Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Tiny Treasures Community Daycare Center

Provider No.: 52217

Address: 214 N 6th ST, Estherville, IA, 51334

County: Emmet

Director's Name: Caressa Franklin

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7122093563

E-Mail: ttdaycarecentet2021@yahoo.com

HHS Visit Date: 04/29/2026

Licensing Period: 07/01/2025 to 07/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 05/27/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	9	6	9	9	33
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced visit was made to the Tiny Treasures Daycare Center on 04-29-26 where I met with the center director Caressa Franklin. Caressa took over as the center director in August 2024 and is well qualified for the position having prior experience as the on-site supervisor for the center, and working toward her Center Director Associate certificate. The current program is located in a remodeled office space near the downtown area of Emmetsburg. The center has reduced services to providing programming for infants through 2 year old children only. The center acquired the property and program for another daycare in town where they serve the pre-school and school age children. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general layout and design of the building remains the same as in the previous visit. The program makes use of 3 rooms with one for infants birth to 12 months, one for infants 12-24 months, and one for 2 year olds. Each room has secondary exits that provide direct egress to the outdoors. All exit doors were clear of obstruction and opened easily and freely with exception of the door for the 2 year old room in which a cot had been placed in front of the door during nap time. It was reviewed that while this was an obvious short time situation access to exits need to remain clear at all times and placement options for the cot were identified. The center does make use of a basement area for tornado shelter and access to that area was clear of obstruction. Each room has sinks located in the room to facilitate hand washing. Restrooms are located off the main corridors with one near the main entry, and one at the back between the toddler and older infant rooms. Each classroom has windows along the exterior walls that provide ample natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Each room is divided into activity centers through the placement of low shelves, furniture, and play structures which are arranged so that there are no blind areas. The facility was observed to be clean with no maintenance issues noted.

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2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Programming & Interaction:
Each classroom had a copy of the daily schedule and a curriculum posted which identified various activity plans. When playing with the children the teachers did engage in actions to help them build developmental skills of sitting up, walking, and identifying cognitive concepts such as shapes, colors, and other descriptors.
All teachers were actively engaged with the children attending to their needs interacting with them during their play, serving lunch, and transitioning children to naps. It was noted that all children were put down for naps at the same time following lunch service. There were children that did not appear to be tired and the teachers did engage in some play activities with those children. It was discussed that while working to establish routines is a positive activity infants should be provided nap time on demand and the center will need to ensure that infants are required to remain in/on cribs/cots as this could result in concerns of use of prohibited restraint practices.
All of the teachers were observed to be very caring and nurturing with the children.

Health & Safety:
Safe sleep practices were followed for children under 1 year of age.
During the visit I was able to observe several diaper changes and the teachers did generally follow the posted procedures. It was noted that one teacher did not deglove between handling soiled and clean items, and other did not glove before changing the diaper and did not wash her hands or use a hand sanitizer between handling soiled and clean items. It was reviewed that these practices can result in cross contamination and options to reduce those risks were reviewed.
Good cleaning practices were observed with the staff cleaning changing tables, high chairs, and meal service areas when children were not in the immediate area.
Chemical cleaners, personal items, and other items that could present a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible to children.
Over the counter medications were labeled and properly stored. A first aid kit was present in the center and contained materials necessary to address most common first aid needs.
Toys and items were appropriate to the ages of the children with none being observed that would pose a choking hazard.

Playground:
The center does have a small outdoor space attached to the facility but due to the commercial zone nature of the location the space is limited. As a result the center does make use of going for walks, and other facilities for outdoor play.
The space that is attached does have a dramatic play house, crawling tunnel, stepping stones, and other toys.
There was a low residential grade toddler slide present. The center does make use of anti-fatigue mats with an open cell structure that does allow grass to grow through but which is insufficient for fall surfacing and Caressa removed the slide.
The mature tree that was present has been removed and the center will need to install some other shade option either with portable, or constructed structures.
The space is fully enclosed by fencing which was in good repair.

Nutrition:
The center does have a limited kitchen and meals are prepared on-site. A copy of the menu was posted and provided a good variety of nutritious meal options consistent with CACFP guidelines.
Good food handling and storage practices were observed in the kitchen and classrooms.
Meals were pre-portioned with staff wearing food service gloves and using measured scoops.
Good feeding position was observed for all children.

Administration:
Required notices for consultant contact, mandatory reporting, no smoking, and license certificate were present and posted in an area readily accessible and visible to parents and visitors.
The center does make use of the Playground communication and file maintenance application, but also maintains hard copy files. Child files were reviewed and found to contain all required information. The program also provides for documenting daily care activities and all required elements were being documented. The center was using daily photographs as visual depictions of disposition and activities.
Staff files were reviewed and found to contain all required documentation.
The center handbooks were previously reviewed and found to contain all required written policies.
Inspection logs and certificates were available and current with the exception of Radon, and Fuel Burning Appliance inspections that could not be located on the day of the visit.

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3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.11(8)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.
-- Documentation was not available or could not be found on the day of the visit.

109.11(8)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.
-- Documentation was not available or could not be found on the day of the visit.

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

It was reviewed that if documentation of Radon and Fuel Burning appliance inspections could not be found they would need to be renewed.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 10/06/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

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**.