Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: MICA Head Start-High Street

Provider No.: 16512

Address: 206 W High St, Marshalltown, IA, 50158

County: Marshall

Director's Name: Nicole Ramirez

On-Site Supervisor: Chris Nason

Phone Number: 6416917046

E-Mail: nicole.ramirez@micaonline.org

HHS Visit Date: 05/21/2026

Licensing Period: 06/01/2026 to 06/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/21/2025

Comments: Fire inspections are due at least every three years. Completed by Joshua Warnell, Fire Marshall, Marshalltown Fire Dept.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 4

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 4:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 4:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 4:30 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 4:30 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 4:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [X] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [X] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	10	10	40		60
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was conducted on 5-21-26; the on-site supervisor was involved in an activity; the food aide and various staff were available to help during this 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.

This is one of the Head Start programs offered through MICA. The administrative office is located in Marshalltown. Listed as the director at all the sites is Nicole Ramirez, who is the Early Childhood Programs Coordinator. She too has been with MICA for many years and meets the 100 points to be director. Each site has a lead teacher who meets the 100 points.

This building was constructed in 2002 specifically for Head Start. This site is a year round program, only stopping for approximately two weeks in August. They provide care to children starting at six weeks up through age five. There are four enclosed classrooms. Children attend Monday-Friday. The hours of operation are 6:30 am-4:30 pm.

The children were content and outside playing when this visit occurred, except for infants, who were in their classroom. The classrooms each offered a variety of toys and play centers.. The classrooms are nicely arranged and offered restrooms easily accessible to the children.

This program is enrolled in the CACFP food program; with menus crafted/provided by the school with food aides to complete on-site preparation. Meals/snacks are served family style.

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The playground is enclosed with chain link fence; with small and medium play equipment with artificial turf, grass or cement surfacing. The playgrounds are separated by ages and have natural and/or a shade structure.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This center has attained Level 4 in IQ4K (Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K®) is Iowa's new Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) licensed Child Care Centers and preschools, registered Child Development Homes and programs operating under the authority of an accredited school district or nonpublic school. IQ4K® provides five levels of quality (building blocks) that programs can achieve and continue to improve on).

Each classroom has at least one bilingual staff person.

This site provides both Early Head Start programming and Head Start programming which is a benefit to families in the area.

This site usually provides a higher ratio standard than what is required by State licensing.

The children are ready for kindergarten when they leave this program.

The center has a secure entrance and video montioring.

The staff are trained in Conscious Discipline and the program has implemented these tools in the classrooms to help re-direct children during times of disruptive behaviors.

The center has strong communication with families, the parents feel comfortable and safe with their children in this program.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

109.9(2)i: Preschool ...Physical exam...
-A review of child files indicated a child had an invalid (expired) physical
-The director later provided the updated physical form.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A renewed license is recommended after an updated fire inspection has been provided.

Radon testing was completed in October of 2021. All rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff. Radon testing is now due every five years if testing is under the 4.0 cutoff.

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Date: 07/07/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.