certificate.

109.10(3)c: For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription.
A prescription medication at the center did not have authorization signed by the parent/guardian for the center to administer the medication. A medication at the center has expired in June of 2022.

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.
A record of fire and tornado drills could not be located for the months of June, July and August of 2022.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. 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 van used to transport children had a bottle of wiper fluid accessible to the children and the van had old food on the floor and trash on the floor. The kitchen had opened bags of food that were not properly sealed to prevent spoilage. Items were placed on the changing station in the two year old classroom, causing the items to be unsanitary and the surface of the changing station to be unsanitary.

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.
The record of outdoor monthly inspections could not be located for the months of June, July and August of 2022.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is now due every five years if testing is below the 4.0 cutoff. The center last completed radon testing in February of 2022 and all rooms tested fell under the 4.0 cutoff.

The new director started in September of 2022, all fire and tornado drills have been completed and documented since her start date, as well as playground inspections.

Discussion took place regarding the bags of food in the kitchen not being sealed properly after being opened, they will use a strong clip or a sealed container from now on to seal bags that have been opened.

Discussion took place regarding the changing table surface and keeping this surface clean and sanitized at all times. Staff do not always use the changing station, but do use it at times.

Discussion took place about the lighting in one of the infant rooms, the overhead lights were turned off and although there was additional lighting in the room, discussion took place to make it more bright for better observation of the children.

The wiper fluid was removed during the visit.

The director sent an email after the visit, on 5/2/23, stating:

We are ordering wall lights for the baby room
-- Allergy Emergency care plan is being updated
-We are looking to order new storage options for the room that was using the diaper changing station.
-The family will be in contact with the Ankeny clinic to get their children's immunizations transferred to Iowa template
--Kenna is making a first-aid kit to put in Van 1 (we will have a staff member clean out the van as well)

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.