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

Name of Center: St Teresa of Calcutta Preschool - Calmar **Enrollment:** 81 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19172

Street: 107 E South ST **City:** Calmar Iowa **Zip** 52132 **County:** Winneshiek

Mailing Address: 414 E Main ST, Ossian, IA, 52161

Director's Name: Angie McIntye **Phone Number:** 563-562-1018

On-Site Supervisor(s): Angie McIntyre **E-Mail:** amcintyre@st-teresa.pvt.k12.ia.us

Date(s) of Visit: 01-15-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **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: 10-20-2023

Comments : Compliance on 02/05/24

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 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	0	0	15	10	25
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2024 to 02-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 01-20-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 01/15/25 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to St. Teresa of Calcutta Preschool in Calmar. I met with Angie McIntyre, the director and lead teacher for the preschool program. She has a BA in elementary education with an early childhood education endorsement. Ms. McIntyre has an inclusion birth to three special education endorsement. She has been with St. Teresa of Calcutta Preschool since August 2012. Ashley Moon is the assistant in the room Monday through Friday. She has an AA in an unrelated field. She has obtained her substitute license. She started with the program in August 2024. There are five staff members between the preschool and before and after school program.

The preschool is located south of the former C.F.S. Catholic School in a building that was once a convent. The school has since closed. The preschool partners with South Winneshiek Community School to provide the voluntary four-year old preschool program. The four-year-old preschool operates Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 am until 3:20 pm. The three-year-old preschool program operates Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 am until 3:20 pm. The program offers a before and after extended care program for preschool and school-age children and they are open from 6:30 am until 6:00 pm daily. There are currently 31 preschool children enrolled. There are 50 school-aged children enrolled, but no more than 25 are present on any given day. The before and after school program is operating out of a classroom in the former C.F.S. School.

The program operates out of one large space for preschool. There are small windows available to provide some natural lighting, but artificial lighting is also used. The room is decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted. There is an area for circle time. The classroom for the school-age children in the former school is a large open space with natural lighting.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, Ipads, play dough, art, puppets, dramatic play, listening, writing, math, science/discovery, woodworking, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they were easily accessible to the children. Centers are switched out on a regular basis to provide the children with a variety of activities.

The four-year-old preschool program uses Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans. GOLD assessments and Walford assessments are completed on each child in the four-year-old class. Creative Curriculum is the primary source for creating lesson plans for the three-year-old program as well, but other resources are also utilized. Ms. McIntyre also uses Heggerty Phonemic Awareness and Jolly Phonics in both classes. The preschool incorporates Christian aspects in the three-year-old program and in the four-year-old program when it is outside the ten hours mandated each week by the voluntary preschool program. Activities are based around studies. There is a smart board in the room.

There are two sinks located in the preschool classroom. Handwashing procedures were posted. There are two bathrooms available to the children and there is one toilet in each location.

The program uses mats to nap. The program purchased thicker mats for the children's comfort. Bedding was stored correctly.

The before and after school program uses the bathrooms across the hall from the room. The boy's bathroom has two toilets, two urinals and two sinks. The girl's bathroom has three toilets and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in the boy's bathroom but must also be posted in the girl's bathroom. There is a sink in the school-age classroom. You must post handwashing procedures.

There was a phone in the preschool and school-age room. Emergency numbers with the program's address and phone number were posted in both locations.

Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by all the exits out of the preschool and school-age room.

A daily schedule was posted, and a lesson plan was available for review in the preschool room. You must post a daily schedule in the room for before and after school care.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in January 2023 and is good for two years. The results were within EPA guidelines. Ms. McIntyre purchased a radon kit and will let me know the results. She also purchased an Air Things Smart Radon Monitor she has placed in both rooms. She can monitor radon levels from her phone. However, this is not an approved radon monitoring system for HHS so she is going to test with an approved radon kit.

The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted.

A carbon monoxide detector was on site in the preschool room in their storage room and in the entrance of the school-age room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 10/20/23, with compliance on 02/05/24.

The program does participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) for lunch. Lunch is prepared by the Catholic school in Spillville and is delivered to the preschool program. The children eat family style. A new lunch menu is prepared each month by the school and was posted. Dishes are sent to Spillville on the bus at the end of the day, where they are put through a dishwasher. The children can bring something to eat for breakfast or the school-aged children can eat breakfast when they arrive to school.

A morning snack is provided for the preschool children and an afternoon snack is provided to the children who participate in the after-school program. Both morning and afternoon snacks are provided by parents. Parents are assigned specific snacks to provide on their assigned day. A snack calendar was available for review in the preschool room. You should also post this in the school-age room. Disposable products are used for snack so dishwashing is not necessary. Snacks were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. There is a refrigerator in the preschool and thermometers were present. There is a refrigerator in the school kitchen for the school age space and a thermometer was present.

During the summer months the program receives breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack from the St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School.

The program uses bleach and water to sanitize the food tables.

There is a parent board inside the entrance at the top of the stairs and directly inside the preschool room and a parent board inside of the classroom for the before and after school classroom. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. I have sent Ms. McIntyre an updated contact poster for myself. The license was conspicuously hung in the preschool room but should also be posted in the school-age space.

There is a fenced in grassy area available for use by the preschool. There is no large climbing equipment so surface cushioning is not required. The program takes balls and other age-appropriate toys outside for the children to use in the play area. There is a sandbox, a sensory table and a music center. They have playhouses, a balance beam and a stationary bus for the children to play on. They also have use of the school's gym when the weather does not permit them to be outside for gross motor skill activities. Ms. McIntyre would like to add a school-age playground.

Staff members had terrific interaction with the children in each room. They made the learning environment fun and inviting. Staff members are enthusiastic and it came across in how they taught and interacted with the children. They interacted with the children at their level and offered them choices. They were flexible but maintained a routine for the children. Staff members had great teamwork. They each have jobs and roles within the classroom and know what to expect from one another. They provided the children with praise and used positive redirection when necessary. They included children in activities and encouraged them to use their imaginations. Children appeared to enjoy their time at the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. McIntyre states she has a good relationship with Ms. Moon. They have good teamwork.

Ms. McIntyre states they have a strong program and enrollment is increasing. They would like to add an additional preschool room in the school if the church approves it.

Ms. McIntyre states they have great parents.

Ms. McIntyre was able to purchase a dishwasher, refrigerator and stove for the school kitchen through a grant.

The Visiting Nurses Association (VNA)and I-Smile provide an oral health program for the children. The Lion's Club provides vision screenings.

The program is in a secured building and there are cameras monitoring the parking lot and playground.

The school partners with South Winneshiek Community School to provide the voluntary four-year old preschool program. The preschool participates in the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (QPPS). The program also uses Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) techniques in the classroom. Conferences are provided twice each year to parents.

Ms. McIntyre is great at networking. The program is in the middle of all the areas served and she know several families.

The preschool program offers extended care before and after school. They also offer a summer program for children who are four through twelve-years-old. They provide activities and tutors, and they cap the number of children at 25. The program is appreciated by the community.

The school system provides bussing for the three and four-year-old preschool children to the program. This site is also a bus stop for the school-aged children.

Ms. McIntyre continues to impress me with her dedication to the program and her desire to provide the preschool opportunity to as many children as possible. Her program is a feeder program to St. Teresa of Calcutta School.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

Please review the report and post the necessary information over in the school-age program. I am not citing these items because there was not a pattern of disregard.

*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.