

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

Name of Center: Sioux Center Christian School **Enrollment:** 93 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50969

Street: 630 1st Ave SE **City:** Sioux Center **Iowa** **Zip** 51250 **County:** Sioux

Mailing Address: 630 1st Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA, 51250

Director's Name: Rebecca Vander Werf **Phone Number:** 712-722-0777

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** rvanderwerf@siouxcenterchristian.com

Date(s) of Visit:

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** NA

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-21-2024

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

Date Inspected: 08-28-2024

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>
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LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			17	122	139
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 04-01-2024 to 04-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

Date: 04-27-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced visit was completed on 04/23/25. It was done on 04-09-24 at Sioux Center Christian-4 Care Kids preschool and afterschool program. I met Rebecca Vander Werf, director of the program. Ms Vander Werf has a BA in Elementary Education and many years working with children.

The program offers a variety of programs for the children they serve. Their initial program was the 4 Care Kids preschool childcare program started in August 2020. They then expanded their services beginning school year 2021 and serve preschool children (4/5-year-olds) who are a part of a 1/2-day preschool program that are in need of childcare before and after preschool hours. The program serves the preschool kids for a morning session and an afternoon session.

The program utilizes bussing from the school and takes or picks up children from their local 1/2-day preschool programs and transports them to their aftercare program. The children arrive at the school at 8:00am to 11:30am and they eat lunch then are transported to 1/2-day preschool and then bring back another preschool group for lunch and kids then stay until the end of the school day at 3:00pm. If needed the program also offers extended stay for preschoolers from 3:00pm to 5:30pm and combines with the school's aftercare program. This occurs Monday thru Thursday. On Fridays 4-Care provides childcare for preschool children all day from 8:00am to 5:00pm due to no preschool on Fridays.

Menus are posted and they utilize the lunch program from the school. Each child brings a water bottle which is cleaned daily. The program is not on the food program but does follow it. Parents provide snacks for the children; however, the program provides lunch for the children. In the summer, children bring their own lunches. The program does make sure lunches/snacks that children bring are healthy and are kept refrigerated to ensure proper food storage.

The children rest on mats which have a covering and staff washes the bedding weekly. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, children's artwork and the alphabet. The program uses a play-based learning program. Kids can be expressive in their play. Their curriculum is based on the children's interest. Staff work well as a team and have a good relationship with the families that they serve. Program communicates with their parents thru either texting or by using Bloomz app. The program follows ABA for discipline practices.

Documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills and playground inspections were complete. Radon was completed and within normal range. Annual Furnace inspection was also completed. The center does not give any medication currently.

All required postings were observed.

There is a fenced-in playground next to the building which they share with the school. This playground has slides, trikes, balls, climbing equipment, and outside toys. Wood chips surround all the outdoor play equipment. They have access to an indoor gym during inclement weather.

The Center uses Sioux Center Christian buses in transporting the children to and from the aftercare program. Field trips will only be done during summer care and they will use a school bus. Ms. Vander Werf has looked into the IQ4K program but

has found it a very time-consuming process.

The goal of this program is to expand their summer programming.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Vander Werf is very dedicated to her program. The files were very organized and easy to find. The activities of the day are also very organized that includes transportation to and from preschool.

Staff are very caring and want to make a difference in the lives of the children they serve.

The staff interact with the children at their level and provide praise.

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 each 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.