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

Name of Center: Kingdom Kids of St. Olaf **Enrollment:** 56 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52070

Street: 239 N 11th ST **City:** Fort Dodge Iowa **Zip** 50501 **County:** Webster

Mailing Address: 239 N 11th ST, Fort Dodge, IA, 50501

Director's Name: Kathy Dencklau **Phone Number:** 515-576-2103

On-Site Supervisor(s): Sherri Morud, Keely Draper **E-Mail:** daycare@stolaffd.com

Date(s) of Visit: 06-05-2024

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:** 12-01-2022

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

Date Inspected: 04-11-2024

Comments : NOTE: The fire certificate is a temporary approval that requires corrections. The certificate is valid until 05-01-24

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	23	16	82	18	139
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-03-2023 to 05-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 06-12-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced visit was made to the Kingdom Kids of St. Olaf center on 06-05-24 where met with the center director, Kathy Dencklau. Sherri Morud and Keely Draper will be assistant directors/on-site supervisors. All are well qualified for the positions they hold based on their experience and on-going training in early childhood care. The program is located in the St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Fort Dodge and occupies classrooms on several levels of one wing of the church. The program is operated as a non-profit program overseen by a board of directors from the church. Tje program initially opened providing limited services for after school programming for school age children only. The program did go on hiatus while renovations were being completed to expand the programming. The center now provides full range programming for infants through school age children. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

As noted the program underwent significant changes over the past year with renovation work to expand the programming. The renovations included modifying space on three levels of the building with infants and 2 year old children housed on the ground level, 3 year old children housed on basement level, and 4 year old and school age children housed on an upper level. There are 13 rooms available for use by the center but several are not being used at this time. The center has one room for younger infants, one for older infants, and one room each for the age groups of 2, 3, 4, and school age children. The infant and two year old rooms have direct secondary egress from the classrooms to outdoors. Those rooms also have access to restrooms directly from the programming space as well as changing stations and secondary sinks for handwashing. Restrooms for the older age classrooms are located outside the classrooms off the main access corridors. Each classroom has windows along the exterior walls that provide natural light, ventilation, and for those on the ground and upper levels a view of outdoors. Each room was observed to be clean. The center was still addressing some construction and maintenance issues such as plumbing that was not draining properly. It was also noted that the water temperatures varied between rooms with measured temperatures ranging from 106 to 125 deg. F. It was reviewed that water temperature should not exceed 120 deg. F. at the spigot and the center would need to adjust and monitor temperatures for each sink used for hand washing purposes. Each classroom is arranged with activity centers created by the placement of furniture and play structures which did not create any blind areas, but recommendations for changes to the younger infant room were made to allow access to the fire extinguisher.

Activity centers include options such as large/small manipulatives, art/crafts, and library in all classrooms and increase in options and complexity such as dramatic play, math/science, experience/light tables, and group learning for older age groups. The toys and materials were generally appropriate for the children present in the classrooms. There were a couple items that would be considered choking hazards in rooms with children under 3 years of age and these were pointed out and removed during the time of the visit. The toys and equipment appeared to be good condition with many elements being new. Each classroom had a copy of the daily schedule, and planned curriculum posted. Each classroom had defined their own curriculum theme such as the 2 year old class having a theme related to Oceans, and the school age class having a theme related to Books. Good interactions were observed during the time of the visit with all of the teachers being actively engaged with the children attending to their needs, playing with them, or presenting the planned curriculum. The center does make use of positive behavior support approaches to behavior management and during the visit the teachers were all observed to use calm tones and positive word choices when talking to children. Use of routines, reminders of expected behavior, transition activities, and redirection were all implemented in a manner that there were no behavioral issues.

Good health and safety policies and practices are in place. I was not able to observe a diaper change during the time of the visit but staff were able to describe the practices followed which were consistent with the posted diapering procedures. Good cleaning practices were observed with the teachers waiting for children to be out of the immediate area before using chemical cleaners. Chemical cleaners, medications, and personal belongings were stored where they were not readily accessible to the children. Allergy and other special health care instructional guides were posted in classrooms for those children that needed them. Hand washing practices do need to be reviewed. Staff were observed to remind the children to wash their hands following restroom use, but did not have the children wash their hands immediately before snack/meal service. Safe sleep practices were followed for those children under 1 year of age. Ratio was maintained in each classroom as required by age. First aid kits are maintained in each classroom and had a good variety of materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Kathy did identify that all kits are kept in the same location in each classroom. Phones are present in the center but a copy of emergency contact numbers does need to be posted by phones.

The center does make use of the church kitchen but maintains separate food storage facilities. Good food storage practices were observed. The kitchen was observed to be clean with no indication of insect or rodent infestation. Good food handling and service practices were observed with the teachers wearing food service gloves, and using measured scoops when portioning meals. The children eat in their classrooms. The teachers did provide supervision at the tables. A copy of the planned menu was posted and was consistent with the meal provided. The menu does identify a good variety of nutritious meal options.

The center does have a large outdoor playground area. Due to the high commercial nature of the setting the playground is fully enclosed by fencing. The playground has a large commercial grade climbing structure. A unitary pour in place fall surfacing is used beneath climbing structures. There is a paved riding track, activity centers, and additional toys available for the children to play with. Large shade structures are present and were donated by a local dermatologist.

In reviewing administrative records the required postings for No Smoking, Consultant Contact information, Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting, and the License Certificate were posted in an area readily accessible and visible to parents and visitors. Required postings for hand washing, diapering, and emergency evacuation were present in all areas currently being used for child programming. The center is currently using the Playground record and communication application to enroll and track information. The system does have an option to conduct a self-audit and identified 10 children's files that needed an initial or updated physical though it is noted that 5 of those identified are still within the 30 day grace period to provide a physical. In reviewing staff files 2 needed a current physical, and Kathy identified that all staff are scheduled for a 1st Aid/CPR training to be completed on 06-13-24. All required inspection logs and certificates were available and current. Kathy did identify that the carbon monoxide detection is integrated into the fire alarm system but she would acquire additional plug in style detectors to install on each floor of the program. The center handbooks have been previously reviewed and found to contain all required written policies.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The staff were doing an excellent job of developing and implementing a planned curriculum as noted before in the 2 year old and preschool room. n the 2 year old room the teacher had written exploration ideas for the children such as finding specified numbers of fish, moving their arms and bodies like an octopus. In the school age room the children were writing their own books and the teacher was talking with them about character development and other elements of a book.

The program has recently completed a substantial renovation and expansion. This has been positively viewed in the community with a 10 fold increase in enrollment, and the financial support offered to the daycare to have the work completed.

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

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
-- Number not in compliance: 2

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.
-- Emergency contact numbers were not posted as required.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and

outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
-- Hot water temperatures shall not exceed 120 deg. F. at the spigot of sinks used for hand washing. Items and toys with parts of less than 1 1/4 inches diameter and 2 1/4 inches length are considered choking hazards and shall be removed from classrooms serving children under 3 years of age. Bedding including cover sheets need to be provided and stored so that it does not come into contact with bedding used by other children, or laundered daily.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.