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

Name of Center: Traditions Children's Center VI **Enrollment:** 130 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 47326

Street: 1195 SE University Ave **City:** Waukee Iowa **Zip** 50263 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 1195 SE University Ave, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Stephanie Almandinger **Phone Number:** 515-216-2550

On-Site Supervisor(s): Chris Reed and Margaret Koeller **E-Mail:** director@traditions6.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-09-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-24-2024

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

Date Inspected: 07-06-2022

Comments : Waukee Fire Marshal. For licensing, fire marshal inspections are due at least every three years.

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

Financial Type: X Profit 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	18	32	92	59	201
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 07-10-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 7/9/24. The director was out running errands when the visit inspection began, but arrived a short while later.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Traditions Children's Center VI is a center that was given permission to open under DHS supervision on 6/13/16. This is one of nine centers owned by Robert and Bonnie Netteland. The center serves children six weeks in age to roughly 12 years in age using a combination of their own learning curriculum as well as the Creative Learning Curriculum. The center is open year round and five days a week from 7:00am - 6:00pm. There are a total of nine classrooms, but not all classrooms are being used at this time.

The center director as of 9/2023 is Stephanie Almandinger (formerly Swolley). Stephanie has a CDA as well as past experience working in child care which includes being the director at another, related Traditions center. Margaret Koeller and Chris Reed are the on-site supervisors at this center. Both individuals meet the requirements for on-site supervisor.

During the visit, children were observed napping in cribs and napping on cots, washing hands, eating lunch, and the school-age children were leaving for a field trip to a splash pad with their classroom staff.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is one of nine centers owned by Bonnie and Robert Netteland. The same policies and procedures are used at all nine centers. Staff can be interchangeable if/as needed.

All of the directors of these centers have monthly staff meetings. Monthly staff meetings and/or monthly memos are held/sent at this center. On-site supervisors of these centers also meet with each other.

The annual child update forms used by all nine centers are often times used by this consultant as an example for other centers.

There is a secure entrance into the center. Parents are given a code to gain access. All other visitors have to ring a doorbell and be let in by staff.

Staff and parents use the electronic Pro-Care system for signing into/out of the center. The center is also using this electronic app for daily sheets, some forms, and further communication with parents.

There are individual lesson plans for infants.

Staff pictures and bios are posted outside of classrooms.

Monthly newsletters are provided to parents.

When on field trips, children wear Traditions t-shirts. This was observed on the day of the visit.

The director is organized.

The director believes she has a good group of staff and staff work well with each other. There are several tenured staff who work at this location.

The center was very clean.

Enrollment has again increased over the past year indicating a need in the community.

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.
Number not in compliance for medical: 0
Number not in compliance for dental: 2
Information lacking: All children enrolled, regardless of age, need to have documentation for a doctor and a dentist. The name, address, and phone number for each is required.

109.9(3): Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.
Number missing: 0
Number invalid: 1 immunization wasn't signed or dated. It was noted that this child's last year's immunization record was signed and dated.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
More wood chips are needed around fall zones of several climbing structures.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.
1. The schedule needs to be adjusted some in the two year old classroom as discussed.
2. One child with some food sensitivity needs to have a Food allergy Action Plan signed by the child's physician indicating the child cannot have any milk and/or any milk substitutes.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff 10/21/22 - 10/24/22. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual furnace inspection was completed on 8/17/23.

I - Power and IQ4K were again discussed at this year's visit. Staff will need to upload professional development training hours into their I-Power profiles. The center is contemplating IQ4K and were encouraged to do so.

It was not checked at this year's visit, but last year, this consultant stated that: This consultant's phone number needs to be changed to his current number in the center's Emergency Preparedness written plan.

It is recommended infant nose suction devices not be used.

Cot handles/corners should be sanitized daily.

Three feet spacing is needed between children napping on cots and in cribs (if no Plexiglas sides).

Lesson planning for school-age children should be a little more specific.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.