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

Name of Center: Colts Corner Bin Town Daycare **Enrollment:** 35 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52680

Street: 442 E Gilman ST **City:** Sheffield Iowa **Zip** 50475 **County:** Franklin

Mailing Address: 442 E Gilman ST, Sheffield, IA, 50475

Director's Name: Sara Shreckengost **Phone Number:** 641-440-0753

On-Site Supervisor(s): Paige Ries - asst director **E-Mail:** ccdcbintown@gmail.com ccdcbelmond@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 01-28-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-03-2024

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

Date Inspected: 09-26-2024

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

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	25	15	47	33	120
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2024 to 10-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 02-18-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was made to the Colts Corner - Bin Town Daycare on 01-28-25 where I met with the center director, Sara Shreckengost. Sara is well qualified for the position having operated a registered in-home child care program for 11 years, obtaining a Associate of Arts degree, and completing on-going professional development in early childhood education. This is the initial visit for the center which was given permission to open on 10-28-24. This is a sister program to the Colts Corner Daycare in Belmond which partnered with the community and businesses that worked to create the center and provide administrative oversight. The program is operated as a non-profit entity serving all ages birth through school age. There are currently about 35 children enrolled in the program served by 21 teachers but the program is continuing to grow. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The program is located in a building that was designed and constructed as a child care facility in 2024. Classrooms are designated by age group with infants, 1 year olds, 2 year olds, 3 year olds, 4 year olds, and school age children. Each classroom has secondary exits providing direct egress to the outdoors. Windows along the exterior walls provide ample natural light, ventilation, and a view. Each room has access to restroom facilities directly from the room, and additional sinks present to allow for hand washing. The building has a secure entry system. Phones, and posted emergency contact numbers were present in each room. Each room has an open design that is divided into activity centers through the placement of furnishings that are arranged so as to not create any blind areas. Activity centers were generally stocked with toys and items that were appropriate for the ages of the children present but some issues were observed. This included a few toys that were labeled as having been produced as promotional items for food vendors which are prohibited and need to be removed as they frequently contain small parts that can break off and be a choking hazard, or are manufactured using lead based paints.

A copy of the daily schedule was posted in each classroom but a copy of the planned curriculum was not. Despite not being posted it was obvious that staff were implementing curriculum activities. As an example the children in the 2 year old room were showing the frogs they had painted for Valentines day. During the visit the teacher also did an activity with the children talking about their emotions, and later engaging in a teacher lead activity of reading a book. The 4 year old classroom did have a copy of the posted curriculum which identified a general learning focus of "The 5 W's - Who What Where When Why. Good engagement and supervision was observed in the center with staff observed to be playing with the children and attending to their needs. It was noted that in one classroom the teacher was making use of a cell phone which was put away when I entered the room. The center does make use of an electronic communications application for documentation and parental contact. It was noted that there are tablets in the classrooms that can be used for documentation in that application. It was recommended that while the application does allow for staff to use personal cell phone devices to access and input data that the center restrict this process to use of the center owned tablets. This can help with ensuring that staff are engaged in child care activities and not social media or other distracting applications as well as reducing the risk of exposure of confidential information which may be on a non-center owned device. Good behavior management techniques were observed on the day of my visit. This included the teaches using proactive techniques such as routines and transition activities, as well as positive reactive techniques of redirection. All staff were observed to use positive and encouraging tones when talking to the children.

The center does have good health and safety polices in place but some practices do need to be reviewed. During the visit I was able to observe several diaper changes and while some staff did follow the required procedures others did not. Observed issues included staff not degloving between handling soiled and clean items, not cleaning the changing station properly, and not washing the child's hands following the diaper change. Other observed issues with regard to hand washing included staff not washing their hands immediately before meal service or bottle preparation. Good practices were observed with regard to storing chemical cleaners, medications, personal belongings, and other items that could pose a safety risk to children. The center does need to ensure that all over the counter medications are labeled with the name of the child whom it belongs as some were labeled and others were not. Good Safe Sleep practices were observed for children under 1 year of age. Cribs, and cots with appropriate bedding were provided for all children that nap. First aid kits were present in the center and do contain items necessary to address most common first aid needs.

The center playground is divided into two areas with one for the older preschool and school age children, and one for the younger toddlers. Both playground areas are fully enclosed by fencing which was in good repair. The school age playground has a large commercial grade climbing structure which appears to have been properly installed and was in good repair. There were some set screws that were observed to be over long and should be replaced with shorter hardware or cut down to reduce the exposed threading to no more than 3 threads. While sufficient fall surfacing was in place the center is looking to replace it with options such as a unitary foam or other similar product. The toddler playground did have a small climbing structure present but no fall surfacing. It was reviewed that either fall surfacing would need to be installed, or the structure removed. Confirmation was received that the structure had been removed following the visit. Shade is provided by the equipment and a covered porch.

The center does have a full kitchen and meals are prepared on-site. Good food storage and handling practices were observed in the kitchen and classrooms. Staff did wear food service gloves when preparing and handling food. Meals are served in the classrooms and transported in covered dishes. Staff did use measured scoops when portioning meals. A copy of the planned menu was posted and identified a good variety of nutritious meal options. One issue that was observed was that the meal served on the day of the visit included fruit cocktail with whole grapes. These can present a choking hazard and need to be modified for children under 4 years of age by cutting so as to eliminate disc shaped pieces. Staff did remove them from the plates of younger children when this was identified. Supervision was provided at the tables when children were eating.

In reviewing administrative records the required postings for No Smoking, Consultant Contact information, and Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting were present and posted in an area readily visible to parents and visitors. A copy of the Permission To Open letter in lieu of the License Certificate was not present and as a reminder the center will need to display the License Certificate at the main entrance once received. The center did have Fire Evacuation Maps posted by all exits but did not have the required written directions, or the required Tornado Evacuation Map & Instructions. As a reminder both are required to be posted by all exits from all programming spaces. The center is using and electronic file management system to both communicate with parents, and maintain child and staff files. In reviewing child files the center did have the required documentation for parental and emergency contacts, physicals, immunizations, and incident reports. One issue that was noted was that in an incident report the staff had identified the identity of a peer involved in the incident. It was reviewed that while parents are entitled to information regarding their own children they do not have access to information about other children. Sara stated that she had also noted the issue and conducted a centerwide training for all staff regarding how to properly complete incident reports. Staff files were reviewed and the center has completed all background checks for current staff, but 14 staff needed a current physical. Sara stated that she would establish as due date by which staff would either provide her with a copy of a current physical, or the date of a scheduled appointment for a physical. In reviewing inspection logs and certificates the center does have a carbon monoxide detection sensor integrated into the electronic alarm system. The center had not yet logged completion of any fire or tornado evacuation drills. As a reminder drills are required to be conducted and logged each month for both fire and tornado evacuation. The center did have a playground inspection log but had not documented inspections for November and December of 2024. Sara stated that this was due to weather conditions and the playground not being used. It was reviewed that staff should document the reasons why the inspections were not conducted. Other inspection logs and certificates for the Fire Marshal, and Fuel burning appliances were verified with the completion of construction. As a reminder fuel burning appliances will need to be inspected annually prior to the start of the heating season, and the center will also need to conduct Radon Testing within the next year.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a new center that was designed and constructed to be a child care center after the community identified a need for child care. A local manufacturing business, Sukkup Mfg. Co., as well as other local businesses and community members were instrumental in the establishment of this center.

The center is working with the Child Care Resource & Referral agency to explore programs such as IQ4K, and NAC for

Early Childhood Care which seek to implement best practice recommendations.

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

109.10(7): Staff hand washing: The center shall ensure staff demonstrate clean personal hygiene. Staff shall wash hands: Upon arrival at the center.Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity.After diapering a child.Before leaving the rest room either with a child or by themselves.Before and after administering nonemergency first aid if gloves are not worn.After handling animals or cleaning cages.
-- Staff did not wash hand immediately prior to food service/bottle preparation as required. Staff did not have children wash their hands immediately after diaper changes.

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.
-- Written instructions were not present for Fire Evacuation notices. Written and diagram instructions were not present for Tornado Evacuation notices. Documentation of monthly fire and tornado evacuation drills was not present.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. 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.