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

Name of Center: Westside Head Start **Enrollment:** 34 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30196

Street: 1509 George St **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51103 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 2700 Leech Ave, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Rachael Ostermyer **Phone Number:** 712-255-5493

On-Site Supervisor(s): Tiffany Heuretz **E-Mail:** cbeatty@caasiouxland.org

Date(s) of Visit: 02-05-2025

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:** 01-05-2022

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

Date Inspected: 01-25-2024

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 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			36		36
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2025 to 03-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 02-07-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited Westside Head Start on 2-05-25 and spoke with Erica Kampfe lead teacher for the 3/4 year olds and Tiffany Heuretz, onsite supervisor/lead teacher. Ms Heuretz has a four year degree in elementary education and fifteen years of experience working with children. Westside Head Start is administered through the Woodbury County Community Action Agency. The center has two classrooms, one upstairs (A) and one downstairs (B). Westside A and Westside B operates only during the school year. The center operates 8:30am - 3:30pm Monday thru Thursday and 8:30am to 1:30pm on Friday. Program A serves children ages 4/5 years old and B serves primarily 3 year olds. The center has a buzzer by the front door and visitors must be let into the building by staff.

There are 34 children enrolled in the program(18 in the 4 year old program and 16 in the 3 year old program). At the time of the visit there were 30 children present. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in cleaning toys that children use. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, five senses, globe of the world, picture schedule for the children, job chart, children's artwork and the alphabet. Observed staff assisting children with a variety of activities, talking to the children throughout the visit, leading the children in exercise, reminding the children about rules, engaging the children in activities, sitting at the tables with the children during meals and reading stories to the children. Staff had good interaction with the children. The center utilizes the High Scope Curriculum Gold in their teachings. The program brushes the childrens teeth after breakfast and lunch.

Refrigerator is clean and kept at the appropriate temperature. Good food storage practices were observed. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. Menus were posted. Lunch is provided through the Sioux City Schools. Head Start provides breakfast and snacks. The center participates in the CACFP program. Menu's are rotated every 6 weeks. Medication is stored in a lock box out of reach of the children and documentation was provided of the meds they administer. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Annual heating inspection was not available at the time of the visit. Radon tests were complete, however in Rm B(3 yr old room) levels were above normal and need to be retested. The center has a radon mitigation system. Good sanitary procedures are followed. Center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Good health and safety policies /procedures are in place.

The center has a fenced-in playground next to the school. The playground has a small slide, water play, balance beam, musical equipment, bike riding area, stage and climbing equipment. The program put in turf around the climbing structures in August 2022 and removed the shredded rubber. Monthly playground inspection completed. Shade is available on the playground.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
The center does not transport the children.

Strengths of the program: The center has staff that work well as a team. Staff have good communication with their parents and the children that they serve. Staff work hard to get the children ready for Kindergarten.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center sends home a newsletter each month to keep parents aware of what is going on in the program.

Children's toys are at their level and accessible.

Home visits twice a year.

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

Very positive interaction with the children.

The classroom is well organized

Center has child size furniture.

Center displays children’s art work in the room.

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

109.11(7)b: 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.

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:

Center needs to email consultant confirming that those aspects that fall below standards have been corrected by 03-05-25.

It is recommended to update the licensing binder.

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.