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

Name of Center: YMCA Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 109 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 6567

Street: 1701 S 8th AVE E **City:** Newton Iowa **Zip** 50208 **County:** Jasper

Mailing Address: 1701 S 8th AVE E, Newton, IA, 50208

Director's Name: Serenity Bookout **Phone Number:** 641-792-7021

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kallista Rogers **E-Mail:** serenity.bookout@newtonymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 08-28-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 07-25-2022

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

Date Inspected: 04-17-2023

Comments : date of compliance - 5/24 /23

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 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	16	20	70	30	136
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2020 to 08-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 09-26-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

The YMCA Early Learning Center has been in operation since 1993. The center offers child care services for children ages infancy through school age. The center has several program rooms within the YMCA building. There is a secured entrance that parents use to enter the daycare center. Serenity Bookout is the director. She's been in this position since November 2021. Serenity has been employed with the YMCA since 2018. Kallista Rogers is the on site supervisor. She's been in this role since January 2022. Kallista has been employed with the YMCA since 2019.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to DHHS licensing rules were reviewed. Serenity was present and assisted with the visit. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Classroom schedules are posted by classroom doors. Majority of the classes had lesson plans.

Serenity assisted with today's visit. The infant classroom had seven infants present. There were two staff working in this classroom. The baby toddlers classroom had three toddlers present. One staff was working with this group. The toddlers classroom had six children present. There were two staff working in this room. The 2's classroom had nine children present. There were two staff working in this class. The 3's class had eight children present. Two staff were working with this group. The 4's/5's classroom had fourteen children in attendance. Two staff were working with this age group. The school age class had five children present at the time of the visit. Two staff were working in the school age class. Children were observed during a variety of activities. Some children were observed on the playground. Some children were observed during lunch. Children were observed playing individually and in small groups. Staff were observed reading books to children and playing with the children. Staff were assisting the children prepare for naptime.

The center has a full kitchen. The center has a full time cook and part time cooks. The center participates in CACFP. Breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack are served. Menus are on a four week rotations with some modifications for seasons.

The center has two playgrounds. One playground is used by toddlers through the 4/5's classroom. There is poured rubber surfacing, concrete paths and artificial grass turf for surfacing. There are a few small climbing structures, swings, picnic tables and other outdoor toys available. The second playground is used by school age children. There is poured rubber surfacing. There are swings and a large climbing structure. There is a soccer field and spacious grass area. The center completed monthly playground checks.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The daycare participates in QRS and has a quality rating of four stars. The centers are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and toys. The center can use the YMCA's gym for large motor play activities.. The center has a few playgrounds that are specifically developed for different age groups.

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

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
A few children's files were missing dental information.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
The 4'5/s classroom did not have a lesson plan.

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.
The last radon test on file was done in October 2020. The center is overdue for radon testing.
The director is checking on this.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

The center has been using boppy pillows to prop up infants. The manufacturers intended use for these devices is not for propping infants. These are loungers and pillow like devices and should not be used in licensed child care programs. The misuse of these pillows has caused injury and even deaths due to suffocation. Serenity said the boppy pillows will be removed from the infant classrooms.

A staff member in the 2's classroom didn't know how many children were in their room. It's extremely important for staff to always know how many children are in their care at all times.
The director is following up on this concern.

There was a Glade Plug In was being used in the Baby Toddlers classroom. Any type of device or candle that leaves a fragrance cannot be used in program rooms. There are children that may have sensitivities and allergies.
The plug is in being removed.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7833; email mlarson@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.

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