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

Name of Center: Children's Choice Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 120 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 35651

Street: 115 S 3rd AVE **City:** Eldridge Iowa **Zip** 52748 **County:** Scott

Mailing Address: 115 S 3rd AVE, Eldridge, IA, 52748

Director's Name: Shari Eller;Courtney Anderson/Mitchel Dierickx **Phone Number:** 563-285-6500

On-Site Supervisor(s): Linnae Wingate **E-Mail:** Office@childrenschoice-eldridge.com

Date(s) of Visit: 06-22-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 05-03-2021

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 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	42	67	39	202
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 06-28-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was completed at this center on 6/22/23. The large center is for profit and is owned by Shari Eller and Eller Foundations. Shari is also the qualified center director. Shari was present on the day of the visit along with other staff. Courtney Anderson is also qualified as center director. Courtney accompanied the licensing consultant throughout the majority of the visit. The center participates in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program.

The center consists of the following program rooms: Sprout Court (18 months up to 24 months); Bloomer Crossing (12 months to 18 months); Baby Boulevard (approximately seven to 12 months); Lullaby Lane (six weeks to seven months); High End Road (four years); Locomotion Highway (three years - and open on one end to High End Road); Snoopy Avenue (four/five years old and Voluntary prek room); Huggable Hills (younger twos); Adventure Place (older twos/younger threes - and open on one end to Huggable Hills); and Runaround Circle (school-age and also large motor room for all programs when school age children are not present).

Program rooms generally included an adequate supply of materials and age appropriate equipment to support programming needs. The youngest infant rooms are nicely arranged with readily accessible materials for the children.

Some rooms include adjacent restroom facilities with the exception of the infant and toddler rooms which do include diapering stations. High End Road room and Snoopy Avenue room have to travel over to the Locomotion Highway room to use the restroom area. Adventure Place must travel over to Huggable Hills to use the restroom area. Adventure Place and Huggable Hills rooms and their restroom area do not include any diapering stations. When needed the standing method is used for diaper changing in the restroom area. Most rooms contain or have access to additional sink(s) within the program space as well.

The center continues to mostly use mats for nap. Storage and sanitation of the mats and bedding items is always reviewed with the center. The center indicates that mat sheets are washed daily, and the mats are sanitized daily. Blankets are also washed daily in some of the rooms. As before mentioned, the center is encouraged to replace mats with stackable cots as soon as it is possible because they provide for easier sanitation, bedding may not have to be washed daily if stored correctly, and cots get children up off the floor. It is noted that the center has replaced some mats with cots.

All program space was observed.

The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. All meals/snacks are prepared on-site in the center's kitchen. The center does not participate in the CACFP. The kitchen area continues to be highly organized.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center owner/director has experience and training in the child care field and has assisted with operating this center since it opened. She also has extensive business administration experience. The center employs two additionally qualified center directors as well as an on site supervisor. The program rooms are bright with windows and offer an ample amount of space.

Many craft and project items from the children are on display throughout the center. The staff were again observed to be engaged with the children in activities. Program rooms are all visible from windows in the hallway of the center. The center also has a video monitoring system that allows program rooms to be monitored from the director's office. Licensing documentation and child and staff files were found to be organized.

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

STAFF FILES:
109.6(6)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed national record check was due 3/2022.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. 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.
1. Staff are not cleaning and sanitizing food preparation surfaces immediately prior to the activity as is require in the Bloomer Crossing room.
2. Plastic bags and spray chemical would be accessible to school age children in the restroom area of Runaround Circle room.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.
Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum. Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
1. Activity plan not current for Locomotion Highway room.
2. No activity plan posted for the school age children.

109.15(3)e: Clean and sanitized bottles and nipples used for on-site formula preparation and kept refrigerated.
1. Bottles being used in the Bloomer Crossing room are not being properly cleaned and sanitized between uses as is required. Bottles shall go through the dish washing process between uses.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Ensure fully stocked first aid kit with all items on the checklist is taken on all van runs with children.
2. Visible working thermometer is needed in Bloomer Crossing room freezer. Breast milk was stored here. Freezer observed at 10F and refrigerator observed at 48F in Lullaby Lane room. Freezers shall maintain temperature of 0F or below. Refrigerators shall maintain temperature of 40F or below.
3. Hand washing procedure posting is needed at hand washing sink in High End Road room.
4. Replace visibly worn toilet seat in the Locomotion Highway restroom area.
5. Label diaper waste can in Huggable Hills restroom area for this material only.
6. Sanitizing product the center is using requires a rinse step after the soapy water wash and before applying the sanitizer. Ensure all rooms have the three steps available (Baby Boulevard and Lullaby Lane rooms did not have a rinse step available).

The center will continue with a full license. The center is directed to correct the items cited and the items noted above in this section of the report and to submit a written summary to the licensing consultant as to how and when those corrections are/will be completed. The written summary shall be submitted within 30 days of receipt of this evaluation. Thank you.

*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.