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

Name of Center: Trinity Lane Preschool **Enrollment:** 56 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 24525

Street: 350 27th Ave SW **City:** Cedar Rapids Iowa **Zip** 52404 **County:** Linn

Mailing Address: 350 27th Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52404

Director's Name: Dawn Dupont **Phone Number:** 319-362-2702

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lisa Bach **E-Mail:** trinlanepreschool@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 10-02-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 12-21-2022

Comments :

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.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General		16	33		49
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2023 to 11-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons **Date:** 10-27-2023

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

Not applicable.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church Children's Weekday Ministries operates the following two licensed childcare programs in the community: Lovely Lane Preschool and Daycare and Trinity Lane Preschool. These two childcare and preschool programs have been in operation for several years. Specifically, this monitoring report pertains to Trinity Lane Preschool. Trinity Lane Preschool is located inside the Asbury United Methodist Church. Trinity Lane Preschool offers a Christian based 2-year-old program, a 3-year-old preschool program, and a 4-year-old preschool program. The 4-year-old statewide voluntary preschool program is part of the DHS license. Current enrollment is 56.

The multi-site director of Lovely Lane United Methodist Church Children's Weekday Ministries is Dawn Dupont. Ms. Dupont has been the multi-site director since March, 2020. Ms. Dupont has a BA in business/marketing, many years experience working with children, and continues to participate in much child development related training. Since March, 2020, Ms. Bach has been the program's on-site supervisor. Ms. Bach has a BA in sociology, many years experience working with children, and continues to participate in much child development related training.

On 10/2/2023, program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Trinity Lane Preschool is a well-established program offering a Christian preschool and early learning services to help meet the educational needs of families and children. The program is located in a residential neighborhood in a predominantly urban community.

Trinity Lane Preschool has the following website for families and persons in the community learn more about their programs: https://www.lovelylane.org/childrens-weekday-ministries/. The program also sponsors a private social media page for enrolled families.

Trinity Lane Preschool's vision "...is to be a diverse church where faithful disciplines of Jesus Christ grow in spirit and nurture one another and respond to human need...believe that children learn best through exploration in their environment..."

Trinity Lane Preschool and Daycare has a history of participation in quality initiatives including QRS and local quality initiatives. Ms. Bach discussed future goals related to quality and IQ4K.

Multi-site director Ms. Dupont is currently celebrating her 3rd year as director of both Lovely Lane Preschool and Daycare and Trinity Lane Preschool. Congratulations! Ms. Dupont has years of experience working with children and managing a childcare program. Ms. Dupont has been a past evaluator for a local quality initiative and continues to be a mentor to other child care programs. The program's management team (Ms. Dupont and Ms. Bach) 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. As a result, the program experiences smooth daily operations. Ms. Dupont and Ms. Bach are knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures.

Since the last review, Trinity Lane Preschool retained all staff. Staff are seasoned and reported celebrating 13 years, 10 years, 9 years, 8 years, 7 years, and 2 years with this program. Congratulations on staff longevity! Staff appreciation and recognition events continue to be part of the program's successful operations.

Trinity Lane Preschool is a ministry of Lovely Lane United Methodist Church. Since 2022, Asbury United Methodist Church continues their mission and ministry partnering with Trinity Lane Preschool which is run by Lovely Lane United Methodist Church. Trinity Lane Preschool governed by an advisory board of directors. Members include persons from Lovely Lane United Methodist Church and Asbury United Methodist Church. All church administration, board members, custodial persons and preschool teachers help ensure the program space is sanitary and hazard free each day.

Building and grounds are in good repair. Since the last review, completion of the program's outdoor playground space occurred which included a new playground structure with poured cushion surfacing and some updated areas of fencing. Classrooms continue to be arranged in a thoughtful manner with learning at the forefront. Children's accomplishments (e.g. artwork, Clever 3yo preschool room artwork display with each child holding a painted apple!) are displayed in various areas of the program space. The program's primary curriculum is Creative Curriculum incorporating on-site guest speakers, enrichment experiences and teacher inspired ideas. These events have included visits from the library (e.g. Cargill Cares), Chapel Time, Kids Sight, Orchestra Iowa Symphony experiences, seasonal events (e.g. a local farm trip, Apple Orchard trip), sports skills work, and music/dance group.

Trinity Lane Preschool continues efforts at optimal communication between the program/staff and families. The program has organized parent-staff/program information areas, offers regular program newsletters, utilizes technological communication resources, and supports family programming activities. The program has a history of offering a variety of special events throughout the academic year including new family orientation, fall open house, family nights, staff/family conferences, and preschool graduation celebration. Trinity Lane Preschool also sponsors an on-site lending library for families and children to "check-out" books.

Trinity Lane Preschool has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. The program successfully navigated through the 2008 historic Linn County flood, 2019 Polar Vortex, 2019 health (COVID-19) pandemic, 8/10/2020 Derecho Storm event and 2023 compromised air quality incidents. It's also noted that Trinity Lane Preschool and Lovely Lane Preschool and Daycare had to seek relocation 6 times in approximately 24 months.

Trinity Lane Preschool collaborates well with those throughout the community including local school districts, early access persons, local businesses, nearby independent living center, CCR&R, and health professionals. Trinity Lane Preschool continues to successfully partner with the Cedar Rapids Community School District to provide a 4-year-old statewide voluntary preschool program.

Each child is engaged in a daily health check upon arrival for early detection of apparent illness, communicable disease, or unusual condition or behavior which may adversely affect the child or the group. The program has policies and procedures in place for hand washing, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. Staff were able to verbalize and engage in these processes. Cleaning checklists and daily sanitation reminders were observed to be posted in various areas of the center.

On the day of the monitoring visit, staff were nurturing and attentive to the children's needs. Staff were observed warmly greeting families and children upon arrival. Children had access to an array of materials (e.g. books, imaginative play options, crafts, sensory items, building materials) that encouraged innovative play. In the 2yo room, quiet music could be overheard as children engaged in play. Activities observed were many including center play experiences (e.g. seasonal sensory washing pumpkins, apple tree dobbing, light table, letter puzzle, open crafting, play dough, water table, small book reading group, imaginative home living play), circle discussion (e.g. music with movement, letter "T" phonics work, book reading "Biscuit Goes to School"), and outdoor large gross motor play. Staff provided a companionable presence allowing children to have many choices in their play experiences. Staff communicated well with children verbally, with picture cues and through modeling. One staff was overheard telling a child "you worked very hard on that and did a good job". Routine transitions (e.g. clean-up, snack activities, indoor/outdoor movements) worked smoothly into the program's welcoming and cooperative play environment. Staff were overheard providing children with many words of encouragement and engaging children in much meaningful discussion. Children responded well to staff and appeared to be truly enjoying their day.

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

None noted.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

*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.