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

Name of Center: Bethany Lutheran Daycare **Enrollment:** 15 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 47418

Street: 400 Latrobe AVE **City:** McCallsburg Iowa **Zip** 50154 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: PO Box A, McCallsburg, IA, 50154

Director's Name: Stacie Aguilar **Phone Number:** 515-338-0182

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** daycarebethanylutheran@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-18-2025

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:** 05-05-2022

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

Date Inspected: 06-17-2025

Comments : Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years. Completed by Seth Jones, Dept of Inspections Appeal and Licensing. (DIAL)

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 X Preschool-Age X 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	12	12	12	14	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2024 to 07-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 08-03-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year visit was completed 7-18-25. The director was present through the visit.

Bethany Lutheran Daycare was established in 2016 and had previously been operated by the local school district and regulated by the Dept of education. Currently, this program is under a Board of Directors from the adjacent Bethany Lutheran Church. The daycare program is operated from a school building; for which maintenance/up-keep is shared with Colo-NESCO schools. This program operates 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday to children ages 6 weeks to 12 years of age.

Stacie Aguilar became director in 2024; and had completed continuing child care courses and director courses along with having experience to meet the 100 points criteria for director.

Observation of Rooms: Staff are in ratio; the center utilizes Iowa Early Learning standards in their curriculum with a gospel component. Bright wheel is the application used to communicate with parents. Lesson plans/schedules are posted. The center offers a a good variety of age/developmentally appropriate centers and toys. There are toilets out of order, that are sectioned off; there needs to be some cleaning but this may need completed by the school that shares maintenance responsibility. The areas in need of cleaning; are cordoned-off. The children were content and having lunch, family style with teachers. The older children eat cafeteria style by the kitchen in the lower level.

Nutrition:
The center has an on-site working kitchen and dedicated cook; who crafts the menus on a 3 week rotation/seasonally. This center participates in the CACFP food program and staff indicated that the program auditors had completed an audit recently of the menu items/adherence to the program; staff indicating they passed in 2024. The kitchen was organized and clean. Meals/snacks are served cafeteria-style for the older children while infants are fed on demand and toddlers eat in their room family style with staff.

Health and Safety:
Medications when in use are stored securely in the office. The center has 1st aid kits along with emergency tornado and fire plan displayed. The center keeps a check list of monthly fire and tornado drills. The center needs to resume completing emergency drills and discussion with the director took place regarding this concern. The center's HVAC systems are maintained and checked by the school--owner of the building.

Playground:
The center enjoys the use of two playgrounds: one for older children, that was surfaced with pea rock. The playground for older children appeared in good condition/good repair. The school and the center share maintenance costs for the playgrounds. The playground for younger children is fenced and has rubber chips surfacing. This playground also in good condition/good repair.

Transportation:

This center has contracted with the school to provide transportation and a bus driver for field trips.

Administrative Records:
Fliers for mandatory reporter, handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license and no-smoking signs were posted. Three child files were viewed; one missing a physical form and record of immunization. Four staff files were reviewed with 2 staff needing updated national background checks (finger prints) and the staff still needing to update annual trainings.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director and staff were observed to work as a team. The director was receptive to any discussion.

This center offers needed daycare in a rural community. The center enjoys support/assistance from the school district such as the use of a school-owned building and for building maintenance and school bus/driver transportation.

The center communicates well with the parents and the parents are supportive of the center.

The center has a secure entrance and a security camera is placed in the front entry way.

The center uses the Bright Wheel Application to log children's activities for parents to have ready access.

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

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.
*at least one staff file did not contain information that annual required training hours had been completed.

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record checkCopy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
*two staff need to repeat background checks and for those results to be on file at the center.

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
*one child was missing a physical form and signed/dated immunization and/or exemption.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center last completed radon testing in June of 2022 and all rooms fell under the 4.0 cutoff/now due every 5 years.

The menu's reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines and the center participates in the food program.

It is recommended that the new director reach out to CCR&R for assistance in establishing a secure records management process; specifically for employee and child files. Once established, it may be helpful to develop a tracking system to assist in keeping records up to date.

*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.