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

Name of Center: Joyful Journeys Daycare/Preschool **Enrollment:** 85 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 29248

Street: 2300 27th St **City:** Spirit Lake Iowa **Zip** 51360 **County:** Dickinson

Mailing Address: PO Box 422, Spirit Lake, IA, 51360

Director's Name: Kari Williams **Phone Number:** 712-336-2228

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** joyfuljourneyspreschool.ilc@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-31-2024

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 05-13-2024

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

Date Inspected: 05-07-2024

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: 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*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	31	16	65		112
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 06-04-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was done on 05-31-24 and spoke with Director Kari Williams. Kari became the director on 08-01-21. Ms. Williams has an elementary education degree and five years of experience working with children. Joyful Journey is located in five rooms of the Immanuel Lutheran church. This is a gospel based childcare center. The center consists of two infant rooms, a two year old room, three year old preschool and a four year old preschool. They also utilize a large room in the church for large motor development when they are unable to go outside. The center operates Monday through Friday 7:00am to 5:30pm. The three year old pre-school operates Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 8:30am to 11:15am, and the 4 year old preschool is Tuesday thru Friday. They serve children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old. Currently they have 85 children enrolled in the program.

A full licensing visit was conducted. 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.

During the visit 52 children were present. The center continues to be cleaning daily of toys that children use and the church offers cleaning areas that the Center staff does not clean(bathrooms, hallways, and classroom vacuuming/mopping. to do the major cleaning. Ms Williams does room staff meetings as well as going into classrooms to offer observations and assistance to staff as well as the children. It is recommended to remove bobby pillows(with the exception of using for nursing moms only) as well as no swaddling of infants.

The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. The kitchen is not accessible to the children. Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication, however, currently there are no children that the center gives med currently. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff. First aid kits are available and able to treat minor injuries.. Fire/tornado drills were documented. Radon tests was completed and within normal ranges. Annual heating inspection was not available at the time of the visit. Center has a carbon monoxide detector.

The center is in the process of updating their founding documents, employee/parent handbooks. The center has installed cameras in all the rooms. Prior cameras were only in the hallways and outside. The cameras were installed in February/March 2024. The program is also changing their rubber square surfacing to poured rubber surfac which they recieved a stablizational grant. They are also looking at different climbing equipement and a toddler playground. The center uses the Bright Wheel app to help with some streamlining of administrative duties. Core staff have completed PBIS training.

A fenced in playground is adjacent to the building. Surfacing material around all climbing equipment. Surfacing material (rubber) is around all the playground equipment and some of the rubber tiles need to be fixed as they were coming up. The center is looking at changing the rubber tiles as they continue to separate or curl up. Surfacing updates should be completed this month weather permitting. They will take out the swings and in time look at another climbing structure. The playground has slides, climbing equipment, a large sandbox, basketball hoop, various toys and kitchen. Shade is

available on the playground. The playground has a bike riding track and 4 houses along the bike track for children to stop and play. Monthly playground inspection were completed.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
They walk for field trips or take the Rides bus.

Goals for the center: Director would like a separate playground for the 1 and 2 year olds. Also, to add turf to all the grassy areas for low maintenance. To increase staff and build in more professional development days. Program is closing on 08-02-24 for a professional training for all staff. Director would also like to look into getting center on IQ4K as well as staff take Brain-juice training.

Strengths of the program is that Ms Williams feels that the center has a good core group who are willing to help and support each other. The staff also have a good relationship with the children they serve. The center has a new board who are very supportive of the program. Staff help the children in transition when the children move up. The center uses the Bright Wheel app to assist in administration duties.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center sends a monthly newsletter for the parents by Facebook app

This is an organized center.

Children's toys are at their level and accessible.

Preschool and three year old room has parent/teacher conferences two times a year to inform parents of their child's progress and what they need to work on.

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: 1

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
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

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant of those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards by 06-30-24.

A full license will remain in effect 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.