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

Name of Center: Noah's Ark Child Development Center **Enrollment:** 60 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18197

Street: 1755 Delhi ST **City:** Dubuque Iowa **Zip** 52001 **County:** Dubuque

Mailing Address: 1755 Delhi ST, Dubuque, IA, 52001

Director's Name: Jenifer Montgomery **Phone Number:** 563-203-7204

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** Director@NoahsArkDBQ.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-18-2024

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **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: 07-07-2022

Comments : Full fire inspection updated 3/3/21.
New ones room (crocodiles room) approved by fire inspector 4/14/21 with a max capacity of eight children.
Turtles room approved by fire inspector, email correspondence 5/26/23.

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	22	20	27	7	76
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2023 to 12-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 04-26-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 4/18/24. The center director, Jenifer Montgomery, along with other staff were present. The center is owned and operated by the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church as an outreach mission. The program is governed by a voluntary board of directors made up of church members, parents, and community members. The program uses space on the lower level of the church building. The program does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant Program. The center will provide care for school age children during the summer.

Rooms on the lower level include: Hippo room (two/three year old children, formerly the "nap room", adjacent to the church fellowship hall area), monkey room (infants zero to approximately eight months), lion room (three/four year old preschool and child care), giraffe room (four/five year old preschool and three to five year old child care, summer school age), bear room (approximately eight months to 15 months), and crocodile room (15 through 23 months), and turtle room (younger two year old). Program rooms appeared organized and continue to be very well stocked with accessible materials to support program needs. Learning/activity center arrangements included; books, dramatic play, arts/crafts, puzzles, manipulatives, music/listening, writing, table toys, games, sand table, and blocks. The giraffe, hippos, and turtle rooms include adjacent restroom areas. The hippos, crocodile, monkey, bear, and turtle rooms include a diaper station within the program room. Children in the lion room travel a short distance to use hallway restroom areas. All rooms also include at least one sink that is used for hand washing within the rooms. The infant rooms also include a separated food/bottle preparation sink. The center also uses the "Big Room" (the church fellowship hall area on the lower level) for indoor large motor activities. All program space was observed.

Morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack are served at the center. Snacks are provided by the parents on a rotating basis for the preschool programs. The center provides snacks for the child care portions of the program for children age two and older. Children are required to bring lunch from home. The center provides the milk for lunch. The center director is aware of the CACFP requirements and that meals/snacks from home have to be supplemented by the center if they do not meet those requirements. The center does not participate in the CACFP. The center utilizes a kitchenette area on the lower level for their food storage and food preparation activities. This area is highly organized. The church's main kitchen is used for dish washing.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center continues to be managed by a qualified and highly motivated director and an assistant to the director The staff are also qualified and some have been with the center for a long period of time. The staff continue to work well together, and the center director states the center has not experienced a lot of staff turn over. The center has achieved Level One IQ4K. The center director states the center plans to apply to participate in the WAGES program. The center reports a highly supportive relationship with the church and its membership. The center/church offers scholarship opportunities for child care. The program rooms are bright with windows, large, generally organized, and well supplied. Books are displayed nicely for the children and are relevant to the current themes/activity planning for the program. Hallway areas continue to be decorated with the children's projects. The staff were once again observed to be highly engaged in activities with the children in all program rooms. Daily notes are completed for all children who attend the center. The center continues to

participate in the local AEA borrowing program to supplement the preschool materials at the center. Child and staff files and other licensing information continue to be highly organized.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center was reminded of allowable age combinations. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure they are in compliance.

1. Ensure food preparation activities do not take place next to hand washing sinks.

The center will continue with a full license. Please address the violation(s) and/or concern(s) noted in the report so that corrections are obvious and ensure that items remain in compliance. This report does not require a written response.

*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.