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

Name of Center: ICOACH Youth Center **Enrollment:** 120 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51993

Street: 4300 Beaver AVE **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50310 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 4300 Beaver AVE, Des Moines, IA, 50310

Director's Name: Boaz Nkingi **Phone Number:** 515-505-9109

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** boaznkingi@icoachiowa.org

Date(s) of Visit: 02-20-2025

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 12-30-2024

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

Date Inspected: 02-23-2022

Comments : Fire Inspections are due at least every three years.

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 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			22	80	102
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2025 to 02-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 03-05-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A full-licensing visit was completed 2-20-25; The director was present through the entire visit.

The ICOACH youth center program is located in the basement of the Zion Lutheran Church. ICOACH stands for Iowa Congolese Organization and Center for Healing. Prior to becoming licensed, this organization provided after school programs for school age children at no cost, however wanted to become licensed to broaden their scope of care and obtain financing to provide more services and structured programming for children. Boaz Nkingi is the director of this center. Boaz has a Bachelor's degree in Mass Communication. Boaz has been the ICOACH executive director for five years and the youth pastor at Zion church for four years. Boaz meets qualifications to be the director.

This program provides care for school age children; children who are in Pre-k up through age 12. The hours of operation at this time differ between school days and no school days/summer; during the summer and no school days the program hours are from 7 am to 8 pm. On school days, the program hours are 4 pm to 8 pm on M-T-Th-F, they do not provide after school care on Wednesdays due to space in the church and church activities.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

There are several classrooms in the basement of the church, as well as a large motor play room. This program shares some space with a separate preschool program that has been in operation for many years. This program currently uses 8 classrooms as well as the large motor play room and a large cafeteria space in the basement. The program currently uses classroom 102 with a capacity for 13 pre-k children; 104 with a capacity for 11 pre-k children, 106 with a capacity for 16 children, 154 with a capacity for 10 children, 158 with a capacity for 11 children, 162 with a capacity for 16 children, 166 with a capacity for 13 children and 177 with a capacity for 12 children. The large motor play space has a capacity for 53 children. The center offers a variety of play centers and activities.

The program has use of a large area of green space on the church grounds for outdoor time and activities.

The program does not have a set curriculum, however they work with children according to their age and where they are at academically; they have daily lesson plans and structured activities with the children. The program will have a set curriculum when they add all ages and will have a curriculum coordinator.

The program provides meals/snacks for the children that are in line with CACFP guidelines. The kitchen was observed to be clean and orderly. Meals and snacks are served cafeteria style.

The playground was snow covered during this visit.

There was discussion the program is preparing to apply for IQ4K Level I. The director continues to seek out CCR&R for assistance. The program is wanting to expand to offering care for younger children, and is working on a plan to attain this goal.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This program provides a needed service for the community and the Director and staff are passionate about meeting the academic, emotional, developmental and social needs of the children.

This program has strong support from the community.

The parents are appreciative of the program and many volunteer their time.

The program partners with other agencies, including United Way and CCR&R. The program received funding from United Way and they are looking at applying for other grants through United Way for the program.

The children love coming to the program and enjoy being there.

The program provides transportation; not only picking up children from school, but also taking those who need transportation home. In the summer they will provide transportation both to and from the program, which allows for more children to attend who might not be able to attend due to transportation barriers.

The program not only provides their services to children in the Des Moines area, but also to surrounding communities, including West Des Moines, Johnston, Urbandale, Ankeny, and Perry; as well as other communities.

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

109.6(6)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.

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.
Number not in compliance: 1

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.
Number not in compliance: 2

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Number not in compliance: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program conducted radon testing at the end of January, sending in the test kits on 1/28/23; Testing indicated all results below 4.0.

The program has completed an emergency preparedness plan as well as an emergency evacuation kit; discussion took place regarding ensuring staff are trained upon hire and then annually to be proficient with disaster planning.

The menu reflects the center is following CACFP guidelines and and is in the process of applying to participate in the CACFP food program. The program provides a snack for their after school children that is wholesome and filling. The program has use of a full kitchen and during full days of care will provide for all of the snacks and meals.

Heavy discussion took place with regard to organization of staff/child records and completing required trainings and updating trainings such as CPR and First Aide timely. The director is working to schedule staff training to fulfill this requirement.

*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.