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

**Name of Center:** Cadence Academy Preschool - West Des Moines **Enrollment:** 40 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 26555

**Street:** 5859 Ashworth RD **City:** West Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50266 **County:** Polk

**Mailing Address:** 8800 N Gainey Center Dr Ste300Attn: Accounts Receivable , Scottsdale, AZ, 85258

**Director's Name:** Kellee Baker **Phone Number:** 515-226-9791

**On-Site Supervisor(s):** Ashlie Dooley **E-Mail:** director.ashworth@cadence-academy.com

**Date(s) of Visit:** 11-18-2022

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

**LICENSING VISITS**

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

**Signed Application (470-0722) Received** X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-18-2021

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

**Date Inspected:** 03-15-2022

**Comments :**

**LICENSE TYPE:** X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

**Financial Type:** X Profit Non-Profit NA

**Accredition:** Accredited X NAEYC NSACA Other 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 | 32 | 20 | 70 | | 122 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

**QRS Rating:** N/A

| RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE: | |
|---|---|
| X | **FULL** license from 12-01-2021 to 12-01-2023 |
| | **PROVISIONAL** license from |
| | **DENIAL** of initial application |
| | **SUSPENSION** of license |
| | **REVOCATION** of license |

**Licensing Consultant:** Debbie Hammer **Date:** 12-02-2022

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

N/A.

**II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:**

An off-year visit was conducted on 11/18/22. The director was present throughout 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.

This center is part of the Cadence Academy organization, which has various centers located in the metro area. In Dec. 2013 these centers were purchased by Phoenix Children's Academy, which is now called Cadence Academy. The Regional Director for Iowa is Staci Patterson. Each center has a director and assistant director. The director for this center is Kellee Baker. Kellee has 10 prior years of experience in the field of childcare, with prior director experience. Kellee started in the role of Director at this center in March of 2022. Ashlie Dooley is the assistant director, on-site supervisor. Ashlie began in this position in July of 2022. Ashlie has an Associate's degree in Elementary Education. Ashlie has 14 prior years of experience in childcare settings, with prior director experience. Both Kellee and Ashlie meet qualifications for their positions.

The hours of operation are now 7:00 am till 6:00 pm. They provide care to infants up through school age. The center participates in the UPK program through the school district.

There are five enclosed classrooms plus the open area in the center of the building that is used by the older children for their program space.

**III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

This is a NAEYC accredited center. The center recently went through the re-accreditation process.

The center has some longevity of staff, with one staff at 23 years, one at 18 years and one at 11 years. Many of the staff have college education or are working toward a degree.

The staff work well together and have strong relationships with the families they serve. The center has good communication with parents.

The center sends out a weekly lesson plan and updates for all the classrooms and has a Facebook page and well as a website.

The center conducts family activities and sponsors community events at the center. The center recently had a pies with parents night, they will be doing a breakfast with Santa and they had a pool party this summer. They did a St. Jude trike a thon at the center.

Conferences are held twice a year for all ages, in November and May. The center uses the Creative Curriculum as well as the Ascend Curriculum.

The center participates in the Teach program.

The center conducts monthly staff meetings and incorporates training for staff during the meeting. At the last staff meeting the staff went to the fire department to practice using fire extinguishers.

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

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
Fire and tornado drills were not documented for the months of November and December of 2021.

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.
Monthly inspections of the outdoor recreation area were not recorded for the months of December of 2021, January of 2022 and February of 2022.

**V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Radon testing is due every two years. The last test was conducted in December of 2020 and fell below the 4.0 cutoff in all rooms tested.

Since the new director has started in March of 2022, all drills have been documented and outdoor inspections have been documented.

Discussion took place regarding a washer and dryer in the bathroom in the UPK classroom and needing to put a gate up or a lock on the appliances. A sink cabinet in the preschool classroom was starting to peel, the director will send in a work order to fix this.

*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.