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

Name of Center: Childserve Woodland Center **Enrollment:** 50 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 27792

Street: 644 24th ST **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50312 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 644 24th ST, Des Moines, IA, 50312

Director's Name: Sandra Brasell-Jasa **Phone Number:** 515-280-5332

On-Site Supervisor(s): Savannah Joyce **E-Mail:** SandraB@childserve.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-14-2024

X **Licensing Visit** X **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:** 04-19-2024

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

Date Inspected: 05-03-2024

Comments : fire inspections due at least every three years; DSM FD

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 X 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	10	17	26	42	95
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 06-09-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 5-14-24 The Director was present throughout the visit.

In November 2008, ChildServe assumed ownership of Daycare for Exceptional Children, which is now known as ChildServe Woodland Center. The center's operations are now shaped by ChildServe's process manual, which contains a comprehensive set of policies and procedures for the center's daily functions. The center is located within a single standing building that has a secured entrance. The center serves children with special needs, ages infant through school age (serving the child until age 21). In September of 2021 Sandra Brasell--Jasa became the director. Sandra has a Bachelor's degree in Human Services and a Master's degree in in Public Health. She has worked at Childserve for two years. Savannah Joyce is the assistant director and comes with early childhood post-secondary education; previous child care experience that includes working for childserve for the previous 2 years. Both meet qualifications for their positions.

The center also provides an after school program for school age children and a summer program as well for school age children. The center hours are from 7:30 am - 6:00 pm.

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.

Room observations/activities: Staff are in ratio (the center sets ratio less then DHS prescribed ratios); the rooms all offered a variety of age/developmentally appropriate activities centers/toys. Staff were observed to maintain good structure in the rooms and work well with one another. Staff were observed to provide consistent and nurturing responses to the children. Rooms were nicely arranged and clean. This center uses the STAR programming, which is therapy focused. All the children have special care plans that direct services. This center uses the playground application to communicate with parents.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen with dedicated kitchen staff. This center participates in the CACFP food program and menus appear in line with those guidelines. Menus were posted in the kitchen. The kitchen itself was clean and organized. There was a very noticeable off putting foul odor in the kitchen that emanated through the daylight basement level of the center. The director indicated that facilities management had called in professional assessment and it was determined there was a new part missing; that did need fabricated (could take time). Discussion also took place regarding how to prevent the odor from continuing at this level; making time spent on the daylight level very unpleasant. This odor had been present in the daylight level for several months.

Health/safety: Medications at this center are primarily if not always dispensed by nursing staff; kept securely. Handwashing signs are posted as required. There are first aid kits in all rooms. Fire and tornado plans were posted; emergency drills documented as completed monthly. This center has had a radon mitigation installed 2022 and was inspected recently. HVAC is maintained by facilities mgmt. A carbon monoxide detector is in the kitchen.

Administrative review: Fliers regarding mandatory reporter, handbook, consultant contact, license, emergency exit plans and no-smoking signs are posted as required. Five employee files were reviewed; with two missing physical forms (which could be a result of the transfer of files to electronic means). The files were missing an employee/volunteer/substitute statement, which was provided to the center after the visit. Four child files were reviewed and contained all required information.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center provides a unique child care program for children with special needs.

This center works closely with other health care agencies in an effort to meet the needs of all the children served at this site. The center has occupational, speech and physical therapists on site.

The center provides nursing care to the children with nurses on staff daily to meet the medical and health care needs of the children. There are new nursing staff and the nursing staff have been divided into two teams with two team leaders.

Each child has a specific care plan created for their care needs and individualized goals. Therapy restorative plans are written for each child with specific goals for staff to work on daily with the child.

The child and family benefit from the comprehensive and all inclusive care and services provided by the center.

The children can attain success and some children can move into traditional child care.

The center is accredited by the CARF for their rehabilitative care and received a three year accreditation which is the highest award.

The center has a secure entrance.

The center has many long term staff.

The center uses the Tadpoles app in which allows for real time information for families and another means of communication for families.

The lead staff are qualified and strong leaders.

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: 1
The actual form could not be located; however the center is in transition between two electronic file systems which may have lead to not being able to locate the form; the director would have the staff follow up.

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.

While this center was very organized and clean; there is a noxious off-putting odor that is present on the daylight (basement) level of the center along with where the kitchen is located. The director has been in contact with facilities management to diagnose and remedy the cause of the odor; which was believed to be the result of sewer water system and/or grease trap. Professional assessment was completed and determined that a replacement part was necessary. This part needed to be fabricated. Additional discussion took place with regard to containing this odor as it has permeated the entire daylight level adjacent to the kitchen and had been present for several months.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The director indicated there will be on-going mitigation of the repair process for the daylight level grease trap/sewer system and drain traps as facilities management worked with outside contractors to reduce the odor as well.

This center was otherwise very clean and organized. The center offers specialized medical devices to assist the children with needs that are also kept very clean.

*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.