Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Traditions Children's Center IV

Provider No.: 19833

Address: 2555 NW 156th ST, Clive, IA, 50325

County: Polk

Director's Name: Nicole Zahn

On-Site Supervisor: Ashley Rench, Erin Weaver, Ashley Thompson, Jennifer Lopez

Phone Number: 5159877467

E-Mail: director@traditions4.com

HHS Visit Date: 07/28/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2025 to 09/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 04/24/2026

Comments: Clive Fire Marshal. For licensing, these are due at least every three years. The city of Clive typically do annual inspections.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 2

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	34	28	48	70	180
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An off-year inspection was conducted on 7/28/26. The director was present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Traditions IV is one of several centers owned by Bonnie Netteland and her two adult children. This center serves children six weeks in age to 12 years in age. The center uses their own learning curriculum that they have developed over the years. There are a total of nine classrooms. The director of this center is Nicole Zahn. Nicole has worked for Traditions for a number of years and has been the director at several other Tradition sites over that time. Ashley Rench, Erin Weaver (formerly Klinkhammer), Ashley Thompson, and Jennifer Lopez are the on-site supervisors at this center. All four individuals meet the qualifications as on-site supervisors. Total child enrollment on the day of the inspection was 114 children.

NUTRITION: The center serves an AM snack, lunch, and a PM snack to children. For children that arrive earlier in the morning, as a courtesy, if parents provide cereal, the center will store it and serve it to children with milk and a fruit. The food menu rotates every four weeks. All meal items met CACFP requirements. All food storage was sufficient. The center employs a full-time cook and they also have a full kitchen.

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: The center has several buses that they use to transport children to/from school within the Waukee School District and for field trips. Children five and older are eligible to go on field trips. Buses are serviced

regularly. For all transportation needs, a first-aid kit and children's emergency contacts are taken along.

PLAYGROUND: The center has three different playground areas. Two of the playground are connected and fenced in. Wood chips are used for surfacing around the fall zones of the climbing structures/slides and the swings. There are plenty of trees that provide shade. Monthly playground inspections are being conducted.

During the inspection, in the infant classroom, two children were napping in cribs. Safe sleep is being practiced. Other infants were awake and were playing. Staff were sitting on the floor with children. In the toddler classrooms, children's hands were being washed and they were getting ready to eat lunch that was about to be served to their classroom. In other classrooms, children were engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations set up within the classrooms. Toys, tables, cribs, cots, and other hard surfacing equipment are being cleaned and sanitized daily. Diapering procedures are being followed. Children and staff questioned gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills.

For more difficult child behaviors, the director consistently reviews with her staff about the importance of communicating between all parties (staff, children, parents, etc.). Staff are taught to be willing to have the tough conversations that are sometimes needed. Relationships are established between the center and families they serve. Organization and teamwork are also regularly discussed in monthly staff meetings.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

All Tradition Centers have the same owner and share the same handbooks/guidelines/policies/staff(to sub if needed) /etc.

The annual child update forms used by this program and the above programs have been frequently used by this consultant as a good example of what other centers should emulate.

Newsletters are periodically provided to parents via the center's electronic app and this electronic app is also used for daily sheets for infants. There is also a website.

Staff meetings are held every month. The directors at all of the Traditions and Clive Children Centers have monthly meetings.

The director continues to believes that she has a really good group of staff who work well with one another. There are several tenured staff who work at this location. Staff retention is good.

The director has good organizational skills. The director is also an internal regional director for the Traditions programs.

The building has a secure entrance and the center uses the Pro-Care system for signing in/out. There is also an outdoor security camera.

The center uses a walkie-talkie system for improved communications between classrooms and the office.

Individual lesson plans have been incorporated for children six weeks in age to two years in age.

If parents bring in cereal, the center will provide breakfast for children and include the milk and a fruit.

The center utilizes their CCNC and CCR&R consultants on a regular basis.

Enrollment remains steady.

The center participates in IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

Within the past year, outdoor playground mats have been purchased for the playground, the playground area has been leveled out some, and dividers between restroom toilets have also been installed.

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3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. Sufficient cooling. Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children.
There were a couple of dangling cords in the infant room that were not tucked behind equipment or securely fastened to the wall. THIS ISSUE WAS CORRECTED DURING THE INSPECTION.

109.11(4)a: Center must have safe outdoor program area adjacent to the center, with sufficient square footage to accommodate at least 30 percent of the enrollment capacity at any one time at 75 spear feet per child. Outdoor space must: Be free from litter and unsafe materials and free from contamination by the drainage or ponding of sewage or storm water. Include safe play equipment and an area of shade. Include fencing to protect from bodies of water or vehicular traffic.
1. A couple of tricycles needed new handlebar grips.
2. About another foot to foot and a half of wood chips are needed at the bottom of the slide for the older children's playground structure.

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

N/A.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was last conducted 7/21/23- 7/24/23. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual HVAC inspection was last completed 9/19/25 so it is again coming due again soon.

I-Power was again discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have I - Power profiles and training is being uploaded.

If staff want to open windows in the Spring or Fall or whenever the weather is nice, they will first need to have screens put on windows.

The most current diapering procedures were emailed to the center after the inspection concluded.

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Date: 07/29/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.