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

Name of Center: Sun Ridge Head Start **Enrollment:** 21 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50812

Street: 4701 Stone Ave **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51106 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 270 Leech Ave, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Rachel Ostermyer **Phone Number:** 712-224-4757

On-Site Supervisor(s): Katelynn Peters **E-Mail:** rostermyer@caasiouxland.org

Date(s) of Visit: 06-03-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 05-26-2023

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

Date Inspected: 05-28-2024

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 Preschool-Age 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	8	16			24
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2023 to 07-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 06-10-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was made on 06-03-24 and spoke with Katy Peters onsite supervisor for this site. Katy has her education in early childhood and was a director at another childcare center for a couple of years. In 2019, Head Start had received a grant to open an Early Headstart Program. Headstart collaborated with Western Iowa Tech Community College and renovated an apartment wing into 3 separate rooms for the Early Head Start Program. The EHS program serves infants to age 3 years of age. EHS modified their hours to incorporate extended hours to help parents who work. Their hours are from 7:30am to 5:30pm and operates Monday thru Friday. Actual EHS programing is from 8:30am to 3:30pm. Each room has its own lead teacher. The rooms are all on one floor and share a kitchen where meals are prepared. A fenced-in playgrounds is adjacent to the building.

There are 21 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit only 18 children were present. All areas of the program were observed. The areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues to clean toys daily that children use.

Early Head Start rooms have the following areas throughout the room for the children to explore and learn: dramatic play, music, reading, blocks, books, toys and art. Center uses high scope curriculum and has their daily schedule of activities posted. There was a sufficient amount of toys, books and equipment for the number of children. Children have access to bathrooms/changing table. They have good room arrangement with centers throughout the room. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, pictures of animals, nature posters, tooth brushing poster, numbers, picture schedule for the children, children's artwork, pictures of the children and the alphabet. Observed staff assisting the children with various activities, reading stories to the children, sitting with the children during table activities and assisting children during lunch. Staff had good interaction with the children throughout the day. When children turn age 3 the children are transferred to a regular headstart program when there are openings.

Staff files are located at the main office and will be reviewed at a later date.

Refrigerator is clean and kept at the appropriate temperature. Nutritious meals are prepared and delivered by the Sioux City Community School District for breakfast, lunch and snacks. The center has a food aid which prepares all the meals in the kitchen when it arrives. This kitchen is inaccessible to the children. The center is on the food program and follows the CACFP guidelines. Good food storage practices are followed.

Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication, however, no children currently receiving meds at the center. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is able to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon tests was not available at the time of the visit. Center is all electric. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Good health and safety policies /procedures are in place.

Center Playground

There is an adjacent playground next to the building. Surface is turf with no climbing equipment that would require surfacing. The program has turf for surfacing and the program has a canopy shade structure.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips:
The center does not transport for field trips due to the ages of the children. The staff may take the children out on a walk but they stay in the area.

All the required postings were visible. The center's discipline practices consist of using time out, PBS, tucker turtle and talking with the children to resolve any problems that arise during the program.

Goals of the center is to get more staff.

Strengths of the program is that center has a good relationship with families that they serve and staff work well as a team. Program offers extended day for those families that need it. Program is flexible and helps parents with life circumstances beyond childcare.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

1. Center has two parent teacher conferences during the year to inform parents of their child's progress and what they need to work on.
2. Center sends home a newsletter each month to keep parents aware of what is going on in the program.
3. Center has child size furniture throughout the rooms.
4. Staff complete two home visits for every student.
5. The center is on the food program.
6. Center provides an extra staff in the infant room even though ratio is being met.

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

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Center needs to email consultant by 07-05-24 confirming that aspects which fall below starts have been completed.

A full license is recommended at this time at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year

*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.