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

Name of Center: Y's Kids at Hansen **Enrollment:** 26 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46279

Street: 616 Holmes DR **City:** Cedar Falls Iowa **Zip** 50613 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 425 Lafayette ST, Waterloo, IA, 50703

Director's Name: Mindy Sternhagen **Phone Number:** 319-234-7589

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kennedy Rohe & Elise Wehr **E-Mail:** ywcakids@ywcabhc.org mindy@ywcabhc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 10-09-2024

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

Date Inspected: 06-08-2023

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	0	60	60
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2023 to 11-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 10-29-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 10/09/24 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Y's Kids at Hansen Elementary in Cedar Falls. I met with Kennedy Rohe, the on-site supervisor in the morning. Elise Wehr is the on-site supervisor in the afternoon. Mindy Sternhagen is the interim director for the YWCA programs. Ms. Sternhagen has been with the YWCA since 2002. She has a BA in Elementary Education and her CDA. The program typically has two staff members in the morning and two staff members in the afternoon.

The program is in Hansen Elementary. They primarily operate out of the gym and cafeteria areas. The before and after school program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30-8:30 am and 3:45-6:00 pm. On Wednesdays the afternoon program starts at 1:50 pm. The program serves children who are in kindergarten through sixth grade. There are currently 26 children enrolled.

The cafeteria and gym are open spaces that allow for free play and organized activities. Natural lighting is available in the cafeteria and artificial lighting is used in the gym. The centers observed include art, table toys, magnets, Legos, magnets and balls. Centers are stored in a closet in the gym. Materials were in good condition.

I visited the program during the morning hours of operation. The program was in ratio the day of my visit.

The program has a cell phone they use and emergency numbers are in a binder and posted in the storage closet. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in the cafeteria and gym. Post the diagram near the door in the gym that leads to the cafeteria. This was cited in last year's report also.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. There were not afternoon fire or tornado drills practiced in the afternoon in August or September 2024. There are children who attend the afternoon program who do not attend the morning program. All children must practice fire and tornado drills.

I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. Radon testing, a fuel burning inspection and a carbon monoxide detector are not necessary because the program is exempt from environmental assessments as a before and after school program located in a public-school building. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 06/08/23.

The YWCA offers breakfast to the children in the morning. There were only two components served. You must follow Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) guidelines and serve three components for breakfast. Children can also be released to the school for breakfast.

The YWCA also serves an afternoon snack. There were no breakfast nor snack menus available to review. These must be maintained and made available for parents and licensing visits. The program should be provided updated menus to post. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary. The program uses a refrigerator that is in the storage closet in the gym and a thermometer was present. Food items were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines.

The program uses Sani-T to sanitize the food tables. I discussed the process of cleaning and sanitizing the tables and proper procedures are followed.

The children primarily use two bathrooms located down the hall across from the gym. The girl's bathroom has seven toilets and three sinks. The boy's bathroom has three toilets, four urinals and three sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in the girl's bathroom but must also be posted in the boy's bathroom.

The program did not have a parent board. A parent board is mandated so I recommend putting it inside the entrance of the school. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability must be posted on the board. The license must also be conspicuously posted. I would recommend posting the daily schedule on the parent board also. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program uses the elementary school's playground. Woodchips are used for surface cushioning under the swings. Please rake the woodchips under the swings on a routine basis as there are big gaps under the swings. Rubber tiles are used for surface cushioning under the climbing equipment. There are monkey bars, rings, slides, a climbing wall, bridges and stepping stools. There is a large grassy area for the children.

Staff members were engaged in activities with the children. They used positive redirection when necessary. They modeled good manners and provided good handwashing reminders. A staff member greets the child and parent at the school entrance. Staff members maintained positive conversation with the children and talked with them about how their night was.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Rohe states the program provides flexibility to families. When the parents need them, they are there for them. She states parents are not required to use the program every day.

Ms. Rohe states they provide structure for the children but they are not overly structured so the children can enjoy being there.

Ms. Rohe states they can use the cafeteria, gym and playground.

Ms. Rohe states they keep children off their smart watches and phones and keep them engaged in social activities.

The program meets a need for parents who require care for their children before and after school.

The YWCA continues to offer before and after school care in multiple schools in the community. This allows children to stay on site at the school and parents do not have to worry about transportation.

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

109.4(3)b: Postings are required for:Mandatory reporter requirements.Notice of availability of handbook.Program activities.These shall be posted in area frequented by parents or public.
The program did not have a parent board. This information must be posted on a parent board and placed where parents can see it.

109.4(5): Child Care Centers and Preschool Licensing Standards and Procedures shall be available in the center and a notice stating a copy is available for review. Contact information of the child care consultant shall be included in the notice.
The program did not have a parent board. This information must be posted on a parent board and placed where parents can see it.

109.4(6): The child care license shall be posted in a conspicuous place and shall state the particular premises in which child care may be offered and the number of children who may be cared for at any one time.
The program did not have a parent board. This information must be posted on a parent board and placed where parents can see it.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.

The program did not have a daily schedule. I would recommend posting this on your parent board.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks.Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking. There were no breakfast nor snack menus available to review. These must be maintained and made available for parents and licensing visits. The program should be provided updated menus to post.

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 name Kennedy Rohe & Elise Wehr as on-site supervisors and to name Mindy Sternhagen as the interim director.

*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.