Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Kidstop Childcare Center

Provider No.: 35155

Address: 304 S Summit AVE, Bancroft, IA, 50517

County: Kossuth

Director's Name: Bobie Blocker

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5158852379

E-Mail: kidstopdaycare@outlook.com

HHS Visit Date: 02/10/2026

Licensing Period: 03/01/2025 to 03/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/26/2024

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 6:00 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	14	13	17	18	62
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made the Kidstop Childcare Center on 02-10-26 where I met with center director Bobie Blocker. Bobie took over as the director of the program in 2018 and is well qualified for the position with a BA in Education/Psychology and many years of experience in early childhood education and care. The center is located in several classrooms of the old St. John Catholic School in Bancroft which now also serves as a community center making use of other areas of the building, and also making use of the gymnasium space. The owners of the building are also seeking to renovate the second floor above the daycare for use as residential apartments, or other commercial space but these are not in use at this time. The program is overseen by an independent board of directors and is operated as a non-profit center. There are currently 32 children enrolled in the program served by 9 staff. The center provides services for infants through school age children, and also provides a formal preschool class that offers 3 year old preschool and participates in the 4 year old State Wide Voluntary Preschool Program. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed.

The general layout of the facilities, classrooms of the program remains the same as in prior visits. The center is currently using 4 classrooms with three for child care and one for the formal preschool class. Each classroom has an open floor plan typical of school classrooms with a large bank of windows along the exterior walls. The windows provide ample natural light, a view of the outdoors, ventilation, and also serve as secondary emergency egress for the children in the school age and preschool classrooms. The infant and toddler classrooms have doors that provide secondary direct egress to the outdoors. The emergency exit for the 2 year old classroom was noted to be very difficult to open and requires maintenance. As noted there are other programs making use of the building and facilities and while there is no secure barrier to prevent intrusion mobile barriers are in place to define the childcare areas, and the staff do ensure supervision. Restrooms are located down the hallway from the classrooms for the older children and children are escorted to the bathroom as needed. Sinks and changing stations are present in the infant room and toddler room to facilitate hand washing for diaper changes.

Activity centers are created through the placement of furniture, and play structures which are arranged so as not to create any blind areas.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Staff were observed to be engaged with the children and attending to their needs throughout the center and the time of the visit. This included staff assisting children with diapering/toileting, meal service, presenting planned curriculum activities, and playing with the children. Bobie did identify that the center does have a couple of children that are presenting some additional challenges for staff such as one child in the infant room that tends to be more aggressive/physical with younger infants, and another child in an older age classroom that is having a difficult time with toilet training and staff were looking for options for working with those children. The center is using the Frog Street curriculum plan which has prepared programming intended for use with infants through pre-K populations. This was observed to be present in all classrooms with examples of the infant room having individual skill focus cards posted for each child, the 2 year old teacher presenting an activity focused on Circles, and the 3-4 year old preschool class teacher calling children over individually to engage in a 1:1 writing exercise while the other children were engaged in self-directed center play. The center uses a positive behavior management approach to encourage positive behavior with techniques such as routines, reminders, and positive recognition. This approach was very effective as there were no behavioral issue that occurred during the time of the visit. Ratio was maintained in each classroom as required by age.

Good health and safety practices were generally observed. During the visit I was not able to observe diaper changes in the infant room. The staff did not deglove between handling soiled and clean items, and did not properly disinfect the changing station before moving to the next child. Good cleaning practices were observed for other situations such as cleaning and sanitizing tables and high chairs. Chemical cleaners, purses, diaper bags, medications, and other items that could present a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible to children. Good handwashing practices were observed for both children and staff. Those items that had been identified as choking hazards for younger children in the prior licensing report had been removed from classrooms serving children under 3 years of age. The center does maintain first aid kits in the classrooms which contain a limited supply and larger stores are maintained in the center office. Safe Sleep practices were for children under 12 months of age but staff identified that they do allow blankets and plush toys in cribs with children over 1 year of age. It was reviewed that while Safe Sleep practices do not apply to children over 1 year of age it recommended that they are applied to all children making use of cribs and the best time to introduce blankets, pillow, plush toys, etc. is when when children transition to cots. All cribs and cots had appropriate cover sheets and bedding.

The center has a full kitchen and meals are prepared on site. The center does participate in the Child and Adult Care Food program and a copy of the menu did identify a good variety of nutritious meal options. The kitchen space is made available to other community members who reserve space in the community center aspects of the building when the daycare is not in operation. As a result while there was no indications of insect or rodent infestation there was some minor general hygiene concerns related to food debris that had been spilled on the stove and floor by community members that had used the space. Good food storage, handling, and preparation practices were observed. Meals are served in the classrooms with the teachers providing supervision at the tables.

Due to building renovation work the area used for the outdoor playground is not available, and the equipment that was present has been removed. While that renovation work was completed the center has not been able to reestablish an outdoor playground. The lack of an outdoor playground is mitigated by the center having access to an indoor gymnasium space which can be used for large motor skill activities, and a large open grassy area where the children can play at a neighboring church. The program also engages in walking to other community resources such as the library and public park.

All required notices for No Smoking, License Certificate, Consultant Contact, and Mandatory Abuse Reporting were present and posted near the main entrance. The center uses a combination of an electronic management and communication application, "Playground", which parents can access via their cell phones, and hard copy files. In reviewing staff and children's files a random sample of each were reviewed and compared to the self-audits maintained by the center which were found to be accurate. Based on the review and self-audit child files contained all required documentation with the exception of 8 files that need an updated physical. In addition when reviewing infant daily sheets it was noted that staff were not documenting all required information. It was reviewed that all required elements need to be logged daily and while photos can be considered a visual depiction they need to include both morning and afternoon times to identify if there

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are changes in functioning. Staff files were generally found to be in compliance with all required documentation with the exception of 4 employees that needed an updated SING background check that had recently expired, and several that had not completed or needed renewed required training for 1st Aid/CPR, Mandatory Abuse Reporting, and Essentials Of Child Care. The center handbooks were reviewed and found to have several written policies that had not been included in the most recent update. All required inspections logs and certificates were available and current. Bobie did note that the center had not completed a renewed fuel burning appliance inspection as the building no longer has a boiler unit. It was reviewed that the stove is a gas unit and does still need to be inspected to ensure that there are no gas or carbon monoxide leaks.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(3) Daily activities and implementation.
For each child under two years of age, the center must make a daily written record. The record shall contain information on each of these areas:
a. The time periods in which the child has slept.
b. The amount of food consumed and the times at which the child has eaten.
c. The time of and any irregularities in the child's elimination process.
d. The general disposition of the child.
e. A general summary of the activities in which the child participated.
-- While staff were documenting Feeding, Toileting, and Sleeping they were not documenting Disposition, and Activities. It was reviewed that all required elements need to be logged daily and while photos can be considered a visual depiction they need to include both morning and afternoon times to identify if there are changes in functioning.

109.4(1): Written policies on: Enrollment and discharge. Field trips and non-center activities. Discipline/Behavior/Biting. Nutrition. Health and safety policies. Transportation if applicable. Assurance people do not have unauthorized access to children at the center. Protecting children's confidentiality.
-- The center Parent Handbook needs to be updated to include or expand several written policies. Required policies that were missing include Field Trips, Transportation, Incident Reporting, Curriculum, and Confidentiality. Policies need to be expanded for Discipline to identify prohibited disciplines, and Health & Safety polices to include Responding to Major/Minor medical/dental concerns, Handwashing, and Immunization notification of the acceptability of a valid certificate of exemption for religious or medical reasons.

109.6(4)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.
-- Documentation needed for 4 files that had recently expired.

109.7(1): All staff (within first three months of employment):Iowa's training for the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions.Certification in First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, (Essentials) approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
-- Documentation of one or more trainings needed for several staff.

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
-- Documentation needed for 8 children.

109.10(13)d: Daily checks to ensure all exits are unobstructed.
-- The emergency exit for the 2 year old classroom required excessive force to open and is in need of repair or replacement.

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109.12(4)b: Each infant and toddler shall be diapered in a sanitary manner as frequently as needed at a central diapering area. Diapering, sanitation, and hand-washing procedures shall be posted and implemented in every diapering area. There shall be at least one changing table for every 15 infants.
-- Staff were observed to not deglove between handling soiled and clean items, and did not properly disinfect the changing station between children.

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

Bobie identified that trainings have been scheduled for staff who need initial/renewed certificates, and parents have been notified of the need for physicals. Bobie also confirmed that those staff who needed background checks renewed were in process.

A list of required written policies and guidance on information to include was provided to the center.

A referral was made to the Fire Inspector for the center to review the emergency exit of the 2 year old classroom and provide guidance to the center on how to remedy that issue.

A service referral was also made to the Child Care Resource and Referral agency to provide assistance in the infant room.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 02/17/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

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**.