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

Name of Center: HACAP Head Start - Northwest **Enrollment:** 16 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25058

Street: 230 10th St NW **City:** Cedar Rapids Iowa **Zip** 52404 **County:** Linn

Mailing Address: 230 10th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52404

Director's Name: Sherry Shrader **Phone Number:** 319-221-1484

On-Site Supervisor(s): Sherry Shrader **E-Mail:** cregan@hacap.org

Date(s) of Visit: 04-22-2025

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** **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 **State** X **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 01-25-2024

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age 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	4	4	16		24
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2025 to 06-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons **Date:** 07-30-2025

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

Not applicable

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

HACAP Head Start (HHS) – Northwest has been in operation for many years. This program includes two separate classrooms. Room 1 is an extended day, extended year classroom. Room 2 is a part-day school-year only classroom. Each classroom serves a combined-age group of children aged 3 to 5-years-old. Current enrollment is 16 children.

Multi-site HHS early childhood program executive director is Christi Regan. Ms. Regan has a BA degree in elementary education with early childhood reading, has been employed with head start for over 20 years, and continues to participate in much child development related training. HHS - Northwest's site specific combined director/on-site supervisor is Sherry Shrader. Sherry Shrader has a BA degree in early childhood education, over 3 years experience working with children and continues to participate in much child development related training.

On 4/22/2025, program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

HACAP is a community action agency currently providing head start services throughout 9 Iowa counties. HACAP began in 1968 serving families in Johnson, Jones, and Linn Counties. From 1973-1981, HACAP expanded to provide services in Benton, Iowa, and Washington Counties. Then, in fall of 2020, HACAP again expanded to provide services in Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson Counties. Specifically, HHS - Northwest is located in a predominately urban neighborhood and has been in operation for several years.

HACAP's mission and goal is "...helping people develop skills to become successful and build strong communities..." and "...to bring about a greater degree of social competence in the young children..."

HHS has community support and operates under a Board of Directors. HHS has the following website for families and the community to learn more about the program: http://www.hacap.org.

HHS has a history of participation in quality initiatives including QRS/IQ4K, national accreditation, and local quality initiatives

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

109.11(4)a. Centers must have a safe outdoor program area adjacent to the center, with sufficient square footage to accommodate at least 30 percent of the enrollment capacity at any one time at 75 square feet per child. The outdoor area must: (1) Be free from litter and unsafe materials and free from contamination by the drainage or ponding of sewage or storm water. (2) Include safe play equipment and an area of shade. (3) Include fencing to protect from bodies of water and vehicular traffic.
- Significant areas of mud on the outdoor playground were observed from the bottom of building downspouts to the

sidewalk. Improve drainage away from the building.
- Replace the dilapidated table on the outdoor playground with some additional areas of seating for children and staff to better explore items in nature and enjoy various activities outdoors (e.g. book reading at a table, leaf collecting and comparing).
- Improve outdoor safety with better fencing (e.g. privacy fencing, higher fencing). On the day of the licensing visit, persons were observed leisurely walking around the building's sidewalks, parking lot and around the building's market area. All of these areas are very accessible to and visible of the childcare's outdoor play area. A large truck was also observed to arrive into the parking lot, adjacent to the outdoor play area with children openly playing, for unloading of items.
- Obtain an outdoor shed on the playground for storage of outdoor loose materials (e.g. balls, hoola hoops, side walk chalk).
- Obtain a wheeled cart and/or wheeled wagon to increase safety procedures when transitioning from the building to the community garden area with materials and children.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please discontinue the usage of play materials to try to deter children from accessing the areas of poor drainage/mud as it seemed to actually attract the children to that area.

Increase classroom storage areas (e.g. shelves) for better organization of materials and to more easily rotate materials between classrooms.

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A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

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This report is to note an administrative change. This location now includes one head start classroom and one new early head start classroom. An updated floor plan has been received and reviewed. It has been noted, a restroom is in the process of being constructed in the new early head start classroom. As a result of the changes, total capacity has changed to 24.

*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.