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

Name of Center: Lil' Mustangs Child Care Center **Enrollment:** 81 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51170

Street: 309 S Lincoln ST Ste 2 **City:** George Iowa **Zip** 51237 **County:** Lyon

Mailing Address: PO BOX 404, George, IA, 51237

Director's Name: Brooke Klaassen **Phone Number:** 712-475-6088

On-Site Supervisor(s): Haley Spielman **E-Mail:** lilmustangsccc@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit:

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-29-2022

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

Date Inspected: 08-04-2020

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	24	16	20	20	80
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2022 to 08-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 08-21-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited center on 08-12-22 and spoke with Brooke Klaasen, director. Ms Klaasen has an associate's degree in early childhood and four years of experience working with children. Lil' Mustangs Childcare is housed in the old elementary wing of George/Little Rock Community School. Haley Spielman, is the Office Assistant and one who is available if Brooke is not present. Ms Spielman, has associates degree in Child Development and several years working with children.

The center had 7 classrooms and one room used as a gym for large motor. Center had moved rooms around and is currently using one of the rooms for storage reducing the capacity of the center. As of 01-28-22, capacity had changed from 92 to 80. The center opened in September 2020. The George Preschool also has a room in the daycare area but has it's own license. The childcare operates Monday through Friday 6am to 6pm. The childcare serves children ages 6 weeks to school age.

There are 81 children enrolled in the program. Given the current corona-virus pandemic, time was spent on discussing how the center is coping and managing. The center is following all guidelines put forth by DHS regarding the corona-virus and doing everything they can to support their staff and families. The center has been cleaning toys daily that children use. Children have access to bathrooms. Daily schedule of activities was posted. All areas of the program were observed. The areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. There were a few staff purses that were where children had access to. Staff need to keep purses out of reach of children for safety reasons. When concern was brought to staff's attention staff put purses away.

The childcare center has the following areas throughout the rooms for the children to explore and learn: puzzles, shelf toys. blocks, house, dress up, legos and library. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Children have access to bathrooms and sinks. Displayed throughout the room were shapes. cartoon pictures, pictures of children in various activities and the alphabet. Observed the staff assisting children with activities, playing with the children, talking with the children throughout the day, and sitting at tables or on the floor with the children.

The program had applied for the Riverboat foundation grant to do an infant playground and a playground for 2 and up children which they received. The new playground is now complete with the exception of adding a shade structure. Center may also add some turf in the infant playground. They do have a grassy area as well. They have also applied for the DHS grant and was awarded to do improvements in the building and to get new toys for inside and outside. Their is a public gym that is in a area of the childcare which needs to have a door so the public do not have access to the center for safety reasons. The program is working with the Fire Marshall to add a door in the hallway which will block off the public from having access to the center. High Schoolers from George High School also use the fitness room and will have limited access to the child care. The program is also looking at adding a different access for parents to bring their children to the center which will hopefully be completed in 2023 as well.

Refrigerator is clean and at appropriate temperature. Good food storage practices were observed. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition, however, they are not currently on the food program. As of 08-08-22 the center is

providing breakfast and snacks and lunches are prepared by the George/Little Rock school district. Menus were posted. The center is working on getting on the food program. The program may also be looking at doing lunches if they expand their kitchen.

Medication is stored in a lock box. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit are sufficient to handle minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon tests were completed and within normal range. Furnace inspection was completed. Good sanitary procedures are followed. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained.
Good health and safety policies /procedures are in place, however, staff need to make sure purses are put away.

The center has a large grassy area for the playground. The program has applied and was awarded $ to enclose the playground along with play equipment. Surface is poured rubber surface along with climbing structures. The center will has a infant playground separate from the older kids. A shade structure will also be installed. This project was completed in 2021 with the exception of the shade structure. The childcare program will also share with the 2-5 year old playground with the preschool program. Monthly playground inspection was completed. Shade is available on the playground.

The center does not normally do field trips that need transportation as they usually walk to where they want to go. However, this summer they partnered with the school to use their buses to do field trips for the school agers and have gone to variety of activities within the community and a few places in Sioux Falls, SD. Some of the field trips they walked to the pool, library, or to the park.

Goals of the program is to complete their application for the food program, get on the IQ4K program(referral made to CCRR), get playground shade completed, get rooms set up with developmental curriculum, new flooring, added bathrooms in rooms that don't have one, complete hallway door so public do not have access to the center from the fitness room, and new entrance for parents.

Strengths of the program is that the program is flexible with families and staff to accommodate and provide quality care. Staff have experience working the children. They have the support of the school, community, and parents that they serve. Core staff have completed PBIS and PALS training.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center raising money for new playground equipment, curriculum, toys, and supplies.

Center uses pro-care app to communicate with parents as well as email and facebook page.

Center is well organized.

Display children’s art work in the room.

Center has child size furniture in all the rooms.

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
Number not in compliance for dental
5
Information lacking

109.10(8): Children’s hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children’s hands shall be washed: Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity. After using the restroom or being diapered. After handling animals.

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.

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

DHS Licensing Checklist was given to director to complete a self audit to help as a tool for licensing.

Please provide a written response that items needing corrected have been completed by 09-15-23.

A full license is recommended at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.