Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Yellow Brick Road ECDC - Down Town

Provider No.: 51819

Address: 756 9th ST, Des Moines, IA, 50309

County: Polk

Director's Name: Shatiera Degeest

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5152852256

E-Mail: Shatiera.degeest@ybrecdc.org
troy.bage@ybrecdc.org

HHS Visit Date: 08/17/2026

Licensing Period: 08/01/2026 to 08/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 05/18/2026

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:45 AM to 5:45 PM		
Tuesday	6:45 AM to 5:45 PM		
Wednesday	6:45 AM to 5:45 PM		
Thursday	6:45 AM to 5:45 PM		
Friday	6:45 AM to 5:45 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	40	26	89	26	181
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Yellow Brick Road ECDC-Downtown opened in June 2022. The owners have several child care centers in the metro area as well as Minnesota and Nebraska. This center is located within a single standing building. The center has two secured entrances. The center offers child care services for children ages infancy through school age. Kacie Harms is the Regional Director of the center. Shatiera Degeest is the director. She has been with the daycare since September 2025. Shatiera had over twelve years of experience in child care prior to coming to Yellow Brick Road.

An unannounced visit was completed today. Shakira assisted with today's visit. All areas subject to HHS rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrances. Classrooms have schedules posted. Each classroom had a lesson plan posted. Children's artwork is displayed in hallways and in the classrooms. Classrooms are well supplied with age appropriate toys, learning materials and furnishings. The center uses play based learning curriculum. The center uses Line Leader for their app.

A few classrooms were combined today. Two Infant classrooms were combined today. Seven infants were present. Two staff were working with the infants today. There were two Wobbler classrooms open. One class had seven children present, one class had six present. Each room had two staff working in it. The Exploring Preschool (2's) had seven kids in attendance. Two staff were working with this group. Fourteen children were present in the Preschool class (3's). Two staff were working in this classroom. The PreK class (4/5's) had fourteen children in attendance. There were two staff working with this class. The school age class had nine kids present. One staff was working with this age group.

Children were observed in classrooms and in the gym area today. Children were observed during child directed and group activities. Some classes were observed having afternoon snack.

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The center has two playgrounds. There is a rooftop playground that is under construction currently. The other playground is behind the daycare center. The center completes monthly playground checks.

The center has a full kitchen and cook on staff. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack are served. Menus are on a four week rotation. Menus reflect CACFP guidelines are followed. Snack served today was animal crackers and apple sauce.

The center owns two vans that are used for transportation.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The owners have many years of experience leading child care centers. The classrooms are supplied with age appropriate furnishings, toys and learning materials. The center has video cameras in the classrooms and playgrounds.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record checkCopy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
There were some staff files that didn't have federal record checks. Shakira believed these checks had been done but they couldn't be located.
Shakira was redoing these checks.

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.
A few kids' files needs updated physicals.

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

NA

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center has a full license.

The center is ready to start participating in IQ4K.

Date: 09/04/2026

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HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

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**.