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

Name of Center: Nevada Community Resource Center **Enrollment:** 52 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 17035

Street: 1037 8th Street **City:** Nevada Iowa **Zip** 50201 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 1037 8th St, Nevada, IA, 50201

Director's Name: Chris Burling **Phone Number:** 515-382-1600

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kasey Taggart **E-Mail:** cburling@nevadacubs.org

Date(s) of Visit: 04-16-2025

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:** 03-06-2025

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

Date Inspected: 10-08-2024

Comments : Fire inspections required at least every three years; completed by Nevada Fire Dept--Chief Raymond Reynolds

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 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
Summer					0
General			25	75	100

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2025 to 05-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 04-16-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 4/16/25. The Director was present for the entire visit; with the Assistant Director also present during parts of 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.

NCRC (Nevada Community Resource Center) was first started in 1998. They are primarily affiliated with the school district, and the school district owns the building. This site is in an old church and is about a block away from the elementary school. They provide before and after school care, and also provide wrap-around care for the preschool age children. They provide care for children when school is not in session and during the summer.

Before school care is provided from 7-7:45 am, and after school care is from 3:30-5:30 pm. Preschool wrap-around care is from 11:00 am-3:30 pm. The preschool children can also attend the after school child care program from 3:30-5:30 pm.

During the summer months the care is offered from 7:00 am-5:30 pm. They use the elementary school so they can separate the children into three classrooms. There are three preschool classrooms at the school that are used, each room has a bathroom with a sink in the bathroom as well as a sink in the classroom. The program can also use the gym and commons/cafeteria area.

Chris Burling has been the director since 2010. She has worked in other child care programs, and also worked as a para in the elementary school starting in 2002 and was there until she became the director at NCRC.

Kasey Taggart is the Assistant Director. Kasey has a Bachelor's degree in child, adult and family services and prior experience in a childcare setting and meets the criteria for this position.

Room observations/Activities: The center uses one large room for their main programming space and also has a smaller game room for the older children and a reading room. The center uses the school playground, which is within a block from the church. They close for one week after school is out for the summer, to get ready for summer programming, and then close again for one week before the school year starts. The children were resting when this visit occurred; the classrooms both offer a variety of play centers and toys, age appropriate. The staff were observed to keep close supervision and worked as a team. The children were content. The center was able to update/refresh paint in the programming space this past year.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen of which only some storage and a refrigerator are utilized as the school provides the meals. Menus are crafted by school nutritional services; and are in line with CACFP; Meals are served cafeteria style. Meals are prepared by the school cafeteria and brought to the center.

Health/Safety: Medication in a lock box accessible by the director and administrative staff. Handwashing signs are posted

as required.. There are three backpacks with first aid equipment, that is also taken when the center children go to the playground. Tornado/Fire emergency plans are posted. Radon mitigation took place in 2019; testing was completed 3/8/24; all levels tested below 4.0. HVAC was inspected 10/2024. There are several carbon monoxide detectors through out this building. Emergency Drills were documented completed as required.

Playground: The center utilizes the playground within one block; that is located at the elementary school; and maintained by the school. This summer the playground is set to be updated; and the school has offered alternate large motor play areas.

Transportation/Field trips: For field trips, the school provides a school bus and bus driver or there are walking field trips.

Administrative Review: Fliers for mandatory reporter, Handbook, consultant contact, license, fire/tornado plans and non-smoking signs were posted as required. Four staff files and four child files were reviewed; and contained all required information.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The Director has been with this program for several years and brings strong leadership and knowledge to the program.

The center continues to have a good relationship with the school and their teachers and counselors. This enables them to talk about children who are struggling and come up with a plan that can be followed by both the school and the child care program.

NCRC is able to offer some scholarships to help families who need some financial assistance. People in the community donate to this fund for scholarships.

The center has video cameras in the child care rooms and next year budgeting will allow additional cameras.

The center provides some additional resources to the families and transportation to summer events so parents do not have to take time off of work if their child has swimming lessons or camp.

The center communicates well with the parents and have developed strong and trusting relationships with the families and children.

The Director and Assistant Director are advocates for the children and families as well as for the center as a whole. At board meetings they discuss what they can do to improve the center.

This building is used for other community based programs such as MICA Head Start, Rotary Club coat donation, Big Buddies, and ISU Extension programs. This program partners well with these other programs.

The staff work well together as a team, including the Director and Assistant Director.

The center has a very supportive board of directors.

The center has been able to continue their Angel Tree Program at Christmas.

Enrollment remains strong and they are already full for wrap around care for next school year. This center has a wait list.

The administrative team accommodates staff and values their staff.

The director and on-site supervisor work well together and are a strong team.

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

There were not aspects of operation identified that fall below standards reviewed.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A new, full two-year license is recommended.

This center offers a needed resource in the community and partners well with the school and other businesses to better serve the families.

Staff maintained good program structure in a nurturing manner. The staff work well as a team to ensure needs are met.

*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.