Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Happy Hollow Preschool & Childcare-Southwest

Provider No.: 51189

Address: 400 3rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52404

County: Linn

Director's Name: Haley Mussman

On-Site Supervisor: Angela "Angie" Clifton

Phone Number: 3195400410

E-Mail: haleymussmann@gmail.com, HappyHollow18@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 08/21/2025

Licensing Period: 10/01/2024 to 10/01/2026

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 07/01/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	36	12	28		76
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Happy Hollow Preschool and Childcare - Southwest (PSCC-SW) commenced operations on 9/14/2020. Happy Hollow PSCC-SW operates year-round Monday through Friday 6:30am to 5:30pm. Current enrollment is 74.

Original owner and director of Happy Hollow PSCC is Haley Mussman. Ms. Mussman has a MS degree in early childhood studies, has a BA degree in early/elementary education, has several years of experience working with children, and continues to participate in much child development related training. On-site supervisor is Angela "Angie" Clifton. Ms. Clifton has an AA degree in business management, has several years of experience working with children, and continues to participate in child development related training.

On 8/21/2025, building, grounds and program space were observed to all be in good repair. Since the last review, Happy Hollow PSCC-SW has added some new areas of carpet. On the day of the monitoring visit, areas of study included "Superheroes" and summer season. Evidence of curriculum included popsicle-milestone-footprint artwork and in progress favorite child superhero-milestone-handprint work. Throughout the building and grounds on 8/21/2025, staff were observed to be in ratio and actively engaged with the children in a variety of activities that included infant cares, carrying out curriculum, food rituals, routine transitions and nap time preparations.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

According to Happy Hollow PSCC - SW's handbook, the mission of the program is "...based on the belief that children learn best in a program that provides developmentally appropriate educational experiences...Our goal is to provide a safe, loving and stimulating environment from the time you walk in the door until the time you leave..." In September 2025, this program will be celebrating their 5th year of business.

Happy Hollow PSCC - SW sponsors a private social media page for families and staff.

Owner Ms. Mussman is a local entrepreneur. Since commencing operations, the program's management team (e.g. Ms. Mussman, Ms. Clifton) has remained consistent. As of 8/21/2025, management continues to have a system of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained in a secure manner. The management team remains knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. Many staff throughout the classrooms are seasoned and reported celebrating 5 years and 4 years of employment with this childcare. On the day of the monitoring visit, Ms. Mussman described her current team of staff as seasoned and compared it to a close-knit family celebrating joys and supporting one another through challenges both inside and outside of work. On 8/21/2025, licensing observed notes of staff appreciation to be posted in one classroom. Ms. Mussman discussed future goals related to curriculum improvements and increased materials to support curriculum.

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On 8/21/2025, Happy Hollow PSCC-SW was again found to be maintaining required posting, maintaining parent-staff-program information centers, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Curriculum includes learning through play and teacher-inspired ideas. Curriculum also incorporates added enrichments of field trips, guest speakers, themed days, and seasonal-holiday parties.

Happy Hollow PSCC-SW continues to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On 8/21/2025, management acknowledged how their team of staff help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following the policies and procedures. Management also reported continuing to have support from the church-building owner as to building conditions and repair.

Happy Hollow PSCC - SW has emergency plans, policies, and procedures. This childcare successfully navigated through the 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages, air quality alerts (2013, 2015) and 7/19/24 global technology outage.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.11(2)a: The center will provide sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture. It must meet the developmental, activity and special needs of the children.

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.

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

109.11(2)a: The center will provide sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture. It must meet the developmental, activity and special needs of the children.
- In the combined preschool-age room, there is a dramatic play home living center with tape on the hinges. Replace.
- Increase educational (curriculum) program materials throughout the classrooms including increased loose-perishable crafting materials, push toys, indoor large gross motor materials (e.g. romper stompers, low balance items), sensory exploration materials, soft areas, books, building materials, sensory wiggles seats, and so on.

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 a current annual fuel burning appliance inspection was not found on the day of the monitoring visit.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

To help with the items noted in this report's areas needed correction section, please apply for the "Growing Iowa" fund designed to support child care in Iowa by connecting with the local CCR&R (https://iowaccrr.org/staff/).

The program's license remains in full status. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

Date: 09/18/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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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**.