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

Name of Center: Lil' Hands Big Dreams **Enrollment:** 96 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 36394

Street: 810 North AVE **City:** Norwalk Iowa **Zip** 50211 **County:** Warren

Mailing Address: 730 Main ST, Norwalk, IA, 50211

Director's Name: Mary Ferden **Phone Number:** 515-981-0717

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jamie Grubb **E-Mail:** lilhandsbigdreams@live.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-12-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-28-2023

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

Date Inspected: 03-26-2021

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 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	24	26	40	25	115
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2023 to 07-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 07-16-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Lil' Hands Big Dreams opened in August 2011. The center has three buildings, located in a row in the same block. The center has secured entrances. The center provides child care for children ages infancy through 3rd grade. All the buildings have secured entrances. Mary and Brian Ferden and the owners. Mary Ferden is the director. Mary was a registered in home child care provider prior to opening up this center. She also had experience in a child care center working at Principal Child Development Center. Jamie Grubb is the on site supervisor. Jamie has been employed at the center since 2013. She has her CDA certification.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's visit. All areas subject to DHS licensing were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the entrances. Class schedules and lesson plans were also posted. The center has seven classrooms. The classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and furnishings. Children's artwork is nicely displayed in classrooms.

Mary was present and assisted with the visit. There were four infant present today. One staff was working in this room. There were six toddlers in the toddlers class. Two staff were working with this group. PreSchool 1 (2's) had ten children in attendance. Two staff were working in this room. PreSchool 2 (3's) had six children present. There was one staff working with this class. The PreK class had fifteen children in attendance. Two staff were working with this group. The younger school age class had eight children present. There was one staff working with this class. The older school age class had twelve children present. One staff was working with this class.

The center has a full kitchen. There is a cook on staff. The center serves breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. Menus are on a six week rotation. There were a few snacks being served that didn't meet CACFP standards.

The center has a few playground areas. The middle playground has poured rubber for surfacing. There are also concrete paths. The other playground has grass. Fencing is in place for both playgrounds. The center completes playground checklists.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center participates in QRS and has earned a three star rating. Mary has a NAEYC director membership. The center has been nominated as the favorite Warren County Daycare.The center started participating in the Universal PreK/Preschool Program through the local school district the 2018-2019. There are security cameras in the classrooms. The center uses Brightwheel which allows parents to receive communication about their children's activities throughout the day.

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

109.6(6)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
One staff needed an Iowa record check.

109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross,American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department.A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
One staff hadn't completed mandatory trainings in required time frame.

109.10(3)c: For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription.
An epi pen was expired.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks.Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
REPEAT VIOLATION
The center is serving some snacks that don't meet CACFP standards.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.
CACFP information is being reviewed and some changes will be made.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email mlarson@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.