

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

Name of Center: Joyful Noise Daycare **Enrollment:** 37 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22312

Street: 801 8Th St **City:** Grundy Center **Iowa** **Zip** 50638 **County:** Grundy

Mailing Address: 801 8th St, Grundy Center, IA, 50638

Director's Name: Jennifer Garcia **Phone Number:** 319-825-4569

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** jnd@gcmuni.net

Date(s) of Visit: 05-03-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 04-06-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-01-2023

Comments : Inspection completed 04-20-23 and compliance approved on 08-01-23

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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	22	11	10	5	48
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 06-01-2023 to 06-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury

Date: 05-21-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Joyful Noise Daycare on 05-03-24 where I met with the center director, Jennifer Garcia. Jennifer is well qualified for the position having extensive experience and on-going training in early childhood care. This program is located in the First Presbyterian Church in Grundy Center with the majority of the programming on the lower level and one classroom on the upper level. The center provides daycare programming to infants through school age children. There are currently 37 children enrolled in the program served by 10 teachers. All areas of the center subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general design and layout of the center and classrooms remains the same as in prior reports. As noted the program makes use of four classrooms on two levels of the building. The two year old classroom is located on the upper level, and the remaining classrooms serve the other age groups with two infant rooms, and one preschool/school age room on the lower level. There continue to be some minor issues related to maintenance such as peeling paint and plaster damage, but nothing that rose to the level of being an immediate safety concern. One sloping shelf in the older infant room has been removed. The classrooms on the lower level have windows located along the upper edge of the walls which provide natural light. Restrooms are located off the main hallways outside the classrooms on both levels. Sinks are located in both infant rooms, and the 2 - 3 year old classroom to facilitate hand washing and diaper changes. Each room had a refrigerator present for snack items that may require cold holding temperatures to be maintained. All rooms have secondary exits from the classroom with the exception of the young infant room.

Each room is divided into activity centers through the placement of furniture and play structures. Each room had a good variety of toys and materials that were generally appropriate to the ages of the children present and in good repair. One issue that was noted was the presence of a slide structure in the older infant room. While it was reported to have been identified as appropriate for indoor use by the manufacturer it was noted that tumbling mats had been installed as fall surfacing. It was reviewed generally these are not rated for providing protection from falls as the general practice of tumbling mats is that some part of the body remains in contact with the ground. If the manufacturer identified other installation and use guidelines the center will need to adhere to those instructions. Each classroom did have a daily schedule and curriculum posted. As an example the preschool room had a planned curriculum related to Mothers Day and during the visit the teacher did assist small groups of children in a craft project for their mothers while the rest of the children engaged in free choice center play. One change that was observed in the preschool room was to the layout where the table had been moved to where the teacher could observe children using the restroom while still assisting and supervising the classroom. Good engagement and interactions were observed with all teachers being engaged with the children and attending to their needs such as doing the craft activity with the older children, playing with the infants, and assisting the toddlers with diapering.

Good health and safety practices were generally observed. I was able to observe a diaper change in the infant room and appropriate procedures were followed, but when observing changing in the toddler room they did not. The staff had children lay on the carpeted floor, and did not wash the children's nor their own hands following each change. It was reviewed that both must wash their hands after diapering, toileting, or assisting children with toileting, and that while it is acceptable to use a modified approach of floor changing for older children where use of a changing table may not be

appropriate a changing mat with a non-porous surface needs to be used to provide a clean surface that can then be disinfected. Chemical cleaners, purses, medications, and other items that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas that were not readily accessible to the children. Over the counter medications were labeled with the name of the individual to whom it belonged. First aid kits were present and contained materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Safe sleep practices were followed.

The center is able to make use of the church kitchen and meals are prepared on-site. A copy of the planned menu was posted and identified a good variety of nutritious meal options. The meal served on the day of my visit consisted of chicken patty on a bun, green beans, fruit cocktail and milk which did match the planned menu. While the planned and served menu was credible it was noted that the center does maintain some food items such as high sugar content cereals, fruit gummies, and toaster pastries which would not be considered credible. The center should look to replace those items with credible options when replenishing food supplies. Good food storage practices were observed for both dry pantry and refrigerated foods. Good food handling practices were observed with staff washing their hands, and wearing food service gloves. Meals were pre-portioned for the children and measured scoops were used to ensure each child received a full serving. The staff do eat with the children at the table to provide supervision and model good eating habits.

The playground was observed and has a variety of dramatic play and climbing structures. The equipment was generally observed to be good in repair but some elements, especially those of residential grade construction are showing wear and need to be monitored. The center makes use of pea gravel, and rubber mulch for fall surfacing and some hard panning of the material was present. The center does need to aerate or supplement the existing material to ensure good depth of loose material is present. The playground is fully fenced and the fencing was observed to be in good repair. Shade is provided by the buildings, play structures, and mature trees.

All required notices were posted in an area readily accessible to parents and visitors. All child files were reviewed and 9 needed an updated physical. The center also needs to establish a method to document annual updates of child files. All staff files were reviewed and 2 needed an updated physical, 1 needed renewed Iowa SING background checks, and 3 also needed updated Federal FBI Fingerprint background checks. Inspection logs and certificates were current and available for fuel burning appliances and fire inspection. Radon testing results were expired, and Emergency Drills had not been logged since April 2023. The center handbook has been previously reviewed and found to contain all required written policies.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has received several grants over the past year that has allowed them to obtain new equipment for the children, and implement use of a communications application with a focus to move to all digital records. The center is also exploring options for a new security system.

Administratively the center has a new director with Jennifer though she has been with the center as the lead preschool teacher for several years. In addition the center has a new board of directors.

The center is working on obtaining certification under 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: 1

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: 3

109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC 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, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.

-- Number not in compliance: 1

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.

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: 9

109.10(7): Staff hand washing: The center shall ensure staff demonstrate clean personal hygiene. Staff shall wash hands: Upon arrival at the center. Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity. After diapering a child. Before leaving the rest room either with a child or by themselves. Before and after administering nonemergency first aid if gloves are not worn. After handling animals or cleaning cages.

-- Staff did not wash their hands following assisting toddlers with diapering as required.

109.10(8): Children's hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children's hands shall be washed: Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity. After using the restroom or being diapered. After handling animals.

-- Children's hands were not washed following diapering in the toddler room.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.

-- Emergency drills were not conducted and/or logged since April 2023.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. Sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

-- If conducting floor diapering the center must use a mat or floor cover with a nonporous surface to allow for cleaning and disinfecting. Fall surfacing on the playground needs to be supplemented or aerated as required by the CPSC Public Playground Safety Handbook (<https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/325.pdf>)

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 need to be renewed.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.

-- Non-credible food options such as high sugar cereals, fruit gummies, and toaster pastries need to be removed from service and replaced with credible options as required by CACFP.

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 non-licensing 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.