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

Name of Center: Hanson Family Life Center **Enrollment:** 42 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22430

Street: 306 S 6th ST **City:** Forest City Iowa **Zip** 50436 **County:** Winnebago

Mailing Address: 916 W I ST, Forest City, IA, 50436

Director's Name: Jenna Weiland **Phone Number:** 641-585-5187

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lexie Breitsprecher **E-Mail:** jweiland@forestcityymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 06-22-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 06-02-2021

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	13	12	74	30	129
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

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:** 07-07-2023

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Hanson Family Life Center on 06-22-23 where I met with center director Jenna Weiland. Jenna became the director of the center in January 2021 and is well qualified for the position having extensive experience and training in early childhood care. Jenna has a MA degree in Early Childhood Education, and most recently worked as an area manager for Head Start . Lexie Breitsprecher is the on-site supervisor and is also well qualified for that position. The center is operated as a non-profit program overseen by a board of directors. The facility is the main administrative office for this, and two other programs that are operated under the authority of Hanson Family Life and the board. The facility currently serves infants through 3 year old children at this location. There are approximately 42 children currently enrolled in the center served by 20 employees. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during this visit. It is noted that when reviewing employee files the review encompassed employees for the satellite programs as well.

The general layout and design of the physical facilities remains the same as in prior visits. The facility has 6 classrooms and a large cafeteria/gym area. The center was not making use of one classroom due to decreased enrollment and staffing. In observing classrooms each was clean with no significant issued related to maintenance. The two infant rooms have half walls that define sleeping areas and mobile gate structures were present to separate those spaces from the primary programming area. Each room has windows along the exterior walls that provide ample natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Each room has bathroom facilities directly accessible from the room and additional sinks in the classrooms to facilitate hand washing. Each classroom has secondary exits with several of the rooms having a connecting passage between two rooms as the secondary exit. These connecting passages are also used as a staff work space and storage area. Exit doors were observed to open easily and freely. Evacuation cribs are used in classrooms with the infants and during the visit items where observed to be stored in and/or under the cribs. As a reminder all exits including evacuation cribs must be clear of obstruction in accordance with Iowa Fire Code regulations.

Each room had a good variety of toys and materials that were in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present. The design of the classrooms and placement of equipment were such that they did not create any blind areas. Each classroom had a schedule and planned curriculum both of which were posted as required. Ratio was maintained in each classroom as required by age with at least 2 teachers present in each room. During the visit one class did leave for an off-site activity and an additional teacher accompanied the class to provide additional supervision as required. Good interactions were observed with all staff being actively engaged with the children and attending to their needs. This included teachers doing large group and small group activities such as reading books or playing. Good behavior management techniques were observed with the teachers recognizing positive behaviors, and redirecting the children to appropriate behavior choices.

Good health and safety policies and practices were generally observed. I was able to observe a diaper change and proper procedures were followed. One issue that was noted was several classrooms did not have separate trash containers for diapers. The center does need to monitor items such as crib mattresses, and changing pads to ensure that these are replaced once the water proof covering is damaged and exposing the foam core as was noted with some crib mattresses. Good cleaning practices were observed with staff waiting for children to be out of the immediate area before using chemical

cleaners. Chemical cleaners and other items that could be a safety risk to younger children were stored in areas that were not readily accessible to the children. First aid kits are kept in classrooms, and a larger supply of materials to replenish kits is also maintained. Medications are stored in the office and good documentation is maintained. Good safe sleep practices were observed on the day of my visit.

The center has completed a major renovation of the playground that includes landscaping and new equipment. The landscaping includes leveling the ground to eliminate high and low points. The equipment was observed to be in good repair and appeared to have been installed properly. A unitary pour in place foam surfacing has been installed beneath the climbing structure. The playground is fully enclosed by fencing which was also in good repair.

The center has a full kitchen but currently only snacks are being prepared on-site with lunch being prepared by the local elementary school and brought to the center in hot/cold holding containers. Menus for both the daycare and school prepared meals were posted and provides a good variety of meal options. I was able to observe the lunch service on the day of my visit and good food handling practices were observed with the teachers wearing gloves and using measured utensils to ensure each child received a full serving. The served meal did include raw baby carrots which were served to the children in their whole form. It was reviewed that these do need to be modified to reduce the risk of choking either by cooking, or cutting them into sticks. While the teachers did not eat with the children supervision was provided at the tables. The kitchen was observed to be clean, and good food storage practices were observed.

All required notices were posted in an area that is readily accessible to parents and visitors. In reviewing child files a random selection of files were selected for review and compared to the self-audit completed by the center which was found to be accurate. The self-audit identified 18 files that needed an updated physical. A random selection of staff files were also reviewed and compared to the self-audit completed by the center which again was found to be accurate. The self-audit did include information for all staff employed by Hanson Family Life for all program locations and identified 9 that needed an updated Iowa SING background check, 11 that needed an updated FBI fingerprint background check, and 12 that needed an initial or updated physical. Jenna did state that the center in the process of establishing an account with Fieldprint to complete digital submissions to update the fingerprint checks for staff. Inspection logs and certificates were current and available all required elements with the exception of Radon which was expired. Jenna did have documentation that a renewed test had been conducted but the sample was rejected. Jenna stated that she would conduct new testing. One other issue that was noted was with regard to the fuel burning appliance inspection. The center does have a boiler which did have a current inspection certificate but it was reviewed that all fuel burning appliances include the hot water heater and stoves need to be inspected annually to ensure that there are no gas or carbon monoxide leaks.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center completed substantial renovation projects to classrooms and the outdoor play space. This included new cabinetry, flooring, and painting in classrooms. The playground included landscaping, and replacement of equipment which addressed a number of safety concerns.

The program has participated in the QRS program in the past and is looking to participate in the replacement program, IQ4K, which seeks to implement best practice recommendations.

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

109.6(6)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.
-- Number not in compliance: 9

109.6(6)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.
-- Number not in compliance:11

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: 12

109.10(5): Infectious disease control: Centers shall establish policies and procedures related to infection disease control and use of universal precautions with handling of bodily fluid. Soiled diapers shall be stored in containers separate from other waste.
-- A separate container for diapers is required in all classrooms where diapering occurs.

109.10(15)d: Daily checks to ensure all exits are unobstructed.
-- Evacuation cribs must be kept clear of obstruction of items being stored in or under them.

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.
-- Radon testing results were expired and the renewed testing sample was rejected. The center does need to conduct and submit new samples.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks.Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
-- Raw carrots were served which are considered a high choking risk and need to be modified either by cooking until soft, or cutting into sticks that do not have a disk shape cross section.

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 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.