

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

Name of Center: Building Bright Beginnings **Enrollment:** 54 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 21572

Street: 202 Byron AVE **City:** Waterloo **Iowa Zip** 50702 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 202 Byron AVE, Waterloo, IA, 50702

Director's Name: Sami Stamatiades **Phone Number:** 319-287-6094

On-Site Supervisor(s): Debi Wilson **E-Mail:** bbbsami@hotmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 03-09-2020

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X NA

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

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

Date Inspected: 10-09-2019

Comments :

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

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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 | 23 | 4 | 11 | 6 | 44 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

QRS Rating: N/A

| RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE: | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| X | FULL license from 04-01-2019 to 04-01-2021 |
| | PROVISIONAL license from |
| | DENIAL of initial application |
| | SUSPENSION of license |
| | REVOCATION of license |

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost

Date: 04-01-2020

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 03/09/20 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Building Bright Beginnings in Waterloo. I met with Sami Stamatiades, the owner and director. She has owned and operated the center since December 2001, but she had been employed at the center since September 1996. Debi Wilson is the on-site supervisor. Ms. Wilson has been employed at the center since 1996 and she is the lead teacher in the infant room. There are eleven staff members employed by the center, including Ms. Stamatiades.

Building Bright Beginnings operates out of a free standing building. It operates Monday through Friday 5:30 am until 5:30 pm. The center offers a preschool program that operates daily from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. There are currently 54 children enrolled in the center. The program serves infants through school-aged children.

The center operates out of three rooms. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting for two of the rooms and one room uses artificial lighting. The preschool and infant rooms are decorated with posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted. There is an area for circle time.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, writing, math, woodworking, sensory table, and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level so they were easily accessible to the children.

The center uses the Creative Curriculum, but also implements other resources into their lesson plans. The center prepares activities based on weekly themes. The themes are the same for the entire center. Lesson plans were posted and available for review.

There was a phone with emergency numbers on each level. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and diagrams were posted by most of the main program and outdoor exits. The emergency diagram must be posted near the door in the preschool room. A daily schedule was posted.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. The mandatory reporter, child care consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in February 2019 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site on each level. On the upper level it was in the landing outside the infant room and on the lower level it was on a shelf by the furnace room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 10/09/19.

The center does not participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), but does follow the guidelines. There is a kitchen on-site where meals are prepared. Lisa Habben is the cook and she also helps in the classrooms. The center serves breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. The meals are served in the classrooms. Staff members prepare the plates for the children and all dishes are returned to the kitchen and washed using the three step method. Menus are on a six week rotating schedule. Menus and allergies were posted.

Parents provide the formula and the center provides cereal and jar baby food. The infant room has highchairs for the younger children in the room and the older children sit at small tables. The highchairs had working safety straps and staff utilized them while the children ate. Bottles are returned to the kitchen to be washed.

The kitchen was observed to be clean and organized. There was one refrigerator and a chest freezer and each had thermometers. Food was stored according to NHSPS guidelines. There is also a small closed off area in the infant room where staff prepares the food and formula. There is a refrigerator in this area and a thermometer was present.

The center uses bleach and water to sanitize the food tables and disinfect the diaper changing tables. Bottles were clearly labeled.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Stamatiades states the program has staff longevity.

Ms. Stamatiades states the center has great relationships with their families and the children always return if they have to leave for a period of time.

Ms. Stamatiades is flexible with the families she works with.

The center staff works with Child Care Resource and Referral as necessary in an attempt to improve the quality of the child care services and environment. They also work with AEA-267 to provide assistance to children with identified needs.

The program has cameras in each room and security at the entrance.

The center is a bus stop for Kittrell school-aged children.

Ms. Stamatiades states they are slowly obtaining new items for the center, such as highchairs and a stove.

Ms. Stamatiades states it is her goal to purchase new outdoor equipment and a new sign for the business.

INTERACTIONS:

I observed the staff members to sit on the floor and actively play with the children. They changed activities frequently to maintain the children's interest. Play was used to teach the children about colors and shapes. Child friendly music was playing in the rooms.

WORKFORCE STABILITY:

Ms. Stamatiades states she has great staff longevity and has not had to find new staff. To keep her staff members she provides them with three weeks of paid leave and tries to spoil them.

WORKFORCE SKILL DEVELOPMENT:

Ms. Stamatiades states to help staff members realize the greatness that can come from working in child care she shares positive comments with them that are provided by parents. She states during daycare appreciation week she brings in treats each day and buys them a small gift. In February if the staff members are doing a great job they get an extra paid day off. The parents vote to nominate the star teacher.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*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.