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

Name of Center: Keokuk Community Child Development Center **Enrollment:** 32 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50520

Street: 2330 Plank Rd Suite 101 **City:** Keokuk Iowa **Zip** 52632 **County:** Lee

Mailing Address: 2330 Plank Rd Suite 101, Keokuk, IA, 52632

Director's Name: Stephanie Stancil **Phone Number:** 319-313-8831

On-Site Supervisor(s): Hannah Stewart **E-Mail:** keokukchildcenter@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-21-2024

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:** 03-30-2023

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

Date Inspected: 09-13-2022

Comments : Keokuk Fire Department Ed Lowe completed the report and approved the inspection, it is due annually, this report was provided to DHS on 6/19/22

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.) 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*
Sunday			
Monday	5:00 AM to 8:00 PM		
Tuesday	5:00 AM to 8:00 PM		
Wednesday	5:00 AM to 8:00 PM		
Thursday	5:00 AM to 8:00 PM		
Friday	5:00 AM to 8:00 PM		
Saturday			

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	16	15	24	25	80
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2023 to 05-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jill Seibert **Date:** 03-05-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Keokuk Community Child Development Center is a new program held in Holy Trinity Church in a residential area of Keokuk. It is nearby area schools and occupies one floor of the church. The program consists of an infant room, a 1 year old room, a 2 year old room, 2 preschool age rooms and a school age room. Restrooms are attached or easily accessible across the hallway. The kitchen space is shared. The program Director is Stephanie Stancil. She has an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Development 25 years of experience in licensed childcare and many hours of continuing education. The on-site supervisor, Hannah Stewart, has held this position since October 2019. Koryn Barnes is the designated person in charge if Hannah or Stephanie are not present.

I made an unannounced off year visit to the center on 2/621/24 and met with OSS Stewart. All program space was observed at that time.

The visit consisted of classroom and outdoor play area review and observations of activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

The center has 7 full time employees. Staff under 18 years must be accompanied by adult staff at all times when supervising children who are not school age.

Center Food Safety and Nutrition:

The center is utilizing CACFP. They have been approved for another year by CACFP. Menus are posted. Menus should be specific and substitutions noted. The kitchen on the main floor is now utilized to make meals. The area was observed during the visit. The refrigerator was clean and contained thermometers in freezing and cooling compartments. Food was stored according to CACFP regulations. The kitchen area contains boundaries so children are unable to access it.

The Center received a grant for food last year. The center was able to send home extra food to families who need assistance. The Director stated, " We will continue to help our community by providing food and supplies to those in need. We have extra food for fun cooking projects and picnics outside."

Last summer the program added a lunchroom to help prevent the spread of germs in classrooms. The children wash their hands and go straight to the lunchroom where their food is waiting for them. The cook wears a mask and gloves to prepare and serve lunch. Children formerly ate in their classrooms.

Center Health and Safety:

The Center received a grant for diapers/wipes. The Director indicated they provide some of this to families who need assistance with diapers and wipes.

Cleaners were kept out of the reach of children. Staff were actively supervising the children and ratio was met and maintained throughout the visit.

First aid kits are labeled and are inaccessible to children. Medication procedures are in place. We reviewed children with allergies or medical conditions requiring on site medication.

Radon testing, fire and tornado drills, and postings were observed. Radon testing is current and due every 5 years. The building was constructed after 1971 so lead based paint assessments are not required. The center is all electric (geothermal) so annual fuel burning appliances inspection are not required. However, each floor of the facility must add an UL approved carbon monoxide detector.

The program has low staff turnover. 7 out of 10 staff have been employed over 2 years. All staff will have face/name ratio at all times. Staff may not leave the room to run errands unless they ask a floating staff member or the Director to cover for them. We discussed this.

CCNC Amy Hayes conducted a health and safety inspection in February 2024 which is best practice and duly noted.

Center Outdoor Play Area:

The outdoor play area consists of a large green space behind the building. No safety hazards were observed in this area. Monthly inspections were conducted per my observation of documentation. The director participated in forums with other directors from the area and received a grant from Children's first program last year. The grant money purchased a playhouse and a few other things for indoor play area for younger children when weather is not appropriate for outdoor play.

The Director stated, "We have nearly daily water play outdoors with sprinklers and toys for squirting. We built a large sprinkler out of PVC pipes for our older children. The Center provided swimsuits and water shoes for the families who needed help and towels were donated. The Center received a donation from the memorial of Elanor Fulluo who loved children and loved to watch them play. We purchased our outdoor toys including sprinklers, science kits and sports equipment with this donation."

The program had a bug hunt, a fiesta and backyard Olympics last spring/summer. A luau, Treasure hunt, music festival and carnival were held in July. The Director and I observed the outdoor play area. The summer camp children have an indoor area for recess also. We had a Foosball table and a basketball game donated. They have plenty of room to play with hula hoops, balls, and play games with the teachers. We discussed each child should have at least 75 square feet of space when engaged in gross motor activity.

The area is grass and is surrounded by a galvanized steel fence (30x40). A sun shade will be placed this summer and will cover half of the area. A kitchen area, balls hula hoops are utilized and stored in a nearby storage shed. Sixteen children can be in this space simultaneously. The center typically has no more than 12 children in the area.

Outdoor play area inspections were conducted and documented every month.

Center Transportation/Field Trips:

Walking field trips are taken around the neighborhood when an extra staff is available. The center now owns 2 mini van with child restraints. They provide transportation to and from area schools and field trips. They also provide transportation to and from preschools or private schools that will not bus to the Center.

The program will hold an end of the year field trip for preschool is to Bently's Park for play time and a picnic lunch.

Center Administration:

Child and staff files are reviewed annually including:

Staff: FBI Fingerprint results, SING check results, Mandatory Reporter training, CPR/First Aid training and emergency preparedness training. All staff are CPR/First Aid certified. All staff are up to date on trainings and doing extra trainings in areas of interest. All infant staff take safe sleep and active supervision training. Staff are given extensive training before they are left alone and in ratio. The OSS is behind on CPR/1st Aid. This is not a pattern of disregard since it is just one employee.

Child: Annual physicals, annual updates on field trip permission slips, pick up authorization and emergency contacts, allergy action plans and immunizations. Prior to enrolling children in the program the Director interviews parents and goes over policies and center procedures. OSS Stewart organizes and keeps child files up to date.

All mandatory postings were present. Administration is aware of requirements for posting of communicable diseases. Parents are provided with a monthly newsletter and calendar to stay informed about the Centers activities each month.

Curriculum is implemented in each room. The center utilizes Creative Curriculum in all classrooms as well as teacher selected activities. The program offers preschool for 3 years and up providing creative curriculum with no extra charges.

The emergency preparedness plan is complete and thorough. All staff have annual training on the plan and sign and date acknowledgement of such.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has a tantamount of space as they are not running full capacity in each room. This is best practice and is also duly noted.

The program was proactive involving CCR&R and IDPH from initial stages of preparation.

The center provides incentive based quarterly bonuses.

The Director added:

• We host family night on zoom every 2nd Tuesday of the month to chat or address any concerns.
• Family night will be games and light refreshments after we are cleared for other people to be in our Center.
• A fundraiser of cookie dough selling was successful. We raised almost $900 to purchase much needed outdoor toys and storage for the toys.
• We received a grant allowing us to provide diapers and wipes to at the Center for our families who choose to use our supplies. We also provide diapers and wipes for people in the community who are in need. The same grant allows us to provide food for our families in need or for others in the community.
• A brand specialist has helped us develop a more family friendly logo that is colorful and fun for kiddos.
• Our signs are being updated using the new logo and our information on it. One sign will be our welcome sign for the KCCD entrance.
• Community picnic at the park day will be help again this year. This is a time for us to talk to people of the community about our services. We provide a light meal and games for the kiddos. We have a prize drawing for door prizes for adults and kiddos. We are waiting to decide on the date to not conflict with some planning by another organization that provides services in Lee county.
• Our summer camp begins June 1st and we are getting ready for a great summer

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

1. 109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease. The center was mixing a bleach/water solution the night before programming the date of the visit. CCNC Amy Hayes addressed this issue a few weeks earlier. The center agreed to correct this practice immediately the date of the visit. The Director verified by phone the next week this practice has been changed.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. The center is directed to correct the items (none) listed in Section IV. The director gave me a verbal commitment that the noted rule violation would be promptly corrected. It is important to note, all HHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

The center may reach out to CCR&R Consultant Malia Love or Iowa Department of Public Health Child Care Nurse Consultant Amy Hayes at any time for consultation.

Child Care Nurse Consultants work with child care and early education businesses. Businesses may call or send questions to a child care nurse consultant about health and safety policies, health programs, health of personnel, and specific child health or safety issues. CCNC conducted an immunization audit of August last year.

Child Care Resource & Referral offer centers assistance with meeting the DHS regulations, QRS, infant/toddler concerns, room arrangement and environment, developmental concerns, Best Practice information, CDA assistance, or any questions or concerns you may have. Jodi Norton visited the center on March 15th 2023 to assist the center with IQ4K.

HHS recommends centers utilize IDPH and CCR&R services.

*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.