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

Name of Center: St Francis Child Care **Enrollment:** 84 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16556

Street: 310 Columbus DR **City:** Marshalltown Iowa **Zip** 50158 **County:** Marshall

Mailing Address: 310 Columbus DR, Marshalltown, IA, 50158

Director's Name: Terri Guenther-Mayer **Phone Number:** 641-753-7977

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** tguenthermayer@st-francis.net

Date(s) of Visit: 12-20-2022

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:** 12-17-2021

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

Date Inspected: 11-29-2022

Comments : Fire inspections are due at least every three years.

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 X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			41	59	100
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 2

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

Licensing Consultant: Debbie Hammer **Date:** 12-22-2022

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 12/20/22. The director of the program was present throughout the visit.

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

This program had been known for many years as MACS Child Care. The name has been changed to St. Francis Child Care, and it continues to be located in St. Francis Catholic School. This school building is for elementary age children through sixth grade. This is a locked building that requires visitors to ring a buzzer to be let inside. The school principal is Terry Eisenbarth. Terri Guenther-Mayer is the director, starting in this position in July of 2021. Terri has a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture Education and Biology. Terri has eight years experience in school settings. Terri meets qualifications to be the director.

This program provides preschool sessions, a before and after school care, and all day child care. Children must be three years old and toilet trained to participate in any of the programs. The program provides for three year old preschool sessions and wrap around care for when the children are not in preschool. The four year old preschool program is under the SWVPP. The four year old preschool children can also receive wrap around care for when they are not in their preschool session.

Childcare hours are 6:30 am-5:30 pm during the school year. The program is again offering summer care and will be a year long program permanently.

The preschool offers a T-Th morning session for the three year old children, from 8:30 am - 11:30 am, or a W-F morning session, same hours.

These preschool classes are open to any children from the community who wish to attend. Most of the children who attend the preschool also use the child care program for the days and times they are not in preschool.

The preschool room has a licensing capacity of 15 children at this time due to splitting the room in half. There is a bathroom with a toilet and sink.

The child care program is in one large room. The childcare classroom has a capacity for 26 children. They have a bathroom with one sink and toilet, plus there a sink in the classroom. During the school day the gym/cafeteria is not used very much, but after school they use it for large motor play for the school age children and programming space. The program can also use the library for space. The children are separated according to their ages. The younger preschool age children spend most of the time after school in the childcare room and the school age children are in the gym where they can run and play basketball and do other activities that require a lot of space.

Almost three years have passed since the pandemic began. The center continues to follow all DHS guidelines pertaining to Covid-19.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has an IQ4K rating of 2 stars, based on a 1-5 rating system.

The center has good communication with the families.

There is consistency in expectations of the children between the preschool and the child care program.

The staff work well together and are supportive of each other.

The director emails the parents weekly with updates and information.

The center provides all day childcare which is a benefit to families who would need this due to working schedules.

The parents are supportive of the program and are happy with the program.

The center updated their large playground area. The playground area has new surfacing and all new structures/equipment. The center has also updated their smaller playground area, extending the area and putting up a privacy fence and new turf surfacing.

The Principal is a strong support for the program.

Enrollment is increasing.

Staff received raises this year.

The director started employee evaluations.

The program has a family atmosphere.

The director is very organized and invested in the program.

Some of the staff also work at the school and are a familiar face to the children and a benefit to the program.

There is strong morale among staff and the staff are unified.

The school administrative team is a support for the center.

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

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.
The emergency instructions, phone numbers and diagrams for fire, tornado and flood were not visibly posted in the gym which is programming space.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is required every two years. The last radon testing was completed in December of 2022 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The director will post the emergency instructions and diagrams for fire, tornado and flooring in the gym.

*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.