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

Name of Center: New Opportunities, Inc Head Start - Jefferson **Enrollment:** 20 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52261

Street: 306 S Vine St **City:** Jefferson Iowa **Zip** 50129 **County:** Greene

Mailing Address: PO Box 426, Carroll, IA, 51401

Director's Name: Tonya Weber **Phone Number:** 515-386-2092

On-Site Supervisor(s): Sandy Day **E-Mail:** tweber@newopp.org

Date(s) of Visit: 09-15-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 08-04-2023

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

Date Inspected: 02-20-2023

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years per licensing regulations.

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 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	34	0	34
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: Nate Knepper **Date:** 09-18-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 9/15/23. The on-site supervisor was present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

New Opportunities Inc, Head Start Jefferson is a new program located in a classroom of The Children's Place Center located in Jefferson, IA. The program serves children ages three through five years in age during the school year. Classes are held Tuesday - Thursday either in the AM (8:15am - 11:45am) or PM (11:45am - 3:15pm). The center uses the Creative Learning Curriculum. The capacity of the classroom is 34 children.

The center is non-profit and overseen by a Board. Tonya Weber is the director of this program as well as all of the other New Opportunities programs. Tonya has a BA and a Master's degree. Tonya has past experience working in child care and has been the director over all of the New Opportunities programs for quite some time. Sandy Day is the on-site supervisor at this location. Sandy has a CDA and also has past experience working in child care and the school district.

During the visit, children were primarily observed playing outside on the playground. Staff were spaced out among the different groups of children. Later, children came back inside and washed their hands before moving onto the next activity.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a new program that meets a need in the community.

The director has a lot of experience working in child care. The director is also the director over all of the New Opportunities Head Start programs. All of the programs run in similar fashion and have continuity.

Staff and child files were nicely organized.

The center uses an electronic application for extra communication with parents. Special events and activities are held throughout the year to keep parents involved and updated on their children's activities, progress, learning, etc.

Weekly and monthly staff meetings are held (with all staff and at times within the different programs).

Staff reportedly work well together.

The program has good community partnerships.

Children receive free dental, vision, and hearing tests.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
There were some cords observed during the visit that need to be more securely fastened to the wall and/or tucked behind other equipment so that they are not freely dangling.

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.
A daily schedule with times listed for activities throughout the day should be posted.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center is located within a classroom of The Children's Place (formerly known as Greene County ELC). This is a brand new building that was built in 2022.

The program will have to coordinate with The Children's Place to have radon testing conducted. This is due by the end of 9/2023 as The Children's Place moved into this space in 9/2022. Radon levels have to come back below the 4.0 cutoff. If below 4.0, testing can move to at least every five years. If radon levels come back 4.0 or higher, retesting is needed and the program will stay on an every two year plan at least initially for testing.

The furnace and air conditioning units are new. Annual testing is required. This is scheduled for 10/5/23.

The center does not currently go on field trips. If/when they do, they will contact services with the school district. The program will bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit.

For the main parent board at the entrance used by the program; this consultant's contact information, the license, the Mandatory Reporter notice, and the food menu should be kept near each other and separate from other information posted in this area.

Parents have 30 days from date of enrollment to provide their children's physicals and immunizations records.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.