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

Name of Center: MICA Head Start-FUMC **Enrollment:** 60 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18077

Street: 202 W Main St **City:** Marshalltown Iowa **Zip** 50158 **County:** Marshall

Mailing Address: 1001 S 18th Ave, Marshalltown, IA, 50158

Director's Name: Nicole Ramirez **Phone Number:** 641-485-1896

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** nicole.ramirez@micaonline.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-30-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 04-17-2024

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

Date Inspected: 10-07-2022

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 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			48		48
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2024 to 05-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 06-11-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off year, unannounced visit was completed 5-30-25. A teacher was present through the visit.

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.

MICA (Mid Iowa Community Action Agency) offers Head Start programs throughout Marshall County and surrounding areas. The administrative office is located in Marshalltown. The Early Childhood Program Coordinator is Nicole Ramirez. Nicole is listed as the director at all the Head Start sites. Nicole have been with MICA for a number of years and meets the requirements to be a director. Each site also has a lead teacher who meets the 100 points and is listed as the on-site supervisor.

This program meets in a wing of the First United Methodist Church. The program will now be using all three classrooms in the wing of the church used for programming space. Each classroom has a sink and there is a girl's bathroom and a boy's bathroom in the hallway. One classroom is full day, from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, M-F. One classroom is half day sessions, from 8 am to 11:15 am and from 12:30 pm to 4 pm, T-F. The 3rd classroom meets from 11:15 am to 2:45 pm, T-F. The program offers care to children age 3 to 5.

MICA-FUMC uses Frog Street curriculum while using email to communicate with parents. This program participates in the food program and menus are crafted by the school; as the school provides the food. Each program has a Food aid to help prepare meals on site; Menus are on a rotation and meals/snacks are served family style.

The classroom each offered a variety of play centers and toys; handwashing posters were not up (however this was due to year end cleaning and will be replaced) ; fire/tornado emergency exit diagrams are posted.

The playground is enclosed by chain link fencing; offering smaller play equipment on rubber chips. Other surfacing is grass; there is also a shade structure.

The program also now has access to a large motor play room and can also use the church's full kitchen.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has attained Level 4 on IQ4k quality rating system for Iowa.

Head Start provides a very valuable and needed service to the families in the community.

Each program always has at least one bi-lingual staff person as many of the children speak Spanish as their first language.

This program partners well with the school district.

The children transition well into kindergarten and are ready for kindergarten.

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

There were not aspects of operation that fall below standards reviewed.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This site offers programming mostly during the school year.

Radon testing is now due every five years if testing falls below the 4.0 cutoff. The last radon test was completed in October of 2021 and fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

It should be noted heavy discussion took place regarding this center's policy adherence to licensing standard 109.10(14)c A sex offender who has been convicted of an offense against a minor and required to register with the sex offender registry, shall not be present on the property without written permission of the director, except for the time reasonably necessary to transport offender's own minor child to and from the center. This center does have a secure entry within a church building.

*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.