Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Sonshine Preschool

Provider No.: 16467

Address: 700 E Olive ST, Marshalltown, IA, 50158

County: Marshall

Director's Name: Kari Hancock

On-Site Supervisor: NA

Phone Number: 6417533082

E-Mail: kari@journeymtown.com

HHS Visit Date: 10/01/2025

Licensing Period: 10/01/2024 to 10/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/18/2022

Comments: Fire inspections due at least every three years; completed by Marshalltown Fire Dept.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 2

- [X] Accrediation — Comments: IQ4K Level II

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		8:45 AM to 11:45 AM	
Tuesday		8:45 AM to 11:45 AM	
Wednesday		8:45 AM to 11:45 AM	
Thursday		8:45 AM to 11:45 AM	
Friday			
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			70		70
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was completed 10-1-25. On-Site Supervisor and staff were present during this visit.

Sonshine Preschool was started in 1991 and continues to meet in the church, which is now called Journey. The preschool is affiliated with the church, and they work closely together. Kari Hancock became the director in Aug, 2024. Kari has a bachelor and master's degree along with several child care related trainings; she also has prior child care experience. She meets the criteria for director.

The program offers preschool Monday-Thursday 8:45 AM to 11:45 AM, during the school year (Sept through May) for ages three to five years.

Sonshine Preschool in now using mainly 2 classrooms, however can use two additional preschool classrooms if needed. These classrooms are all located in the same hallway/area of the church. The program can also use the large gym for indoor large motor play. The preschool uses Creative Curriculum and the Bright Wheel application to communicate with parents. There is also a teacher-created religious component. Each room is well stocked with a variety of centers/activities. Teachers and children were engaged in a Teacher-Lead group activity during the visit. The children were content.

Snack is provided. There is access to a kitchen in the church. Snacks are in-line with CACFP guidelines and served family-style in the classrooms.

The playground was enclosed by chain link, located on the same property but to the south of the center. The playground is shared with the community and church members.

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Transportation: This program does not currently provide transportation.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Sonshine Preschool has attained LEVEL 2 in Iowa's IQ4K (Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K®) is Iowa's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) licensed Child Care Centers and preschools, registered Child Development Homes and programs operating under the authority of an accredited school district or nonpublic school. IQ4K® provides five levels of quality (building blocks) that programs can achieve and continue to improve on)

Sonshine Preschool's full time staff have participated in Child Care WAGE$® Iowa (WAGE$) is a salary supplement program offered by Iowa AEYC. WAGE$ works hand-in-hand with TEACH Early Childhood® Iowa. TEACH (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) is a comprehensive scholarship program that provides the early childhood workforce access to educational opportunities and is helping establish a well-qualified, fairly compensated and stable workforce for our children.

The teachers are experienced and caring people. The program teachers each morning for a staff meeting and teachers have access to continued training education as well.

The Director and the teachers are invested in their program; they are caring and nurturing toward the children and work well together.

The preschool receives support from the church and is a ministry of the church.

The preschool has a secure entrance.

The classrooms have strong structure and lesson plans, that also incorporate play.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.6(3)b: Signed statement indicating they have been informed of responsibilities as mandatory reporters. This form is provided to the center director to be signed and placed in staff's respective files.

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

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was completed 3/2022 and all tested rooms were below 4.0 cutoff level for safety.

Date: 10/17/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

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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**.