Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Families Forward Child Development Center

Provider No.: 22822

Address: 1203 Hartford AVE, Des Moines, IA, 50315

County: Polk

Director's Name: Ayanna Oakley

On-Site Supervisor: Tyesha Wright

Phone Number: 5152446251

E-Mail: Ayanna@familiesforward.org

HHS Visit Date: 12/03/2025

Licensing Period: 01/01/2026 to 01/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/05/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [X] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	16	10	32		58
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Bidwell Riverside Child Development Center has been in operation since 1983. The center is located within a single standing building that has a secured parent entrance. The center serves children ages two through five years. Ayanna Oakley is the director. Ayanna started as director in October 2023. She has an Associates degree in Social Work. Ayanna has been employed at the daycare since 2014. Tyesha Wright is the assistant director. She's been employed at the daycare for several years.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Each class has schedules posted by their doors. Classroom had current lesson plans posted. The center uses Creative Curriculum for lesson planning for the younger children's classrooms. The PreK class uses Frog Street for lesson planning. The center uses BrightWheel. December newsletters were posted. The center also has a monthly newsletter. Each classroom has developmentally appropriate furnishings, supplies and toys. Classrooms have defined interest centers. Children's artwork is displayed in classrooms.

Ayanna and Tyesha assisted with today's visit. The infant classrooms are held in one large classroom and separated into two smaller classes by a divider. The Baby Einsteins (young infants) had three infants present. One staff was working with this group. The Little Einsteins (older infants) had four infants present. Two staff were working with this group. The Explorer (2's) had seven children in attendance. Two staff were working in this classroom. The Little Learners (3's) had eight children present. One staff was working in this class. The Wise Owls (Pre K) had fourteen children present. Two staff were working in this room. Children were observed in their classrooms and in the indoor, large motor play room. Children were involved in child directed play activities and during transition times. Children were observed doing some academic activities at tables, with staff's assistance. Some children were writing letters to Santa with staff's support. Interactions

between the staff and children were observed to be positive throughout the visit.

The center has a full kitchen. There is a cook on staff. The center participates in the federal food program. Menus reviewed showed compliance with CACFP requirements. The menu is on a weekly rotation. The center serves breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.

The center has two playgrounds areas. There is rubber tile and poured rubber tile for surfacing. The center completes monthly playground checks.

The center doesn't provide transportation.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This center participates in the United Way Women's Empowerment Program. This program provides a great deal of professional and financial support to participating centers. The center participates in IQ4K. The center has a one star rating. Classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and furnishings.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

Two staff haven't completed all required mandatory trainings in the required time frame.
Management is attempting to set up First Aid/CPR training for staff.
Management s going to reach out to IPOWER support desk for a few staff who need help with their accounts so they can complete trainings.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

NA

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center has a full license.

The center added infant care in May 2025.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515)725-2635:email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) 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 DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.

Date: 12/04/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

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Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.