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

Name of Center: CFI Child Development Center **Enrollment:** 56 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 27702

Street: 801 Forest Ave **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50314 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 801 Forest Ave, Des Moines, IA, 50314

Director's Name: Samatha Harms - Kedley **Phone Number:** 515-282-2193

On-Site Supervisor(s): Stephanie Smith, Sara Rushing, and Asacia Edwards **E-Mail:** SamanthaH@cfiowa.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-05-2024

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:** 03-13-2023

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

Date Inspected: 04-14-2023

Comments : Des Moines Fire Marshal.

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 X Other 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	16	16	70	56	158
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2023 to 04-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 03-06-2024

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 3/5/24. The director was present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Children and Families of Iowa - Child Development Center (CFI - CDC) is located in Des Moines and overseen by a CFI Board of Directors. The center primarily serves children and families in crisis in and around the surrounding neighborhood. Children range from infants to 10 years in age. Samantha Harms - Kedley is the director of this program. Sam was previously the director at CFI Teddy Bear Town and came over to this location when that program and this program consolidated into one program. Sam has a BA degree. The on-site supervisors are Stephanie Smith, Sara Rushing, and Asacia Edwards. All three have college degrees and past experience working in child care.

The center is COA accredited and utilizes the Creative Learning Curriculum and Frog Street Curriculum. There are a total of nine classrooms and some of these classrooms are divided into two sections serving different groups of children. Not all classrooms are currently in use.

During the visit, children were engaged in a variety of activities including playing outside on the playground, engaged in free-choice play in classrooms, engaged in a large-group story activity being facilitated by staff, and washing their hands. Staff were involved with all children and their activities and spaced out among the classrooms and playground.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center participates in CACFP (food program).

The center has a partnership with United Way.

The center has a partnership with Early Head Start. There is a bulletin board with tips for parents related to health and safety.

The center participates in IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

There are security cameras in place outside and in classrooms.

Alarms are in place on the back side doors. There is also an alarm at the main entrance.

There is a secure entrance into the building.

All children enrolled receive visual, dental, and hearing assessments.

All classrooms have direct access to the playground area.

The playground is very large and divided into different sections based on age of children.

The center employs a full-time cook.

The center has their own website where additional information can be obtained.

Most lead teachers have degrees. Some staff are involved in the T.E.A.C.H. program.

The center has good community partnerships.

A few times a year, "Super Saturday" is held where a more deep cleaning is done and staff get training hours. A cleaning crew also cleans, sanitizes, and disinfects the center several nights a week.

There is a real sense of team, teamwork, and communication among staff. There is a good mix of tenured and new staff.

The director is organized.

Within the past year, more remodeling has taken place to some classrooms.

Most staff have taken PBIS training.

The Board is supportive.

The center uses the Playground and Pro-Care electronic systems for day to day functions.

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain: A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information. Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted. Copies of national criminal history check results. Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
Number not in compliance: 1 staff file needs to have record checks further evaluated.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
1. The bolts along the playground fence and gates still need to be cut so that no more than two threads are showing. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.
2. There was one dangling cord not securely fastened and/or tucked behind equipment observed in the preschool classroom.
3. At least one and maybe two child-size toilets need to be unclogged and/or repaired.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last tested in classrooms 2/14/23 - 2/17/23. Radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff in all classrooms. Radon testing can now be done every five years. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual boiler/furnace inspection observed was from 12/20/23.

For transportation/field trips, the center owns several buses that they transport children. These vehicles are services regularly.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. All staff appear to have I-Power profiles and the center participates in IQ4K.

It is recommended that boppy pillows not be used.

This consultant observed several tricycles that need new handle bar grip covers.

The HHS record check guidance form (SING and fingerprinting) was emailed to the director after the visit concluded.

*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.