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

Name of Center: Shining Stars Child Development Ctr II **Enrollment:** 125 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 27697

Street: 5400 Jennifer DR **City:** Pleasant Hill Iowa **Zip** 50327 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 5400 Jennifer DR, Pleasant Hill, IA, 50327

Director's Name: Randi Nihsen **Phone Number:** 515-266-2264

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kilah McDonald **E-Mail:** Randinaeve11@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 08-14-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 07-02-2024

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

Date Inspected: 09-10-2024

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit 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	28	12	64	30	134
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2024 to 09-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 08-19-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Shining Stars Child Development Center II opened on September 2005. The center provides child care services for children ages infancy through school age. The center is located in a single standing building. There is a secured entrance. Amanda Doyle and Diana Marquardt are the owners of the center. Randi Naeve is the director. Randi has been the director since January 2021. Randi was employed at the center prior to being director. Kilah McDonald is the on site supervisor.

An unannounced visit was completed today. All areas subject to HHS licensing were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate furnishings, toys and learning supplies. Labeled interest centers are in the classrooms for children starting in the walkers classroom. The classrooms schedules and a current lesson plan, "State Fair" are posted by the classroom doors. The center has children's artwork displayed in hallways and classrooms.

Randi assisted with today's visit. The infant classroom had seven infants present. There were two staff working in this room. The 1's classroom had four children present. One staff was working in this classroom. The walkers (18 month to 2 year olds) had twelve children present. Four staff were working with this group. The 2's classroom had fourteen children in attendance. Two staff were working in this room. The 3's class had eighteen children in attendance. There were two staff working in this room. The 4/5's class had twenty one children present. There were two staff working with this group. The school age classroom had twenty two children present. Two staff were working in this room.
Children were observed in the classrooms and outdoors. Children were observed during transition times, during rest time, during child directed play activities.

The center gets lunch from Shining Stars Child Development Center I. The center prepares their own breakfast and snacks. The center participates with the federal food program. Breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack are served. Menus are on a four week rotation.

The center has three playgrounds. There is a playground for toddlers, for children ages 2's - 3's, and 4's and up. The playgrounds have rubber tile for surfacing, grass and concrete. There are some climbing structures, riding toys and many outdoor play toys. The center has completed playground checks monthly.

The center owns a few vans, which are used for school transportation and field trips.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center participates in IQ4K. The center has a four star rating. Administrative records are well maintained. The center has a few playground areas, separated by age groups. The center has a video security system in place that observes all classrooms and the playgrounds.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during the visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

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