Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Central Cares Inc

Provider No.: 24253

Address: 501 6th St, Coralville, IA, 52241

County: Johnson

Director's Name: Tammy Osterhaus

On-Site Supervisor: Sara Nehring and Brianne Arnold

Phone Number: 3195306287

E-Mail: ccbasp@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 12/16/2025

Licensing Period: 06/01/2026 to 06/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 04/14/2022

Comments: Does Comply

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [ ] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General				135	135
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

This worker completed an annual visit at Central Cares Inc - 24253 on 12/16/2025. The center is located inside of Coralville Central Elementary School. The center utilizes the multipurpose room, gym, kitchenette and an office. The center offers an afternoon program and as needed non-school days. Afternoon program – 2:55-5:30 p.m. all days excluding Thursday when it is 1:55-5:30 due to district wide early dismissal. Central Cares, Inc. will offer select non-school days, from 7:00-5:30, (conference, in-service, and breaks) space and enrollment numbers permitting. A minimum of 15 kids is required to meet enrollment needs to merit opening for the day. The center provides childcare for school aged children.

The director is Tammy Osterhaus. Tammy started with Central Cares in 1995. Tammy has a bachelor's degree in Therapeutic Recreation with an emphasis in People with Disabilities.

The onsite supervisors are Sara Nehring and Brianne Arnold. Both started in 2016. Sara has an associate's degree. Brianne has a bachelor's and master's degree in education.

This worker observed all programming space in the center and outdoor area to ensure that the environment was safe, sanitary and hazard free. The center was safe, sanitary and hazard free. The center staff provided careful supervision during the visit. The center was in ratio during the visit.

The center ensures that: medication is stored and documented appropriately, handwashing procedures are followed, and staff know how to use the cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting products.

The center provides: breakfast on full days and afternoon snacks. Parents provide lunch on full days. The center ensures that each child is served a full, nutritionally balanced meal/snack as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff provided careful supervision at the table during snacks and meals. Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage were followed. Menus were posted.

The center's curriculum is teacher created. They do utilize Positive Behavior's Interventions and Supports. The center does offer field trips during summer break. Examples include pools, water parks, museums, zoos, the library, and farms.

All required postings were displayed on the date visit. Child files were in full compliance. Staff files were in full compliance.

The licensing notebook was in full compliance including floor plans, drills, first aid checklist, playground inspections, staff handbook/parent handbook and emergency preparedness plans.

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2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

-The director started in 1995. The onsite supervisors started in 2016.
-The children have a wide variety of fun and educational activities to choose from.
-The director and staff allow the children the opportunities to make choices and provide guidance when needed with social skills especially with developing peer relationships/coping skills.
-The director has established working relationships with Child Care Resource and Referral and their Child Care Nurse Consultant.
-The center has quiet time during the summer where they can read, draw/color or play solitaire card games.
-The center uses ProCare for open communication.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

The center was in full compliance on the date of my visit.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Based upon the annual visit, it is recommended that this center remain in full licensing status. If citations were issued please ensure that they are corrected as soon as possible. It is important that the director and all staff review the updated Iowa Code 109 https://ccmis.dhs.state.ia.us/providerportal/DocumentViewer.aspx?ID=19 and Comm. 204: https://hhs.iowa.gov/media/6489/download?inline

This worker encourages all centers to work with Child Care Resource and Referral Consultant and their Child Care Nurse Consultant.

Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) Agencies play a vital role in supporting the quality of child care across Iowa by offering both on-site and virtual consultation services to licensed preschools, Child Care Centers, nonregistered Child Care Home providers and registered Child Development Home (CDH) providers. CCR&R agencies assist providers in complying with state regulations by offering expert consultation, training, and professional development opportunities to enhance the quality of care they provide. A key focus is supporting providers in achieving high performance within the Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K®) system https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/iq4k, which aims to improve child care quality across the state. In addition to supporting providers, CCR&R agencies also offer parent referral services and consumer education, helping families navigate the child care system and find quality care options.

Child Care Nurse Consultants (CCNCs) are registered nurses who have early childhood training and are experts in child health, child care, and child safety. CCNC services are available statewide and are part of the Healthy Child Care Iowa program. ECE providers may call or email questions to their local CCNC about health and safety policies, health records, health resources, and specific child health or safety concerns. To contact your local CCNC go to https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci and click on the “CCNC Local Services Map.”

Date: 01/02/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown

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Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.