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

Name of Center: Sunbeam Christian Child Care and Preschool **Enrollment:** 48 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16104

Street: 419 N Delaware **City:** Mason City Iowa **Zip** 50401 **County:** Cerro Gordo

Mailing Address: 419 N Delaware, Mason City, IA, 50401

Director's Name: Linette Heimbuch **Phone Number:** 641-424-7073

On-Site Supervisor(s): LeAnne Hendricson (AM), Kelly Brockshus (PM) **E-Mail:** scccbl@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 06-08-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 05-02-2022

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 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	16	12	24	14	66
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2022 to 07-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 06-15-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to Sunbeam Christian Child Care and Preschool in Mason City on 06-08-23 where I met with center director Linette Heimbuch. Linette took over the director position in 2020 but had been working with the center prior to that in the kitchen. Linette is well qualified for the position having extensive history as an elementary school teacher, and completing professional development trainings. The program operates out of a wing of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church with programming on two floors. The child care center is a mission of the church and is overseen by a board of directors from the church. The program serves infants through school-aged children, and also offers a formal preschool program during the school-year. There are 48 children enrolled in the center served by 11 staff. All areas of the program subject to Licensing Standards were reviewed.

The general layout and design of the building and program remains the same as in prior visits. Classrooms are determined by age with several located on the main lower level, and two classrooms on an upper level. The center does have two infant rooms with one for younger infants, and the other for older more mobile infants. Due to decreased enrollment the center was not making use of the older infant room. Each room has secondary exits that include doors to the outside in the infant and toddler rooms, evacuation windows in the large motor skill room, and additional exits to the hallway or other classrooms in the remaining rooms. The exits were maintained such that they were clear and readily accessible.
The center is currently engaged in work to address issues in the toddler room regarding mold. The affected area has been cleaned and repaired, and the center was also addressing other maintenance issues. Each room has restroom facilities accessible directly from the room, and sinks in the classrooms. Each room has windows that can provide natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation.

Each classroom has an open floor plan that is divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture, shelves, and play structures. The arrangement of each room provided the children with room to move and play without creating any blind areas. There was a change with the toddlers making use of the large motor room while repair work was being done in the classroom. Each activity center was observed to have a good variety of toys and materials that were in good repair and generally appropriate to the ages of the children present. Each classroom had a daily schedule and copy of the curriculum posted. During the time of the visit the children were either napping to just getting up from napping in younger classrooms, and the older age children were gone to an off-site activity. The teachers did provide supervision in the classrooms for the children where napping, and playing games with or assisting those that were awake.

Good health and hygiene practices were generally observed but there were some issues with hygiene that the center does want to review. I was able to observe a diaper change and staff did not wash the infant's hands following the change and identified that this is common. In addition that same child was then placed at a feeding table for snack without washing the child's hands. It was reviewed that children must have their hands washed following diapering, as well immediately before eating. It was also reviewed that the use of diaper wipes is not an acceptable alternative when soap and running water available but staff can use a clean cloth or paper towel to wet and apply soap for handwashing if an infant has difficulty with washing at the sink. Other concerns observed during the diaper change included the staff holding the infant when using chemical cleaners, and not following the label directions of use which identified that the surface must be precleaned. Safe sleep practices were implemented for children under 1 year of age. One crib which was not being used was observed to

have a fitted sheet that was too tight and pulling at the corners of the mattress though that crib was not in use. It was reviewed that bedding should fit snuggly without allowing loose material to gather, or being too tight where the mattress is not able to lay flat. First aid kits are kept in each classroom and taken as a whole did contain materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Medications are maintained in the center office in a lock box. Over the counter medications were properly labeled. Chemical cleaners, medications, personal items, and other items that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible.

In observing the kitchen good food storage practices were observed. A copy of the menu is posted and identifies a good variety of nutritious food options. Meals are served in a gathering hall where the children sit at tables by classroom. Meals are pre-portioned for the children and supervision is provided at the tables.

The center playground was observed to have a variety of play structures that include climbing structures, spring rockers, dramatic play, riding equipment, and a variety of toys and art materials. There is a small garden area, and a paved area where children can use sidewalk chalk, riding toys, and other items that require a flat surface. Pea gravel is used for fall surfacing which is developing a hardpan layer in high traffic areas and will need to be monitored for aeration or supplementing with additional material. The equipment was observed to be in good repair and the center had addressed prior identified concerns with replacing damaged equipment such as the wooden picnic tables. Shade is provided by the building and mature trees. The playground is enclosed by fencing which was observed to be in good repair.

All required notices were posted in an area that was readily accessible and visible to all parents and visitors. In reviewing child and staff files the center does maintain a self-audit system but the self-audit for the children was incomplete with only 35 of the 48 files having been reviewed. A random sample of 6 child files were selected for review and compared to the self-audit which was found to be accurate. The self-audit and reviewed files did identify 25 files that needed an updated physical. In addition it was noted that some of the files identified that the last updated physical was more than a year old. It was reviewed with Lynette that children must have an updated physical, or for school age children a parental statement of health each year. It was reviewed that if parents do not provide updated information the center would be required to refuse acceptance of children until such time that current information is provided. In reviewing staff files the self-audit was again found to be accurate when compared to documentation found in files that were randomly selected for review. The reviewed files and self-audit identified that 5 staff needed a physical, 1 needed an Iowa SING Background check. Lynette stated that the individual was under the age of 18 and she thought that record checks were not required for minors. It was clarified that both the Iowa SING background check, and FBI Fingerprint background checks are required for all staff but if an employee is under 18 years of age then written parental consent must be provided prior to conducting the FBI Fingerprint check. When reviewing inspection logs information was current and available for all but fuel burning appliance inspections. Linette stated that the church would have those records but there was no one in the church office would be available to provide them.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has participated in the Quality Rating Scale program and is looking at options to continue with the IQ4K program which seeks to exceed licensing standards and implement best practice recommendations.

The center has completed some renovations and maintenance to address concerns that have been identified.

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: 5

109.10(1)a: 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, PA,

Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
-- Number not in compliance: 25

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.
-- Documentation not available at the time of the visit.

109.12(4): Sufficient toilet articles are provided for handwashing.Sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture that conforms with CPSC or ASTM.Play equipment, materials, and furniture meet the developmental, activity, and special needs of the children.Room's arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children.Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap.Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.Sufficient spacing is maintained between equipment to reduce transmission of disease and allow ease of movement by children and staff to respond to activities and care needs.Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.
-- Some sheets on crib mattresses were too tight and were pulling at the corners. Bedding is needed for all cots being used by children.

109.12(5)b: Infants diapered in a sanitary manner as needed in central diapering area.One changing table for every 15 infants/toddlers needing diaper changes.Diapering, sanitation, and handwashing procedures posted and implemented in central diapering area.
-- Staff did not wash infant hands following diapering, held children while using chemical cleaners, and did not follow manufacturer directions when using chemical cleaners.

V. 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.

NOTE: If documentation of current child physicals cannot be obtained or dates of scheduled physical provided within 15 working days of the receipt of this report the center will need to notify parents that they cannot accept the children until a current physical is provided.

*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.