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

Name of Center: Lionheart Early Learning **Enrollment:** 98 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52213

Street: 2717 Northgate DR **City:** Iowa City Iowa **Zip** 52245 **County:** Johnson

Mailing Address: 120 S LaSalle ST STE 1200, Chicago, IL, 60603

Director's Name: Emily Brandenburg **Phone Number:** 319-337-8870

On-Site Supervisor(s): Alex Daniels **E-Mail:** sdenny@PremierEarlyChildhood.com

Date(s) of Visit: 09-20-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-15-2023

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

Date Inspected: 04-18-2023

Comments : Does comply.

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

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: X Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other 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	52	43	40	36	171
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-14-2023 to 08-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown **Date:** 09-23-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker arrived at Lionheart Early Learning for an annual visit on 9/20/2024. The center provides childcare for infants to school aged children. They are open from 6:30am to 6:00pm. They have 98 children enrolled.

The center is located inside of a commercial building. There are 10 classrooms, a breakroom, a kitchen, storage spaces and an office.

The center is for profit. The center's fire inspection was completed on 4/18/2023.

All program space was observed on the date of my visit.

The director is Emily Brandenburg. Emily has her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. Emily has worked at the center since 2015.

The onsite is Alex Daniels. She has a Bachelor's in Elementary Education with an Endorsement in Preschool and Early Childhood Education with a valid teaching license. Alex has worked at the center since 2015.

Nutritional practices were checked. The center provides breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The kitchen was maintained in a clean/orderly fashion.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed. The center followed handwashing procedures. The center stored medications appropriately. The center had a fully stocked first aid kit.

The center's curriculum is a blend of: World of Wonders, Second Step, and Little Spot of Emotions.

The center's policies, licensing notebook, staff files and child files were reviewed. The center had all required postings.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

-The center has done an excellent job of maintaining employees. Emily and Alex started in 2015. Marsha and Melissa started in 2017. Michelle started in 2018.
Shannon and Kai started in 2019. Haley and Audrey started in 2020.
-The center was awarded accreditation by the National Accreditation Commission.
-The center won Locals Love Us 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, and 2018.
-The center works with Child Care Aware® of America to provide quality child care for military families.
-The onsite supervisor and lead preschool teacher both completed their Bachelors Degrees. One has an endorsement in Preschool and Early Childhood Education with a valid teaching license. The other has an endorsement in Elementary Education and Preschool with a valid teaching license.
-Staff and child files were in full compliance.

-The center offers Tippy Toes, Sports Tortes and four additional enrichment programs through Premier.
-Classrooms are clean, organized and welcoming to those who enter.
-There is a variety of educational and engaging activities.
-The center utilizes ProCare for parental communication and billing.
-The center has National Accreditation Commission.
-The center partners with T.E.A.C.H. to enable teachers the opportunity to pursue a Child Development Associate Credential, Associates, or Bachelor of Arts degree.

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

109.10(3)a: Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public.
-A staff member did not lock their locker. The children walk past the lockers to go to the playground. This left cough drops accessible to the children.

109.10(3)c: For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription.
-An Epipen and Benadryl for one child. The on-site supervisor notified the parents while this worker was present.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

The following agencies are available to provide consultation, support, and educational opportunities:
CACFP: https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/nutrition-programs/child-and-adult-care-food-program
Child Care Resource and Referral: https://iowaccrr.org/staff/region_5/
Early Childhood Iowa: https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/
First Children's Finance: https://www.firstchildrensfinance.org/
Healthy Child Care Nurse Consultants: https://hhs.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants
Iowa AEYC: http://www.iowaaeyc.org/
Iowa After School Alliance: https://www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org/
Iowa State University: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/early-childhood
4c's of Johnson County: https://www.iowa4cs.com/

*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.