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

Name of Center: Shining Stars Child Development Center III, Inc **Enrollment:** 144 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50369

Street: 4850 E University AVE **City:** Pleasant Hill Iowa **Zip** 50327 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 4850 E University AVE, Pleasant Hill, IA, 50327

Director's Name: Lacey Gomez **Phone Number:** 515-262-1202

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** shiningstarsdevcenter3@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-17-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 01-07-2025

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

Date Inspected: 01-07-2025

Comments :

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	32	18	64	28	142
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2025 to 03-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 02-20-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Shining Stars Child Development Center III was given permission to open in February 2019. The center is located in a single standing building. The center has a secured entrance. The re is a security system in place that allows all the classrooms and the outdoor areas to be viewed on monitors. The center serves children ages infancy through school age. The center is owned by Dianna Marquardt, who also owns the other Shining Stars daycare centers. Lacey Steele is the director. Lacey has employed with Shining Stars 2016.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Classroom schedules and lesson plans are posted by classroom doors. Classrooms are well supplied with age appropriate furnishings, supplies and toys. Classrooms with children ages two and up have labeled interest centers. Lesson plans are completed by Gretchen Harris, who has an Bachelors degree in Early Education, for classrooms with children ages one and older.

Lacey assisted with today's visit. The following classrooms were in operation today: The Infant classroom had seven infants present. Two staff were working in this room. In the Walkers class, seven children were present. Two staff were working in this classroom. A Two's class had thirteen children present. Two staff were working in this room. A 3's classroom had fifteen children present, a mix of two and three year old children (seven two year old children and eight three year old children). Two staff were working with this group. A PreK class had twenty children present. There was a majority of 4/5's and also three school age children today. Two staff were working in this room. Children were observed during lunch, during rest time, during transition time and during child directed activities.

The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. The center participates in CACFP. Shining Stars Child Stars CDC I prepares lunch and makes menus for this center also. Lunch served today was corn dogs, carrots, peaches and milk.

The center has three playground areas. A small area is designated for infants, an area is designated for toddlers and preschool agers and the older children. There is shading in place. There are some climbing structures and grass turf is used for surfacing material. The center documented monthly playground checks.

Shining Stars Child Development Center owns several vehicles. They provide transportation for school and field trips.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center participates in IQ4K and has earned a four star rating. The classrooms are well furnished and have a nice amount of play and learning supplies for children's use. There are security cameras in all classrooms and playgrounds.

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

109.12(4): Sufficient toilet articles are provided for handwashing.Sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture that conforms with CPSC or ASTM.Play equipment, materials, and furniture meet the developmental, activity, and special needs of the children.Room’s arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children.Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap.Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.Sufficient spacing is maintained between equipment to reduce transmission of disease and allow ease of movement by children and staff to respond to activities and care needs.Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.
The 2's classroom didn't have sheets on the children's cots.
Children's cots didn't have adequate spacing in the 3's classroom.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.