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

Name of Center: Granger Children's Center **Enrollment:** 163 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25849

Street: 1813 Walnut St **City:** Granger Iowa **Zip** 50109 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: PO Box 534, Granger, IA, 50109

Director's Name: Jackie Smyth **Phone Number:** 515-999-9490

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jocie Guzzi-Wunschel and Paula Alvarado **E-Mail:** grangerchildren@aol.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-11-2023

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:** 04-13-2022

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

Date Inspected: 12-02-2022

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years. The State Fire Marshal was out to the center on 12/2/22 to inspect and review the new indoor gym addition.

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

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: 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	45	15	81	60	201
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2022 to 06-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 05-12-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 5/11/23. The owner/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. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Granger Children's Center is owned and directed by Jackie Smyth. Jackie opened the center in 1999. The center has been in its current location since 2001. In 2014, a large addition was constructed/added to the exiting center. In 2022, a large, indoor gym area was added.

As stated above, Jackie Smyth is the owner/director. Jocie Guzzi-Wunschel and Paula Alvaradoare the on-site supervisors. Both individuals meet the qualifications for on-site supervisor. The center serves children ages six weeks in age to roughly 12 years in age utilizing the Creative Learning Curriculum. There are a total of 13 classrooms.

During the visit, children were observed napping in cribs, having tummy time, playing with different learning stations/toys available to them, washing their hands, playing on the playground, and engaged in large group activities that were being facilitated by classroom staff.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Many of the staff have been with the center for several years. There is low turnover. Staff reportedly work well together.

Several staff members are bi-lingual. In some classrooms, children are taught Spanish.

All entrance/exit doors sound/buzz when opened.

Quarterly staff meetings are held. Individual classroom meetings are held more often, but are more informal in nature.

There are secure entrances into classroom areas.

Over the past year, the center has constructed a new, large, indoor gym area and painted the interior of the building. New playground surfacing was also added.

A camera system is in place throughout hallways.

The center received 100% on their last two immunization audits.

Management felt that they have a good team working for them and that staff also have good relationships with the parents

and children they serve.

The center smelled and looked clean.

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

237A.7: Information regarding a child in a child care center or their relative is confidential. If this information is released by visual, verbal or written means, written consent from the parent or guardian is in the file or a court order allowing the release of the information.
Child medical forms should not be in plain view unless the above is in place. There was a medical form in plain view in one of the three year old classrooms.

109.10(3): The center shall have written procedures for dispensing, storage, and authorization, and recording of all prescription and non-prescription medications.
Food allergy action plans are also needed from parents for children with food allergies and medications.

109.10(3)c: For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription.
There was one medication that was expired in one of the two year old classrooms.

109.12(1): Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
In one of the three/four year old classrooms, a full day schedule was needed. In the school-age classroom in the lower level, AM and PM schedules are needed. A full-day schedule was posted in the school-age classroom. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last conducted 5/8/23 - 5/11/23. The center is awaiting results of classrooms tests. If the radon levels in classrooms are below 4.0, radon testing can move to being done every five years so long as they remain below 4.0. If 4.0 or above, radon mitigation and retesting would be needed and the center would move back to every two years testing. It was previously noted a radon mitigation system was installed in 4/2021.

The annual furnace inspection was last completed 3/22/23.

I - Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit.

As part of the new playground renovations, a new fence is also being installed in some areas. The bolts on the corners and the gates will have to be cut so that no more than two threads are exposed. The center will also need to make sure six foot spacing is in place for all equipment more than 18 inches in height where children sit.

The Emergency Preparedness kit should be stored in an area that is more accessible in the event of an emergency and relocation is necessary.

The one refrigerator in the forth infant room needs to be wiped clean as it appeared something had recently spilled.

A Food Allergy Action Plan was emailed to the center after the visit concluded.

*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.