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

**Name of Center:** Crayon Corner Learning Center **Enrollment:** 25 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 17932

**Street:** 409 Washington St **City:** Gladbrook Iowa **Zip** 50635 **County:** Tama

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 223, Gladbrook, IA, 50635

**Director's Name:** Amber Gebel **Phone Number:** 641-473-2600

**On-Site Supervisor(s):** Mariah Mabe **E-Mail:** crayonclc@gmail.com

**Date(s) of Visit:** 05-16-2023

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

**LICENSING VISITS**

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

**Signed Application (470-0722) Received** X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 04-14-2022

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

**Date Inspected:** 02-03-2023

**Comments :** Fire inspections are due at least every three years.

**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 | 12 | 12 | 40 | 16 | 80 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

**QRS Rating:** 4

| RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE: | |
|---|---|
| X | **FULL** license from 06-01-2022 to 06-01-2024 |
| | **PROVISIONAL** license from |
| | **DENIAL** of initial application |
| | **SUSPENSION** of license |
| | **REVOCATION** of license |

**Licensing Consultant:** Debbie Hammer **Date:** 05-25-2023

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

N/A.

**II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:**

An off-year visit was conducted on 5/16/23. The Director was present throughout the 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.

Crayon Corner Learning Center has been in operation for many years, providing child care in the current location since June 2010. The center is located in a single standing building. The center provides child care services to children ages infancy through school age. There are four enclosed classrooms on the first floor and a classroom and indoor large motor play area in the basement. The center offers before and after school care for school age children as well as summer programming for school age children. During the school year, the center offers Preschool with a morning session M-F from 8:30 am to 11:15 am for three year old children and an afternoon session from 12:30 pm to 3:15 pm for four and five year old children. The center uses the Gold Standard assessment for preschool curriculum.

Amber Gebel is Director for the center. Amber has worked at this center for the past nine years and meets qualifications for this position. Mariah Mabe is the On-Site Supervisor, starting in this position in April of 2022. Mariah has four prior years of working in a childcare setting. She meets qualifications for this role.

The center is working with the school district to provide the SWVPP program, this will start the fall for three and four year old children.

**III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

The center has a QRS rating of 4, based on a 1-5 scale rating.

This building was constructed specifically for a daycare center.

The center has a strong relationship with the Gladbrook - Reinbeck School District.

The center has spacious outdoor playground areas. They received a grant to put up three shade structures on the playground and these should be installed in the next month.

The staff work well together and are dedicated to the center. The staff do themes each week in the classrooms with the children. The staff are open and receptive to changes and are interested in obtaining training on child care and child development.

The Director and On-Site supervisor try to let staff know they are appreciated and staff appear happy at the center. The administrative team will bring in food and snacks for the staff and they will have a staff get together this summer.

The center conducts monthly staff meetings.

The center receives strong support from the Board of Directors.

The center has strong community support.

The center participates in the food program.

The staff have shown much resiliency and dedication during the pandemic, helping out when needed and working long hours.

There is longevity of staff, many of the staff have been with the center for at least two years, one has worked at the center for 4 years and the director has been with the center for 9 years.

There are security cameras in the classrooms and outside.

The center has been able to stay open during the pandemic.

The center put in new surfacing on the larger outdoor playground.

The center received a grant for new cribs.

The center has fundraisers and recently purchased some new toys and supplies with fundraiser money.

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

There were no aspects of operation that fell below the standards noted or observed during the visit.

**V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The center participates in the food program and their menus reflect they are following the CACFP guidelines.

Radon testing is now required every five years if testing is under the 4.0 cutoff. The center last conducted radon testing in April of 2022 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The center has geo-thermal heat and this is inspected every fall.

*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.