Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Sioux Central Childcare Center

Provider No.: 29110

Address: 515 Elm ST, Sioux Rapids, IA, 50585

County: Buena Vista

Director's Name: Nikita Anderson

On-Site Supervisor: Jada Geeseman

Phone Number: 7122832395

E-Mail: sccc_04@hotmail.com
danddriley@icloud.com

HHS Visit Date: 06/19/2026

Licensing Period: 07/01/2026 to 07/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 06/04/2026

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [X] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [X] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	23	9	27		59
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit at the Sioux Central Childcare Center on 06/19/26. During the visit, I met with Director Nikita Anderson, who has served in this role since 2023 and has many years of experience in the childcare field.

The center provides a full range of childcare programming for infants through school-age children. The program has 40 children enrolled, with 21 child present at the time of my visit. The center is located in the former elementary school building in Sioux Rapids. It operates independently from the school district and is governed by its own board. School-age children are bused to the local school during the academic year. This center is a critical service in the small town of Sioux Rapids. The center makes use of three classroom areas and the gymnasium. Infants are served in one classroom on an upper split-level area. Older mobile infants and toddlers are served in a classroom on the lower level. Preschool-age children utilize a large open area on the lower level. School-age children use the gymnasium as their primary programming space during the summer months and combine with the preschool classroom during the school year.

I observed all areas of the center, including classrooms, activities, nutrition practices, health and safety procedures, the playground, and administrative documentation.

The center uses a theme-based curriculum, in which staff plan activities around a central topic to support learning across developmental domains. This approach helps children make connections between concepts, stay engaged in activities, and build language and problem-solving skills through consistent, play-based experiences. I observed a variety of activity centers throughout the classroom. The environment included many age-appropriate materials such as stepping stones, books, puzzles, and dramatic play items. Staff demonstrated creative planning, offering engaging activities that supported children’s exploration and development. The atmosphere was warm and inviting, with children’s artwork displayed on the

walls alongside visual aids that enhanced the learning environment.

I observed the center's mealtime practices and noted that proper handwashing procedures were followed by staff and children. The children appeared excited about their lunch and engaged in conversations about their planned afternoon activities. The program also incorporates community resources, including visits from the Buena Vista County naturalist and participation in activities offered by the local library.

The center's first aid kits were observed to be adequately stocked to address minor injuries. The facility appeared clean and well-maintained throughout the visit. Proper diaper-changing procedures were observed and followed by staff. The gymnasium is used frequently for large-motor activities and provides a spacious, appropriate environment for children to learn and play. The center does need to ensure monthly playground inspections are completed consistently. Documentation showed that monthly fire and tornado drills have been completed in a timely manner, and playground inspections have also been recorded. The annual heating inspection was verified as completed.

The center has an outdoor playground area for children's use and is currently fundraising to support future improvements. While the available equipment is limited, it appears to be in safe condition. The playground space includes numerous shade trees, which provide a comfortable outdoor environment for children.

The center's ongoing goal is to continue fundraising efforts to support future improvements to the playground.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center demonstrates a strong commitment to staff morale, including the use of a "Staff of the Month" recognition to acknowledge employee efforts and promote a positive work environment.

The center is actively working toward achieving Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K) Level 1 certification, which reflects their commitment to meeting quality standards beyond basic licensing requirements and strengthening their overall program practices.

The center maintains a positive working relationship with the local school district and collaborates to ensure preschool-age children are well prepared for the transition to kindergarten.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.10(13)a: The center shall have written emergency plans and diagrams for responding to fire, tornado, flood, and plans responding to intoxicated parents and lost or abducted children. Emergency plans shall include written procedures including plans for: Evacuation to safely leave the facility. Relocation to a common, safe location after evacuation. Shelter in place to take immediate shelter when the current location is unsafe to leave due to the emergency issue. Lock down to protect children and providers from an external situation. Communication and reunification with parents or other adults responsible for the children, which includes emergency telephone numbers. Continuity of operations. To address the individual children, including those with functional or access needs. - Please complete an Emergency Preparedness Plan.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. Sufficient cooling. Equipment placed in the program area is maintain. Please fix broken window in the hallway.

109.11(8) 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. A current radon testing report is needed.

109.9(2)d All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Please email this consultant by 08/30/26 that the corrections have been made.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management

I discussed with Nikita her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.
I spoke with Nikita regarding how she addresses situations when staff become frustrated. She reported that staff within the room will step in to support one another as needed. Nikita is also readily available and routinely enters classrooms to monitor how things are going and provide assistance. She stated that staff feel comfortable asking for help when needed. The facility also has cameras, which allow her to observe activity and intervene if necessary. Nikita feels her staff do a good job modeling positive behaviors for the children.

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide information regarding need information to this licensing consultant. When the Radon is checked again in the fall, please send results if it is again too high a plan must be developed for corrective action

Date: 06/23/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.