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

Name of Center: Inspirations Child Care and Preschool Center **Enrollment:** 62 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16305

Street: 1005 2nd ST **City:** Sully Iowa **Zip** 50251 **County:** Jasper

Mailing Address: 1005 2nd ST, Sully, IA, 50251

Director's Name: Courtney Stoddard **Phone Number:** 641-594-3355

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** Inspirations.sully@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 08-26-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-03-2025

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

Date Inspected: 09-12-2024

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*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	20	16	24		60
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2025 to 08-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 08-27-2025

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Inspirations Child Care and Preschool Center began operating in the fall of 2007. This center has been located within Sully Christian Christian School until January 2014. The center moved to it's current location on 1/6/14. The center is located in a single standing building. The center has a secured entrance. The center serves children ages infants through young school age. Courtney Stoddard is the director. Courtney has been the director since April 2022. Courtney worked at the daycare several years prior to becoming director.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Courtney was working in a classroom today. Courtney was able to leave the classroom for a short time. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Class schedules are posted. A few classrooms had lesson plans, two didn't have lesson plans. Classrooms have age appropriate supplies and furnishings. Children's art work is displayed in the children's classrooms and hallways. Children's belongings are kept in cubbies.

There were eight infants present in the infant classroom. Two staff were working in the infant classroom. In the young 2's classroom, there were four children present. One staff was working in this classroom. There were fifteen children present in the 2/3's classroom. Two staff were working in this classroom. There were eight children in the preschool class. One staff was working with this class. There weren't any school age children present during the visit.

The center has a full kitchen. The center has a cook on staff. The center serves breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The center participates in the federal food program. Menus are on a five week rotation.
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The center has a few playground areas. The younger playground is used by infants and toddlers. There is rubber mulch used for surfacing materials on both playgrounds. There is concrete and grass on both areas also. There are some climbing structures and other outdoor toys on the playground. The center completes monthly playground checks.

The public school provides busing for children. The center uses a church van for off site field trips.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Courtney has worked with her CCR&R consultant. The center partners with Lynnville-Sully School District for the Universal Preschool program. This center is located in a building built specifically for the daycare center. The center has a secured entrance.

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

109.6(4)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
There were staff that have overdue record checks. Courtney stated she thought the Iowa record checks were due every five years, not every two years.
She worked on getting these checks completed during the visit.

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record checkCopy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
Two new staff started on 8/25/25. These staff hadn't had SING checks completed. Courtney completed the record checks during the visit. The staff were approved to work in child care centers.

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.
Two classrooms didn't have a lesson plan for the week.

109.12(4)e: The provider shall follow safe sleep practices for infants under one year of age:Infants shall always be placed on their backs for sleep.Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet.Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface.No child shall be allowed to sleep in any item not designed for infant sleeping, including but not limited to an infant seat, car seat, swing, or bouncy seat.No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.No co-sleeping shall be allowed.Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound.If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required and an expiration date.
Two infants were swaddled during today's visit. This is a repeat violation for the center. One infant was a staff member's infant and the infant was four months old. The staff stated she swaddles the infant at home. Staff stated the other infant was swaddled as this is the type of sleep sack the mother had provided. Courtney said she wasn't aware these infants were being swaddled and she will address this with staff as she is aware infants cannot be swaddled without a doctor providing a letter authorizing this, including a medical reason why it's necessary and an expiration date.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

The violations were discussed at with Courtney. Courtney completed record checks today. Courtney said she would follow up infant room staff to ensure only acceptable sleep sacks will be used. Courtney said she will talk to the staff who was swaddling her infant at the daycare. Courtney said there are new staff working and that is likely why there are not lesson plans being done timely. The director is responsible for ensuring lesson plans are being done and this was discussed.

The director is in ratio in classrooms daily, both mornings and afternoons. The center doesn't have floater staff hired so the director also has to fill in when staff are on vacation, sick, etc. The director at this center doesn't have an on site site supervisor/assistant director who shares administrative duties with her.
This worker continues to recommend the director not a staff in classrooms outside of covering for emergencies, temporary instances, etc.

HHS Child Care Licensing states the following recommendation:
Larger centers serving 50 or more children may want to consider not including the director in the staff/child ratio, to allow the director to be more available for the overall supervision of the center. Doing so allows the director to be more knowledgeable of all the activities throughout the center, provide guidance and modeling to staff, give more immediate response and intervention during emergencies, and fill in temporarily for an absent employee until other personnel can arrive.

*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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