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

Name of Center: Y's Kids at Kingsley **Enrollment:** 33 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46511

Street: 201 Sunset RD **City:** Waterloo Iowa **Zip** 50701 **County:** Black Hawk

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

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

On-Site Supervisor(s): Ayanna Reckman **E-Mail:** ywcakids@ywcabhc.org sroberts@ywcabhc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-13-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 09-06-2022

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	45	45
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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: Becky Frost **Date:** 11-29-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 11/13/23 I made an unannounced licensing visit to Y's Kids at Kingsley Elementary in Waterloo. I met with Ayanna Reckman, the on-site supervisor. Ms. Reckman started with the program in May 2022. She is in college working toward an elementary education degree. Mindy Sternhagen is the interim director for the program. Ms. Sternhagen has been with the program since 2002. She has a BA in Elementary Education and her CDA. Sherie Roberts was recently hired as the new director of the Y's Kids programs and her start date was 10/23/23. Ms. Sternhagen is training her. Ms. Roberts has a BA in public relations and a MA in history. Ms. Roberts worked in the Waterloo Community School District for 4.5 years as a paraeducator, family support worker and behavior focus coach. She was the executive director of two non-profit organizations. The program has two employees present in the morning and two or three are present in the afternoon.

The program is in Kingsley Elementary. They primarily operate out of the cafeteria. They can also use the gym if it is not in use. The before and after school program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30-8:30 am and 3:40-6:00 pm. The program serves children who are in kindergarten through fifth grade. There are currently 33 children enrolled.

The cafeteria is a space that allow for free play and organized activities. The children are also able to use the gym. There is some natural lighting in the cafeteria. Artificial lighting is used in the gym. The centers observed include art, Legos, library, table toys, and transportation. Centers are stored on shelves in the entrance.

I visited the program during the morning hours of operation. The program was in ratio. The number of children at the program at any one time is changing constantly because of children arriving and leaving.

The children use two bathrooms in the hallway. The girl's bathroom has two toilets and a birdbath sink and the boy's bathroom has one toilet, one urinal and a birdbath sink. Handwashing procedures were posted. There are additional bathrooms located in the school.

The program has a cell phone they use, and emergency numbers were programmed in the phone. The program's address and phone number were in a binder. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in the cafeteria and gym. A daily schedule was posted.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. Drills have been practiced each month this school year. During the 2022-2023 school year there were no tornado drills documented for February through May 2023. There was not a fire drill documented for May 2023. Fire and tornado drills must be practiced every month and be documented.

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-age program located in a public-school building. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 09/06/22.

The children are offered breakfast through the school once they are released from care. The YWCA offers an afternoon

snack. Snack is provided by the school for the program. Snack menus are included on the school lunch menu and the menu was posted. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary. Snacks are eaten in the cafeteria. Snacks are stored in the milk cooler in the cafeteria. There is also a refrigerator and a thermometer was present. A thermometer was present.

The center uses Sani-T-10 Plus or Purell Professional Surface Disinfectant to sanitize the food tables.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program uses the elementary school's playground. Woodchips are used for surface cushioning. There are multiple pieces of climbing equipment located in the play area. Some of the items available include slides, two teeter totters, monkey bars, and a balance board and balance beam. They also had a stationary bus for the children to play on. There are benches and a picnic table available. There is a large grassy area for the children and a concrete area for the children. Shade is provided by trees. They also have use of the school gym.

The children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed six children files. They were in great condition.

On 10/24/23 I reviewed one staff file at the YWCA of Black Hawk County site. The staff member had an outdated universal precautions training. The staff member did not have documentation for mandatory reporter training or Essentials training. The staff member did not have a physical on file.

Staff members were observed to have terrific interaction with the children. They sat at the tables and interacted with the children at their level. They provided the children with praise. They used positive redirection when necessary and talked with the children about good choices. They provided the children choices and encouraged children to use their imaginations. Staff members greeted parents and children as they arrived. The children appeared to enjoy their time at the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Reckman states their program is inclusive. They care for children with special needs.

Ms. Reckman states the program is open and accommodating to all types of children and their families.

Ms. Reckman states they provide fun and educational activities for the children.

The program serves a diverse population. They serve children with different ethnic backgrounds, abilities, economic status and social abilities.

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:

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

An administrative change is being made to name Sherie Roberts as the new director of the program. She started with the program in October 2023. An administrative change is also being made to name Ayanna Reckman as the on-site supervisor.

*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.