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

Name of Center: Little Island Child Care Center **Enrollment:** 45 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19199

Street: 101 4th St North **City:** Fairbank Iowa **Zip** 50629 **County:** Buchanan

Mailing Address: PO Box 38, Fairbank, IA, 50629

Director's Name: Janece Silva **Phone Number:** 319-635-2391

On-Site Supervisor(s): April Butters **E-Mail:** littleisland9@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-20-2023

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** X **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: 01-17-2023

Comments :

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	30	16	25	14	85
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2022 to 03-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 02-27-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 02/20/23 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Little Island Child Care Center in Fairbank. I met with Janece Silva, the director. Ms. Silva has worked with the program for twelve years and has been the director since July 2015. She has a history of being a member of NAEYC. April Butters is the on-site supervisor. The program employs 20 staff members.

The program operates out of a free-standing building. Little Island Child Care is a non-profit program which operates under a board of directors and is owned by the Fairbank community. The Fairbank community owns and operates two separate licensed programs. In addition to this program, they also own Little Island Child Care Center-Latchkey in Fairbank. At times the two programs interact together.

The program operates from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm and serves infants through children five-years-old. There are currently 45 children enrolled. The program has a Quality Rating System (QRS) level of 4 that expires on 07/31/23.

The program operates out of the following rooms: infants, a room for children eighteen months through two-years-old and a room for children three through five-years-old. After the remodel is completed, the infant room will care for children who are six weeks through one-year-old; a room for 12-24 months, a two-year-old room, and a preschool room. There is a room in the new addition for school-age children or overflow. However, the school-age children will remain at the elementary school for the latchkey program. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are 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.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, writing, math, science/discovery, puppets, 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. There is vinyl furniture in the preschool room that is torn. Ms. Silva states they are getting new children's furniture with the grant money. The materials are located at child level, so they were easily accessible to the children.

There are several bathrooms in the center. The infant room has one toilet and one sink that they share with the new classroom that will be used for school-age children. The other rooms three have a bathroom with one toilet. Sinks are in all the rooms. Handwashing procedures were posted except for in the new infant room. There is a handwashing sink and food sink in the new infant room. There is a diaper changing table in three of the rooms. Diaper changing procedures were posted except for in the new infant room. They just started in the infant room. Please get the procedures posted.

I observed a diaper change in the infant room and discussed diaper changes in the toddler room. Procedures are followed.

The center uses the Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans and supplemental materials are added. Each teacher develops lesson plans and activities are planned around themes. The length of the theme/unit depends on the topic and the

children's interest level. Conferences are provided to parents twice each year. Assessments are completed on all the children prior to conferences. The children who are ages three and older have a concentration on reading readiness and handwriting in coordination with Fairbank Elementary School's Handwriting Without Tears curriculum. Lesson plans were available for review.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits. Place the evacuation diagram near both exits in the new infant room. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. The radon test was completed in February 2023 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The building is completely electric so a fuel burning inspection and carbon monoxide detector are not necessary. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 09/30/20. The fire marshal for the new addition occurred on 01/17/23.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The center provides the children with breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Bonnie Goeller is the cook. She makes a new menu each week. The program has an industrial refrigerator and an industrial freezer. Thermometers were present. Dishes are put through an industrial dishwasher, and they use the three-step method for larger dishes. Food items were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. The center is building a new food pantry in the space where the former kitchen was located. Allergies were posted in the kitchen and rooms.

Ms. Goeller delivers the food to each room and the teachers serve the children their food in the younger rooms. In the preschool room the staff member tries to allow the children to use family style depending on the food being served.

In the infant room the center provides one brand of formula, baby food and cereal. If parents want a different brand, they must provide it. Bottles are washed in the room using the three-step method.

In the toddler room there was a homemade product brought by a parent for diaper cream. Homemade products are not allowed unless they are accompanied by directions from medical personnel or a pharmacist. All products use in the center must come in the original container with directions. The staff member removed the homemade product to return to the parent. There were medication authorization forms in the room that need to be signed by parents.

The program uses Sani Date Hard Surface Sanitizer to sanitize the food tables. The product has a one-minute dwell time. Oxivir Tb is used to disinfect the changing tables. This has a one-minute dwell time.

The parent information is in the entrance. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

There is a fenced in playground. Rubber tiles are used for surface cushioning. Trees provide shade. There is a piece of climbing equipment with slides and other activities. There is a treehouse with a small slide for the younger children. There is a playhouse, sensory tables, rocking toys and pushing toys. There are chairs available for the children to rest. There is also a grassy area for the children to play.

Ms. Silva states they are eventually going to purchase new items for the playground with grant money. They are looking at a tarp for shade and deciding on new fall surfacing. The city is going to cut down a couple trees.

Staff members were observed to have great interaction with the children. They were on the floor reading to the children and introducing them to activities in the infant and toddler rooms. They held children on their laps and were observed to be nurturing. Staff members assisted the children with handwashing. In the preschool room the staff member was enthusiastic and maintained positive conversation with the children. She encouraged the children to use their imaginations. She provided the children with praise and used positive redirection when necessary. Staff members offered the children choices and moved around the room to interact with all the children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center completed an addition that added to rooms and new kitchen to the center. They are now in the process of remodeling their existing rooms.

Ms. Silva states the center has amazing staff members. They stayed with the program through several changes, including Covid and the remodel of their building.

Ms. Silva states she receives a lot of compliments about her staff members.

Ms. Silva states they are in a great community, and they have great community support. They helped raise money for the addition.

The program has a Quality Rating System (QRS) level of 4 that expires 07/31/23.

The center has story hour every Wednesday. They usually walk to the library depending on the weather. If the weather is bad the librarian will bring a book and a craft to the center.

The center is in a secured building.

Ms. Silva states that staff members were given a raise and they receive a sign-on bonus. Staff members also receive a referral bonus to recruit new employees. Three years ago, they started an incentive program that allows a staff member to get a vacation day if they pick up hours after someone calls in sick.

The program works frequently with Child Care Resource and Referral to make sure they are providing a safe, healthy and fun environment.

The center provides parents with conferences twice each year.

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.

An administrative change is being made to change the capacity to 85 children.

*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.