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

Name of Center: Precious Lamb Childcare/Preschool **Enrollment:** 23 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52600

Street: 327 35th ST NE **City:** Cedar Rapids Iowa **Zip** 52402 **County:** Linn

Mailing Address: 327 35th ST NE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402

Director's Name: Chris Edgerton **Phone Number:** 319-200-4382

On-Site Supervisor(s): Chris Edgerton **E-Mail:** director@preciouslambscr.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-18-2024, 12-11-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

X **New Application** **Re-Application** **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: 06-18-2024

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: 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	10	14	26		50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2024 to 12-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons **Date:** 12-16-2024

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

Not applicable. This is a new program that received permission to open on 8/19/2024.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Precious Lambs Childcare/Preschool (PLCP) received permission to open on 8/19/2024. The program operates year-round, Monday through Friday 6:30am to 5:30pm. PLCP serves children age infant through preschool-age.

Owner of PLCP is Good Shepherd Baptist Church, under the Pastorship of Josh Westall. Combined director/on-site supervisor is Chris Edgerton. Ms. Edgerton has a MA degree in education, over 30 years experience in education and participates in child development related training.

On 11/18/2024 and again on 12/11/2024, licensing observed the program space.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

PLCP offers a variety of early learning programming and childcare to help meet the needs of children and families in the community. The program is located in a residential neighborhood of a predominantly urban city and accepts a variety of funding sources.

To know more about the program, PLCP sponsors a social media page and the following website: https://www.preciouslambscr.com/.

The mission of PLCP is "...to create a safe and loving environment for children to learn, grow, and become exactly who God designed them to be..."

PLCP is a non-profit ministry of Good Shepherd Baptist Church and is governed by a board that includes Pastor Josh Westall. Building and grounds are maintained. Updates to technology and security continue to be made. Church administration, church custodial/maintenance staff, and the board help ensure the program space is sanitary and hazard free each day.

Combined director/on-site supervisor of PLCP is Chris Edgerton. Ms. Edgerton has a MA degree in education and previous experience working with children. Ms. Edgerton is working to familiarize herself with licensed childcare rules and regulations as well as working to develop systems of organization to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained as required. PLCP has written policies and procedures to help ensure smooth daily operations. Ms. Edgerton discussed staff hiring practices including orientation to licensing guidelines as well as their own polices and procedures. Ms. Edgerton talked about building a seasoned team of employees that will eventually include a trained play therapist.

According to the program's written policies, curriculum "...has been thoughtfully crafted by an experienced educator, integrating a range of genres that captivate students' interests while remaining rigorously aligned with the Iowa State standards...recognize that every child has a unique way of learning, and...have designed our program to address and nurture each learning style. Through careful evaluation and tailored instruction,...strive to make learning a joyful and rewarding experience for every child." Ms. Edgerton indicated curriculum also incorporates teacher created ideas and enrichments in

literacy, Bible, music, and math. Ms. Edgerton discussed future goals of the program includes adding additional materials, outdoor playground enhancements and participation in quality initiatives including CACFP.

Ms. Edgerton is working to establish organized parent-staff/program information centers, offer regular program newsletters, and utilize technological communication resources. Pastor Westall shared how PLCP held their first Christmas program which had high attendance and much positive family feedback.

PLCP collaborates well with community partners including CCR&R, health professionals, local businesses, and local non-profit organizations.

PLCP has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed with all staff and updated as needed.

Each child is engaged in a daily health check upon arrival for early detection of apparent illness, communicable disease, or unusual condition or behavior which may adversely affect the child or the group. This program has policies and procedures in place for hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting.

During the monitoring visits, activities observed included indoor large gross motor play, routine transitions, lunch time rituals, infant cares, and quiet rest. Throughout the classrooms, staff were overheard engaging children in much discussion, encouraging social graces, and providing nurturance. Children responded well to staff and appeared to be enjoying their day.

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

109.8(2): Ratio maintained in center as required by age.
- On 12/11/2024, one room had infants under 18mo combined with infants over 18mo through 3yo. Licensing, management and staff reviewed ratio including ratio for this age grouping.

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
- Two staff files reviewed (KW date of hire 12/9/24, ND date of hire 12/11/2024) lacked documentation of a physical exam with TB screening/testing on required from 470-5152.
- On staff file reviewed (IR date of hire 8/19/24) lacked documentation of a complete physical exam with TB screening/testing on required form 470-5152.

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
- One staff file reviewed (IR date of hire 8/19/24) lacked documentation of having completed CPR, first-aid and "The Essentials" Modules 1-12 within 90 days of hire.

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.
- Child files reviewed lacked complete name, address and telephone number of doctor and dentist as well as hospital preference in case of an emergency.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
- A monthly fire drill had not been completed as required. Documentation of correction was received 12/13/2024.
- A monthly tornado dill had not been completed as required. Documentation of correction was received 12/13/2024.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep. 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.
- Foods and meals served shall meet CACFP guidelines to be credible. Menus shall be posted with substitutions noted at least one week prior to food service. Foods shall be covered when moving it from the kitchen. CACFP resources were forwarded to Ms. Edgerton.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Ensure all primary and secondary exits are unobstructed each day (e.g. indoor large gross motor room).

All equipment and furnishings shall be secured to help prevent a topple/head injury hazard (e.g. indoor large gross motor room table, window treatments). Also, outdoor play equipment shall be properly secure to prevent injury (e.g. school bus with protruding nails/steaks). Please continue to ensure documentation of a monthly outdoor playground inspection is being maintained as discussed on 12/11/2024.

Duct tape was observed over some electrical outlets. Please talk with the fire marshal to ensure this meets fire code. Continue to ensure any electrical cords are maintained to help prevent a trip/fall incident and electrical hazard.

All cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting products shall be properly labeled with name of product and instructions of use including dwell time. Chemicals shall be readily available for staff to use yet inaccessible to children and stored away from foods.

All equipment and/of furnishings (e.g. diaper stations, high chairs with safety straps) used on-site shall meet US CPSC and ASTM standards and be used as the manufacturer intends (e.g. child age, weight, height).

Continue to ensure all required postings are posted in designated and required areas (e.g. hand washing procedures, diapering procedures, emergency procedures, menus, lesson plans, daily schedules, 3-sink dishwashing by hand, mandatory reporting requirements).

Please continue to review safe sleep rules 109.12(5)e1-7 with each and every staff who cares for infants birth to 2yo.

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Licensing strongly supports continued collaboration with Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) as well as our local nurse consultant for resources and assistance in making and maintaining corrections. Assistance can include help with training needs, administrative paperwork, organization, quality improvements and much more.

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

*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.