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

Name of Center: Tiny Treasures Lutheran Preschool **Enrollment:** 80 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28312

Street: 8301 Aurora AVE **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50322 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 8301 Aurora AVE, Urbandale, IA, 50322

Director's Name: Heather Schmitz **Phone Number:** 515-777-3902

On-Site Supervisor(s): Rachel Kent **E-Mail:** heather.schmitz@gdlc.church

Date(s) of Visit: 09-19-2023

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:** 09-19-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-12-2023

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 X Other NA

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	8	58	0	66
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2023 to 11-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 09-19-2023

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 9/19/23. The director was present throughout the 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.

Tiny Treasures Lutheran Preschool is located in the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Urbandale, IA. The center serves children ages two and a half to five years in age during the school year. The center has four classrooms, but like the past several school years, only three classrooms are being used this school year. Children attend Monday - Friday but times may vary based on their ages. Some children attend full-days, 9:00am - 2:30pm. The center utilizes a combination of the Creative Learning Curriculum as well as a Bible based curriculum.

The center is overseen by a Board. Heather Schmitz is the new director. Heather has a Bachelor's degree and past experience working in child care. Rachel Kent is the new on-site supervisor. Rachel has a Bachelor's degree and past experience working in child care.

During the visit, children were initially observed playing outside on the playground. Children then came inside and the first thing they did was wash their hands. Later in the visit, children were observed napping/resting on mats in their classroom. Only one classroom was in session at the time of the visit. Staff were attentive to children and their needs.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

There are phones in every classroom.

The center is also involved with ITERS and ECERS. The center is also beginning the IQ4K process which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

Parents receive a weekly newsletter from the director as well as a classroom newsletter from specific teachers. Monthly calendars are sent home to parents. The center has a website through the church website www.gloriadeionline.com. Also, there is one parent teacher conference a year and one home visit a year for four and five year old children.

The center works well with other church personnel.

There are monthly staff meetings and Board meetings for the program.

There is a washer and dryer on site.

There is a secure entrance into the center during center hours of operation. There is also a camera security system in place.

There is a free eye exam given to kids once a year by a clinic. There are also free speech screenings provided to children if needed.

Staff pictures are posted near the entrance.

Enrollment has again increased over the past year which indicates a need in the community.

The new director appears to be organized.

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

109.12(4): Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap.
For children who nap, mats should be at least two inches thick and sheets or some other cover/barrier are needed between children and the mats while they rest.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.
The full- day schedule needs to be adjusted some for when the children eat lunch and when they eat the AM snack.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last tested 8/27/21 - 8/30/21. Radon levels in the classrooms came back below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual furnace inspection was last completed on 10/26/22 so it is again coming due.

For transportation/field trips, staff will transport children in their own vehicles and parents will also transport their own children and meet the center at the field trip destination. There are typically one or two field trips a year taken.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit.

It is recommended that the center's Emergency Preparedness kit be stored in a suitcase and is more readily accessible if ever needed (not stored behind other equipment).

The center opened for the school year on 9/5/23. Several children are in need of updated physicals, but have 30 days from the start of the school year to do so. At least one child immunization needs to be signed/dates before 10/5/23.

The CACFP smart phone application was shared with the director. This can also be shared with parents.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. The application and payment was sent in on 9/19/23.

*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.