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

Name of Center: Building Blocks Childcare & Preschool **Enrollment:** 100 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30098

Street: 108 Gaul DR **City:** Sergeant Bluff Iowa **Zip** 51054 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 108 Gaul DR, Sergeant Bluff, IA, 51054

Director's Name: Stacy Eldridge/owner **Phone Number:** 712-943-2223

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jessica Buckles & Jenah McIntyre **E-Mail:** Stacy.e.eldridge@gmail.com sbbb.director@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-29-2024

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:** 06-06-2024

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

Date Inspected: 06-12-2024

Comments :

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

Financial Type: X Profit 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	30	22	114	30	196
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 07-30-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An visit was made on 07-29-24 and met with onsite supervisors Jessica Buckles and Jenah McIntyre. Stacy Eldridge owner and director was also present for part of the visit. Stacy oversees all 4 centers they own. Stacy has a 4 year elementary education degree and 24 years of experience working in childcare.

Building Blocks Childcare & Preschool is located in a building that was built specifically for childcare. Jessica Buckles became the new onsite supervisor for this site in February 2024 and Jenah McIntyre in February 2023. Jessica came from the programs sister site and was onsite supervisor at that site for a year. There are 13 rooms, a large eating area and a large kitchen where all the meals are prepared. Visitors need a pass code or must be let in by staff to get into the building. The center serves children infants to school age of 10; they operate Monday through Friday 6:30am to 6pm.

There are 100 children enrolled in the program, however there were 88 children present at the time of the visit. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in cleaning toys daily that children use. The center uses Creative Curriculm. The center uses the Procare Childcare App. The center also closes the center 2x year(February/October) for professional development trainings.

The center has the following areas throughout the rooms for the children to explore and learn: Dress up, kitchen, legos, toys, blocks, stuffed animals, art and books. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the rooms were the colors, numbers, star of the week, shapes and the alphabet. Children have access to bathroom and sink. Observed staff assisting the children during various activities, on the floor playing with the children, sitting with the children during lunch, reading stories to the children, assisting with activities and conversing with the children throughout the day. Staff had good interaction with the children throughout the day. Cots need to be covered for children to lay on. Parents provide blanket/sheets, however, center needs to have a back up for when they are not brought back to the center.

Fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented monthly. The center completes monthly playground inspections. The big playground area needs a shade structure. The center does have one and is waiting for maintenance to put it up. The center has a toddler playground added a play new play equipment. Wood chips are in both playgrounds for surfacing. Radon testing was complete and in normal range. Furnace inspection was completed. The center had first aid kits and should be documented monthly to ensure they have necessary items in each.

Center Nutrition Practices Observed
The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. The kitchen is not accessible to the children. Meals and snacks are prepared in a large, well equipped kitchen. Menus were posted. The center participates in CACFP program.

The center transports children's to school and field trips. Maintenance on vans/bus were provided.

Goals of the center is to work on obtaining more community partnerships, more lead teachers, Complete IQ4K application,

and to get on the Preschool Iniciative program. Jessica would like to continue to get acclimated to this site as she just came over to this site in February 2024.

Strengths of the program is that staff work well as a team and willing to help each other. Good relationship with families and the community that they serve. Staff know they have management support. Management does quarterly staff meetings. Center has several staff who are utilizing the CCA for free childcare.

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. Center also emails to parents weekly themes and menus as well as uses text reminders app.

Center feels that families are comfortable with staff and have good communications with their families. Staff work good together and have staff that have been with the center for more than 2 years.

Center sends home report cards to parents for children age 2-5 years old to let them know how they are doing developmentally.

The center continues to participate in the Nap Sac program - it focuses on nutrition, physical fitness and they have equipment in the outdoor area. The center is also participating in a child care wages project program though the TEACH Program - staff (teachers) can receive money depending on their degree and longevity at the center.

Program has their own coperate team for resources and support.

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

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: 2

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: 1

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.
Additional concerns: Cots that children sleep on need to be covered with a blanket or a sheet.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Director needs to email consultant by 08-31-24 confirming that all aspects that fall below standards have been completed.

It is recommended to continue to work with CCRR for support.

A full license is recommended at this time 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.