Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Marion YMCA

Provider No.: 51491

Address: 3740 Irish Drive, Marion, IA, 52302

County: Linn

Director's Name: Tanisha Phelps

On-Site Supervisor: Jacob Perks

Phone Number: 3193666421

E-Mail: phelps@crmetroymca.org

HHS Visit Date: 06/22/2026

Licensing Period: 08/01/2025 to 08/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/19/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday			6:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Tuesday			6:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Wednesday			6:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Thursday			6:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Friday			6:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General				150	150
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

The YMCA currently operates the following two childcare programs in Linn County: Marion YMCA and Helen G. Nassif YMCA. Specifically, this license visit and report pertain to the Marion YMCA which commenced operations on 6/16/2021. This program is located inside the Marion YMCA. Marion YMCA operates summer only M-F from 6:30am-6:00pm and serves school-age children. Total enrolled children were reported to be 85 on 6/22/2026.

Multi-site director of Marion YMCA and Helen G. Nassif YMCA is Tanisha Phelps. Ms. Phelps has qualified for this role since January 2019. Ms. Phelps has a BA degree in interdisciplinary studies, experience working with children, and participates in professional development. On-site supervisor (OSS) Jacob Perks has a MA degree in strategic leadership, has experience working with children and participates in professional development.

On 6/22/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in a lower-level room and a section of the YMCA gym designated solely for childcare. The program has some access to an additional upper-level room, aquatic areas, and outdoor unfenced play area. The program has access to restrooms with handwashing sinks to accommodate capacity. During all hours of the childcare's operations, staff accompany each child(ren) to and from the restrooms as well as ensure the restrooms are free of the public when used by the childcare. All snack foods offered to the children are stored and prepared in the program's administrative area. Each family is required to supply their respective child's daily lunch. On 6/22/2026, indoor recreational activities were observed to include group games (e.g. Elimination), book reading, crafting, and friends chatting. During the monitoring visit, routine transitions observed included clean-up procedures, lunch time rituals, and restroom/drink breaks. Curriculum allowed for a variety of experiences that were observed to pique child interest as well as encourage the use of social graces. On 6/22/2026, staff were observed to be in ratio, utilizing positive behavior interventions when needed and engaged in programming with the children. Children appeared comfortable with

staff and to be enjoying the day.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The mission of YMCA is "...to put Christian principals into practice through program that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all..."

YMCA has the following website for the community and families to access information about the program: http://www.crmetroymca.org/Cedar_Rapids/YMCA/Welcome/For_Youth_Development/Child_Care.php.

Marion YMCA and Helen G. Nassif YMCA operate under a board of directors. Ownership and management (e.g. Ms. Phelps, Mr. Perks) of the YMCA childcares have remained consistent. Management continues to develop systems of organization to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained as required. Management is familiar with licensing rules as well as their own policies and procedures.

On 6/22/2026, Marion YMCA was found to be maintaining most required posting, maintaining parent-staff-program information areas, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Curriculum includes reading activities, off-site field trip experiences, on-site guest speaker events, large gross motor activities, themed days, and seasonal parties. Summer 2026 field trips include trips to a local baseball game, local movie theater, Lost Island Waterpark, Bass Farms, AirFx, loca parks, and local bowling alley.

As of 6/22/2026, YMCA childcare locations continue to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On the day of this monitoring visit, staff discussed how they help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following their current policies and procedures. Staff continue to report having supports from the YMCA board, upper YMCA management, YMCA administration, and YMCA custodial/maintenance crew as to ensuring the building and grounds are safe, sanitary and hazard free each day.

YMCA childcare locations including Marion YMCA each have emergency plans, policies, and procedures. YMCA childcare locations have successfully navigated through flooding events (2008 historic Linn County flood), relocation situations, 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, air quality alerts (2023, 2025, 2026), technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage) and 2026 nationwide cyclosporiasis outbreak.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that:Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.Sufficient lighting shall be provided.Sufficient ventilation.Sufficient heating.Sufficient cooling.Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children.

109.11(8)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.

109.11(8)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

109.13(1 and 2): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines.Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals.Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.Menus shall be made available to parents and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.

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

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.
- Staff file reviewed (SM hired June 2023) lacked documentation of required 6 hours of annual professional development in both her paper file and in ipower.
- Staff file reviewed (JP hired August 2021) lacked documentation of required 8 hours of annual professional development in both his paper file and in ipower.
- Staff file reviewed (TY hired June 2024) lacked current documentation of any staff requirements in either her paper file or in ipower.

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
- Staff file reviewed (SM hired June 2023) lacked documentation of current UP training and physical exam with TB screening/testing on required form 470-5152.
- Staff file reviewed (JP hired August 2021) lacked documentation of current federal record check result, first-aid, CPR, MCART, and physical exam with TB screening/testing on required form 470-5152.
- Staff file reviewed (TY hired June 2024) lacked current documentation of Iowa record check result, federal record check result, first-aid, CPR, UP, MCART, and physical exam with TB screening/testing on required form 470-5152.

109.11(8)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.
- Documentation indicated radon testing has not been completed since May of 2021.

109.11(8)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.
- Documentation of an annual all fuel burning appliance inspection was not found on the day of the monitoring visit.

109.13(1 and 2): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep. Menus shall be made available to parents and kept on file with substitutions noted. Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
- There was no menu posted on the day of the monitoring visit.
- The refrigerator did not have a thermometer to monitor sufficient cooling of foods.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
- On the day of the monitoring visit, the primary restroom used by the childcare did not have hand soap but only hand sanitizer available at the hand-washing sinks. Hand washing procedures were also not posted.
- Documentation that the director or designated person completed and kept a record of a monthly tornado drill and a monthly fire drill was not found for summer 2025. This was noted in the special notes of previous inspection reports.
- Documentation that the director or designated person completed and kept a record of at least monthly inspections of the outdoor play area and equipment for the purpose of assessing and rectifying potential safety hazards was not found for summer 2025. This was noted in the special notes of previous inspection reports.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Ensure the program's current HHS license is posted in the area frequented by parents.

There is a partial no outlet roadway leading from the front parking lot down the side of the building adjacent the green space used as the childcare outdoor space. Continue to ensure every time children access or cross the no outlet roadway to the open green space, staff accompany the children and use heavy-duty cones to discourage traffic to the no outlet roadway.

Increase program supplies. Children shall have access to a plethora of games, puzzles, building supplies, crafts, etc. that have all the pieces to be able to experience the joy of child play. Material refreshing and replacement is an ongoing monthly childcare budget need.

The program continues to use Jianhe 75% alcohol wipes for food surfaces or food tables. There was no manufacturer

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documentation on-site indicating this product can be used to clean, sanitize or disinfect anything other than a person's hands. Ensure every cleaner, sanitizer and disinfectant product used in the childcare is clearly labeled with name of the product, intended use and manufacturer instructions (e.g. dwell time, dilution if applicable).

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The program's license remains in full force. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 08/04/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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**.