Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: ChildServe Ames Day Programs

Provider No.: 52716

Address: 1915 Philadelphia St, Ames, IA, 50010

County: Story

Director's Name: Emily Hofer

On-Site Supervisor: Rachelle Flory

Phone Number: 5152327220

E-Mail: barbwil@childserve.org

HHS Visit Date: 07/06/2026

Licensing Period: 08/01/2025 to 08/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 05/19/2026

Comments: A fire inspection is due at least every three years. Completed by Jason Ziph, Fire Inspector, Ames Fire Dept.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	7:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	7:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	7:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	7:30 AM to 5:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General		17	14	28	59
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 7/6/26; Emily Hofer (director) was present for the visit
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Childserve Ames Day Programs offers child care for medical specialty with programming meant to serve as early intervention for autism and is intended to serve children ages 2 to 6 years in age.. The administrative offices are located in Johnston and Barb Williams is the service manager for the ChildServe centers. Emily Hofer is the director of this center. She has a degree in Family and Consumer Sciences and has worked at this center since 2005. Rachelle Florry is the on-site supervisor, as well as the Ames Child Serve manager. Rachelle has a Bachelor's of Science degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences, she has worked at Child Serve for over 20 years. Both meet the requirements for their positions.

This center is located within the main building for Childserve in Ames; which is located in a newly constructed building that was designed to be utilized for this program. The Childserve Ames Day Programs uses the components of a curriculum known as the STAR curriculum; which is to align with therapy goals identified for each child within their individual plans of care. The STAR curriculum incorporates aspects
of skills building and tracks progress. The program hopes to help improve the long-term goals for the children--specifically with independence and social/emotional aspects. The children were content and staff were highly engaged with the children's activities that were based on the child's goals for that day which was sensory play when observed on this day. The restrooms were clean and supplied. The staff were in ratio (note Childserve often utilizes a lower ratio of child/staff then required by licensing standards).

There are also occupational and speech therapies available on-site.

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There is a school bus that assists with before and after school transport to the center available for Ames Community Schools, Gilbert Community Schools and Nevada Community Schools.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This center provides care for children with specialized needs; where special plans of care and goals are developed for the children attending.

This center utilizes a much lower ratio of staff/participants then is required by Iowa Code, enabling smaller groups of classes.

This center offers nursing care; if needed to participants.

This center utilizes a variety of funding sources; and offers on-site occupational and speech therapies to participants.

This program has strong interest and enrollment.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

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

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
-A child file reviewed did not have emergency contact for dental care
-The director will obtain the information and place in the child's file

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

This program offers a unique and needed care for children ages 2-6 with medical and/or needs arising from developmental goals identified by each child's care plan.

Staff to child ratios are much lower with this program then is required by state law; enabling smaller groups in the classrooms.

Radon testing was completed 6/2024 and was under the 4.0 safety level.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with the center director their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. This program has intensive training for specialized programming. There is a care plan for the children where doctors, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists and parents all have input in creating.

Date: 08/19/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

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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**.