Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Bright Foundation Childcare

Provider No.: 53102

Address: 1030 5th Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52403

County: Linn

Director's Name: Lauren Goodlove

On-Site Supervisor: Lauren Goodlove

Phone Number: 3192864543

E-Mail: childcare@tanagerplace.org

HHS Visit Date: 06/10/2026

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

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 06/09/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM		
Tuesday	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM		
Wednesday	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM		
Thursday	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM		
Friday	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Bright Foundation Childcare is a new therapeutic childcare program which commenced operations on 3/4/2026. Bright Foundation Childcare offers programing year-round, M-F 8:00am-4:00pm to preschool-age children. Total enrolled and attending children were reported to be 7 on 6/10/2026.

Bright Foundation Childcare combined director/on-site supervisor is Lauren Goodlove. Ms. Goodlove has a MA in social work, has experience working with children and participates in professional development.

On 6/10/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in two separate rooms specifically designated for older and younger preschool-age children. Program materials are organized in cabinets and on shelves for ease of use. The program has access to a large indoor gross motor room and an outdoor play area. Sufficient restrooms including hand washing sinks are available to accommodate total capacity. There is an on-site kitchenette with areas for food storage. Foods are prepared at Tanager Place's main campus kitchen and then transported to the childcare. On 6/10/2026, activities observed included breakfast rituals and play experiences. During the monitoring visit, routine transitions were also observed including clean-up procedures and restroom/water break. Evidence of previous days' learning was displayed throughout the space and included a clever windsock art! Curriculum allowed for predictable routines with adjusted activities to meet individual needs socially, emotionally and academically. On 6/10/2026, staff were observed to be in ratio, utilizing therapeutic programming, and engaged with the children. Children appeared comfortable with staff and the day's experiences.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

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Bright Foundations: Therapeutic Childcare program is "...an innovative early childhood program designed to support young children with emotional, behavioral, or mental health challenges who have struggled to succeed in traditional child care settings..." The purpose of Bright Foundation Childcare is "...to provide a safe, nurturing, and therapeutic environment for children who have not found success in traditional childcare settings due to behavioral health, developmental, or social-emotional needs. Our program integrates mental health support, individualized care, and family engagement to promote resilience, skill-building, and positive relationships..."

Bright Foundation Childcare has the following website for families and persons in the community to learn more about their program: https://www.tanagerplace.org/news_article/tanager-announces-opening-of-bright-foundations-therapeutic-child-care-program/
This program with information was also featured in a recent local Cedar Rapids Gazette newspaper article: https://www.thegazette.com/news/education/a-new-therapeutic-childcare-program-helps-children-thrive/article_9002e75b-ea29-4b67-bda4-23c026de2ef6.html

Bright Foundation Childcare is non-profit and part of Tanager Place. The program operates under a board of directors. Ms. Goodlove is a seasoned Tanager Place employee holding a MA degree in social work and having much experience as a school-based therapist and clinical manager. While the management team is new to licensed childcare (e.g. Ms. Goodlove, Ms. Hotchkin), it's clear they have reviewed licensing rules and guidelines as well as established their own program's policies and procedures. The management team is organized and has noteworthy systems of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a secure manner. Ms. Goodlove acknowledged their team of staff who are reliable, hard-working and committed to growing their therapeutic childcare. Ms. Goodlove discussed how they believe in the RISE framework which focuses on building resilience, emotional wellness, connection and confidence over time as well as the belief in the ripple effect of impacting only one life. Ms. Goodlove and the management team have many future goals for the program.

Bright Foundation Childcare has an established area for required postings, has a family-program information area, offers newsletters, utilizes technological communication resources, and facilities a deep partnership with the families and children. Curriculum includes Educational Programming (e.g Frog Street Curriculum, Montessori-informed learning, Literacy, math, science, and STEAM activities), Social and Emotional Development & Therapeutic Programming (e.g. Play Based Therapy, Behavioral Health Intervention Skills) and Care and Regulation Routines. Bright Foundation Childcare combines education with therapeutic support and intentional family partnership to promote resilience, self-regulation, and social-emotional growth. Curriculum also includes family coaching, education and access to Tanager's broader network of supports along with transition planning to support a successful reintegration to traditional preschool, kindergarten of other education setting.

Bright Foundation Childcare has and updates policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. Cleaning reminders were observed in various areas. Management discussed how they continue to help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following the policies and procedures. The program also continues to have much support from Tanager Board of Directors, Tanager Maintenance Team, and custodial persons.

Bright Foundation Childcare has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. While this childcare just commenced operations in March of 2026, Tanager Place and their programs have existed in Linn County since 1879. Tanager Place programs have successfully navigated through flooding events (2008 historic Linn County flood), 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages, air quality alerts (2023, 2025), and repeated technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage).

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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

Not applicable.

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5. Special Notes/Recommendations

As a reminder, rule 109.11(8)b states "...Within one year of being issued an initial or renewal license, centers operating in facilities that are at ground level, use a basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath the program area shall have radon testing following the National Consensus Standards as outlined in 641—Chapter 43..." Licensing will review results at the time of the next annual monitoring visit.

Please ensure there is a written date on each annual all-fuel burning appliance inspection moving forward.

Ensure one child's personal items are stored separately from every other child's personal items (e.g. bedding off cots, extra clothing).

Licensing supports seeking funding opportunities as they become available (e.g. Growing Iowa Funding https://www.iowaccrr.org/child-care-providers/iowa-child-care-funding-opportunities/) for an on-site dishwasher.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
Licensing discussed with director Ms. Goodlove regarding oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) understand expectations, 2) manage frustrations, and 3) monitor performance. Ms. Goodlove discussed the immense staff professional development that is provided including agency wide training on child brain development and RISE framework. Ms. Goodlove reported they are able to maintain a low daily staff-child ratio. Ms. Goodlove acknowledged if a child becomes increasingly upset, one staff will remain with that child offering one-on-one attention while another staff will take the remaining children to a different area such as outdoors for activities. Ms. Goodlove talked about how during the one-on-one time, staff will increase calming activities and sensory opportunities. Ms. Goodlove discussed how staff also use FLIP teachings and internal supports through Tanager Place programming including Tanager's Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) program. Ms. Goodlove talked about being present at the program to assist and that staff are encouraged to use the program's walkie talkies to reach out for assistance or a break whenever it's needed.

A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 07/16/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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**.