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

Name of Center: Sioux Center Head Start **Enrollment:** 18 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30218

Street: 1124 7th Ave NE **City:** Sioux Center Iowa **Zip** 51250 **County:** Sioux

Mailing Address: 418 S Marion St, Remsen, IA, 51050

Director's Name: Kendra Rensink **Phone Number:** 712-722-3157

On-Site Supervisor(s): Itzel Salas **E-Mail:** schs@midsioux.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-28-2023

Licensing Visit **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:** 10-03-2022

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

Date Inspected: 02-09-2022

Comments :

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 X Preschool-Age 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			20		20
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2022 to 12-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 11-29-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited center on 11-28-23 and spoke with Itzel Solas, onsite supervisor/lead worker. Ms Salas has her CDA and 6 years working with Head Start Program. She is working on her Associates degree in Early Childhood which she will complete in May 2024. Sioux Center Head Start is a non-profit program administered through Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc. The program is housed in one room of the Preschool Learning Center in Sioux Center. The program operates Monday through Thursday 8:30am to 3:00pm and 8:30am to 1:00pm on Fridays. The program serves children ages 3 to 5 years of age.

There are 18 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit there were 15 children present. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The program continues in following all guidelines put forth by DHS regarding the corona-virus and doing everything they can to support their staff and families. The center continues in cleaning toys that children use. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, five senses, globe of the world, picture schedule for the children, job chart, children's artwork and the alphabet. Observed staff assisting children with a variety of activities, talking to the children throughout the visit, leading the children in exercise, reminding the children about rules, engaging the children in activities, sitting at the tables with the children during meals and reading stories to the children. Staff had good interaction with the children. The center utilizes the High Scope Curriculum Gold in their teachings.

Breakfast and lunch is prepared by the Early Childhood Center's kitchen staff. Good food storage practices were observed. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. Center participates in the CACFP program. Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon test was completed and within normal range. Annual heating inspection was completed. Good sanitary procedures are followed. Center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Good health and safety policies /procedures are in place.

The center has a very large fenced-in playground that they share with the Preschool. Poured rubber surfacing is around all of the equipment on the playground. Monthly playground inspection is completed. Shade is available on the playground. The playground has slides, climbing equipment, swings, playhouse and tricycles. Sioux Center Schools help to maintain the playground. Head Start bus transports children in Sioux Center only. The program brings people of interest to the site and does not do field trips.

Staff files are located at the main office and will be viewed at a later date.

Goals of the program is to possibly add another Headstart classroom as they have a waiting list.

Strengths of their program is that staff have a good relationship with the family and work hard to assist the child's and the

child's families needs. Itzel is also the family advocate and speaks Spanish to assist with any Spanish speaking families.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center utilizes the seesaw app to communicate with parents aware of what is going on in the program.

Center has parent/teacher conferences two times a year to inform parents of their child's progress and what they need to work on.

Center does two home visits a year.

Children's toys are at their level and accessible.

Display children’s art work in the room.

Positive interaction with the children.

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

none

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time.

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.