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

Name of Center: St Teresa of Calcutta Child Care Center **Enrollment:** 70 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19146

Street: 416 E Main St **City:** Ossian Iowa **Zip** 52161 **County:** Winneshiek

Mailing Address: 414 E Main St, Ossian, IA, 52161

Director's Name: Erika Schmitt & Bailey Hughes **Phone Number:** 563-532-9250

On-Site Supervisor(s): Erika Schmitt & Bailey Hughes **E-Mail:** eschmitt@st-teresa.pvt.k12.ia.us

Date(s) of Visit: 05-20-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **NA**

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

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

Date Inspected: 07-19-2021

Comments : Compliance on 10/26/21.

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: 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	15	12	51	15	93
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2023 to 06-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 06-04-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 05/20/24 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to St. Teresa of Calcutta Child Care Center in Ossian. I briefly met with Bailey Hughes, the director. Ms. Schmitt is a director through HHS but an assistant director in the center. Ms. Schmitt was not present the day of my visit. Ms. Schmitt started with the program in May 2019. She was an on-site supervisor prior to becoming the director. She has an AAS in an unrelated field but has taken many hours of childcare training. Ms. Hughes has a diploma in early childhood. She was a lead teacher in a childcare center in Minnesota for two years. She is going back to school to get her AA in early childhood education. Kristen Kriener is the principal at St. Teresa of Calcutta School. Debby Schmitt is the business manager. The childcare program employs thirteen staff members.

The center is in a free-standing building adjacent to the St. Teresa of Calcutta School. It operates Monday through Friday 6:00 am until 6:00 pm and serves children ages 6 weeks to twelve-years-old. There are currently 70 children enrolled. The preschool program located in the school is also under the license. The preschool serves three and four-year-old children Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am until 3:15 pm. The four-year-old preschool class was previously licensed under DHS but is now regulated by the Department of Education.

The program operates out of four rooms inside the childcare center: the infant room, the toddler room (one-year-old), the two-year-old room and a small, partitioned area for school-age children. Also under the license is one preschool room located in St. Teresa of Calcutta School. The school-age children and preschool children also use the room in the school for childcare. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. There is an area for circle time in the preschool room and room for older children in the center.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, computers, art, dramatic play, Play-Doh, writing, math, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they were easily accessible to the children.

During the summer the school-aged children use the school gym as program space also.

The program uses a variety of resources to prepare lesson plans. Activities are planned around monthly themes. Lesson plans were available for review in all the rooms.

There was a phone in each room Emergency phone numbers were posted in each room except for in the infant room. Please post them in this location. In the preschool room in the school, you must add the program's address and phone number to the posting. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by some of the main program doors and outdoor exits. The center recently painted so postings were taken down. You must post the evacuation diagram near every exit out of a classroom. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

Cribs are used to nap in the infant room. Cots ae available in the infant room as the children turn one year old. The other

classrooms use cots. In the room for the older children in the childcare room the blankets are stored so that the blanket of one child is touching the blanket of another child. This cannot occur. All bedding must be stored so that it does not touch the bedding of another child unless it is washed every day.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. Fire and tornado drills must be practiced every month. The center missed fire and tornado drills. Fire drills were missed June, July & October 2023. Tornado drills were missed May through August, October & December 2023. In the preschool in the school, the fire and tornado drills must be practiced at different times of the day. The program has been cited for failure to practice monthly fire and tornado drills in previous reports. If fire and/or tornado drills are missed moving forward the program will be placed on the provisional license.

I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections.

A radon test was completed in June 2021 and is good for two years. The results were within the EPA recommended guidelines. A radon mitigation system was installed in the childcare center. Testing was due 2023 and this was noted in last year's report. You must do radon testing in each childcare room and in the preschool room immediately.

The annual fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is in the two-year-old room in the daycare on one of the pillars and near the sink in the four-year-old preschool room in the school. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 07/19/21 with compliance on 10/26/21. Your next fire marshal inspection is due in July 2024.

The center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The program provides breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. Breakfast and lunch are provided by St. Teresa of Calcutta School and brought over to the center. Breakfast is brought over with lunch and maintained in the refrigerator in the kitchen to be prepared and served by the center staff the following morning. The menus are prepared by the school cook, including during the summer months. A new menu is prepared every two weeks. Menus and allergies were posted.

There is a refrigerator in the kitchen and thermometers were present. Dishes are washed using a dishwasher and there are two sinks to use the three-step method when necessary. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines.

In the one year old room staff members are washing sippie cups in the classroom, but they are not sanitizing the cups. All dishes in childcare must be sanitized. They can use the three-step method in the classroom or send them to the kitchen to be out through the dishwasher.

The snack is provided by the center. In the preschool room the snack is provided by parents. There were snack menus for the childcare and preschool program.

In the infant room, the parents provide formula and the center provides baby food and cereal and snacks for the children. Bottles are washed and sanitized in the infant room. There is a refrigerator in the infant room and thermometers were present. The center knows the freezer portion of the refrigerator is not working and they are purchasing a new refrigerator through a grant.

While I was in the infant room an infant was sleeping on a boppy pillow. Staff members made no attempt to move the child until I told them the child needed to be placed in a crib. This is a safe sleep violation. I also informed them that boppy pillows are made for nursing mothers and cannot be used to prop children up. There have been several suffocation deaths because of boppy pillows being used in this manner.

The Brightwheel app is being used in each room in the childcare center. Daily sheets are completed on the Brightwheel app for children under the age of two. Staff members must document the children's mood every day for children under the age of two. In the preschool classroom they use the See Saw app to communicate with parents because this is what the school uses.

The center uses Sani-Tyze to sanitize the food tables. Oxivir Tb is used to disinfect the changing tables.

I observed or discussed diaper changes with the staff members. In the infant room the staff are not washing the children's hands following diaper changes. Last year during my visit, a staff member asked me about whether children must have their hands washed with soap and water and I informed them they must be washed with soap and water after each diaper change. This is clearly documented in last year's report. The handwashing procedures must be posted in the bathroom of the infant room near the sink in the bathroom. In the one year old room and the room for the older children in the childcare center you must provide a separate garbage with a lid for only soiled diapers.

In the infant room there is a partial wall between the sleeping space and the space where children are awake. Staff members are not visually supervising the sleeping children. This is required. You must situation yourself to see both side of the room when children are sleeping.

The parent board is located near the primary entrance which is in the rear of the center and in the entrance of the preschool classroom. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted in both locations. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program has two playground areas. The area for preschool and school-aged children is behind St. Teresa of Calcutta School. The school also uses the playground. The preschool playground is fenced in. This is a smaller area that has climbing equipment with slides, a bridge, tunnel and climbing wall. There are also monkey bars.

There is a larger partially fenced in area for the school-aged children. There are two pieces of climbing equipment. One has a slide and tunnel. The other is set up like an obstacle course with rings, slides, steppingstones, and a climbing wall. There are swings, spinning toys, monkey bars, and rocking toys. There is a shade shelter with picnic tables.

The playground for the younger children is on the south side of the childcare center. There is a fence around the playground. Rubber mulch is used for fall surfacing. There is a small piece of climbing equipment with slides and other activities. There is also a grassy area with a sandbox and playhouse. There is a caterpillar tunnel, dramatic play center, and an activity center with a shade top. There is a picnic table and bench for the children to rest. The building provides shade.

Staff members were observed to have great interaction with the children. I observed staff members on the floor actively engaged in play with the children and introducing them to activities. They were nurturing and attentive. They made sure the children were having fun. They assisted the children with arts and crafts. They assisted the children with handwashing. They were flexible with their schedules and kept the children busy so they did not get bored. Staff members were patient and used positive redirection when necessary. Staff members encouraged the children to use their imaginations and used play to count with the children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has painted all the childcare rooms in the last few months.

The program is in a secured building. There are cameras in the entrance and outside of the building.

There are pictures of staff members outside each classroom.

The center uses the Brightwheel app to communicate with parents and for signing in and out of the center.

The center is a bus stop for South Winneshiek School, which helps with school-age enrollment.

The center partners with the Catholic school so they can use the school gym, kitchen, playground and a room for the preschool program.

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

109.10(5): Infectious disease control: Centers shall establish policies and procedures related to infection disease control and use of universal precautions with handling of bodily fluid. Soiled diapers shall be stored in containers separate from other waste.
In the one year old room and the room for the older children in the childcare center you must provide a separate garbage with a lid for only soiled diapers.

109.10(8): Children's hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children's hands shall be washed:Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity.After using the restroom or being diapered.After handling animals.
In the infant room the staff are not washing the children's hands following diaper changes. Last year during my visit, a staff member asked me about whether children must have their hands washed with soap and water and I informed them they must be washed with soap and water after each diaper change. This is clearly documented in last year's report. The handwashing procedures must be posted in the bathroom of the infant room near the sink in the bathroom.

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.
Fire and tornado drills must be practiced every month. The center missed fire and tornado drills. Fire drills were missed

June, July & October 2023. Tornado drills were missed May through August, October & December 2023. In the preschool in the school, the fire and tornado drills must be practiced at different times of the day. The program has been cited for failure to practice monthly fire and tornado drills in previous reports. If fire and/or tornado drills are missed moving forward the program will be placed on the provisional license. The center recently painted so postings were taken down. You must post the evacuation diagram near every exit out of a classroom.

109.11(5): Telephone: Working non-pay phone with posting adjacent for emergency numbers for police, fire, and poison control center. Center street address and phone included in posting.List of emergency numbers for children kept near phone. There was a phone in each room Emergency phone numbers were posted in each room except for in the infant room. Please post them in this location. In the preschool room in the school you must add the program's address and phone number to the posting.

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.
A radon test was completed in June 2021 and is good for two years. The results were within the EPA recommended guidelines. A radon mitigation system was installed in the childcare center. Testing was due 2023 and this was noted in last year's report. You must do radon testing in each childcare room and in the preschool room immediately.

109.12(5)e: The provider shall follow safe sleep practices recommended by AAP for infants under one year of age:Infants shall always be placed on their back for sleep.Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet that meets Consumer Product Safety Commission federal standards.Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface. No child will be allowed to sleep in any items not designed for sleeping but not limited to, an infant seat, car seat, swing, bouncy seat.No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.No co-sleeping shall be allowed.Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound.If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required.
While I was in the infant room an infant was sleeping on a boppy pillow. Staff members made no attempt to move the child until I told them the child needed to be placed in a crib. This is a safe sleep violation. I also informed them that boppy pillows are made for nursing mothers and cannot be used to prop children up. There have been several suffocation deaths as a result of boppy pillows being used in this manner.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*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.