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

Name of Center: First Steps Learning Center Inc. **Enrollment:** 94 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 48848

Street: 200 Holiday RD **City:** Coralville Iowa **Zip** 52241 **County:** Johnson

Mailing Address: 200 Holiday RD, Coralville, IA, 52241

Director's Name: Emily Meineke **Phone Number:** 319-351-1695

On-Site Supervisor(s): Natalia Woody **E-Mail:** firststepslearningcenter200@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 09-06-2024

Licensing Visit X **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:** 05-02-2023

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

Date Inspected: 09-29-2023

Comments : Does Comply.

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

Financial Type: X Profit 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	28	20	54	39	141
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2023 to 07-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown **Date:** 09-10-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker arrived at First Steps Learning Center for an annual visit on 9/6/2024. The center provides childcare for infants to school aged children. They are open from 6:30am to 6:00pm. They have 94 children enrolled.

The center is located inside of a commercial building. There are 7 classrooms, a kitchen, storage spaces and office.

The center is for profit. The center's fire inspection was completed on 9/29/2023.

All program space was observed on the date of my visit.

The director is Emily Meineke. Emily started at First Steps in 6/17.

The onsite supervisor is Natalia Woody. Natalia started at First Steps in 10/17

Nutritional practices were checked. The center provides breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The kitchen was maintained in a clean/orderly fashion.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed. The center followed handwashing procedures. The center stored medications appropriately. The center had a fully stocked first aid kit.

The center's curriculum is centered around Pocket of Preschool.

The center's policies, licensing notebook, staff files and child files were reviewed. The center had all required postings.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

-The center does a great job of maintaining staff. Ali, Emily, Natalia, and Nicole started in 2017. Priscilla started in 2018. Beka, Noah, and Sarah P. started in 2021.
-Classrooms are clean, well-organized and nicely decorated.
-The center has made a consistent choice to utilize paper daily sheets to ensure face to face daily contact.
-The center does Trunk or Treat, Muffins for Maidens, and Doughnuts with Dudes.
-Staff files, child files and licensing notebook were in full compliance.

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

Full compliance.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

The following agencies are available to provide consultation, support, and educational opportunities:
CACFP: https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/nutrition-programs/child-and-adult-care-food-program
Child Care Resource and Referral: https://iowaccrr.org/staff/region_5/
Early Childhood Iowa: https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/
First Children's Finance: https://www.firstchildrensfinance.org/
Healthy Child Care Nurse Consultants: https://hhs.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants
Iowa AEYC: http://www.iowaaeyc.org/
Iowa After School Alliance: https://www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org/
Iowa State University: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/early-childhood
4c's of Johnson County: https://www.iowa4cs.com/

*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.