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

Name of Center: Y's Kids at Irving Elementary **Enrollment:** 21 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46506

Street: 1115 W 5th ST **City:** Waterloo Iowa **Zip** 50702 **County:** Black Hawk

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

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

On-Site Supervisor(s): Josie Huse **E-Mail:** ywcakids@ywcabhc.org

Date(s) of Visit:

Licensing Visit **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** X **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: 08-05-2020

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	30	30
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2022 to 02-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 08-21-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 01/04/23 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Y's Kids at Irving Elementary in Waterloo. I met with Josie Huse, the on-site supervisor for the program. Ms. Huse has been with the program since August 2022. She is starting nursing school. Rachel Scott and Rhonda McCulloch-Lewis are the co-directors for the program. Ms. Scott has been with the center since 2000 and has previous childcare experience. Ms. Scott has a BA in biology and philosophy. Ms. McCulloch has been with the program since 2002. Ms. McCulloch-Lewis started with the program as an on-site supervisor in June 2022 and became the co-director in December 2022. She has a BA in social work, an AA in early childhood education and previous experience as both a teacher and director in childcare. There is two staff members present during the morning program and afternoon program.

The program is in Irving Elementary. They operate out of the cafeteria area but can also use the gym. The before and after school program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30-8:15 am and 3:45-6:00 pm. The program serves children who are in kindergarten through fifth grade. There are currently 21 children enrolled.

The cafeteria and gym are open spaces that allows for free play and organized activities. Artificial lighting is primarily used. The centers observed include art, crafts, playdough, math, library, Legos, games, table toys, magnets and puzzles. Centers are stored in a storage closet in the gym.

I visited the program during the morning hours. 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 near the cafeteria and gym. The girl's bathroom has three toilets and the boy's bathroom has one toilet and two urinals. There is a birdbath sink outside of the bathrooms. 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. You must post emergency numbers with the site's address and phone number. Emergency numbers for the children were available in the first aid kit. Emergency fire and tornado procedure and evacuation diagrams were posted near the main program doors and outdoor exits in the cafeteria and gym.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. There were missing fire and tornado drills in February through May 2022. Ms. Huse was not with the program at that time. Fire and tornado drills must be posted every month and documented. It is a serious offense not to practice fire and tornado drills.

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. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 08/05/20.

The children are offered breakfast through the school. The YWCA does not provide breakfast. The YWCA offers an afternoon snack. The snack is provided by the school. The program did not have a snack menu. Please get this from the school and post it. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary. The program uses a milk cooler that is in the kitchen and a thermometer was present. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines.

The center uses both Purell Professional Food Service Surface Sanitizer and Sani-T to sanitize the food tables.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board that is brought out during the hours of operation. The mandatory reporter poster, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program uses the elementary school's playground. The area is partially fenced in. The area uses woodchips for surface cushioning. There is climbing equipment with slides and a rope obstacle course, and swings. There is a concrete area with basketball hoops. Benches are available. There are loose chains on two poles on the playground. Have the school remove these chains.

Staff members were observed to have great interaction with the children. Staff members sat with the children and coloring pictures and maintained positive conversation. They talked with the children about sharing and used positive redirection when necessary. Ms. Huse was nurturing and comforting with the children, and I observed several children give her hugs. She moved around the room to interact with all the children. The children seemed to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Huse states they have good teamwork, and they keep the program running smoothly.

Ms. Huse states they provide good activities to keep the children busy.

Ms. Huse is the on-site supervisor in the morning and afternoon program which provides consistency.

The program is in a secured building.

The program meets a need for parents who require care for their children before and after school.

Ms. Scott states the staff focus on building relationships with 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.

Ms. Scott states they have raised the starting wage for their employees to $15.00 per hour.

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

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.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks.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.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

An administrative change is being made to name Rhonda McCulloch-Lewis as the new co-director and Josie Huse as the on-site supervisor.

On 08/16/23 an administrative change is being made to name Mindy Sternhagen as the director for the program. Rachel Scott is no longer with the program. This change will be in effect for YWCA of Black Hawk County as well as the Y's Kids programs at Hansen, Kittrell, Lowell, Highland, Kingsley, North Cedar, Cedar Falls Lincoln, Cunningham, Lou Henry, Hudson, Irving and Lincoln Waterloo. Rhonda McCulloch-Lewis, the co-director has also left the program. Ms. Sternhagen was previously a co-director for the program.

*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.