Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Mary J Treglia Community House Preschool

Provider No.: 50500

Address: 900 Jennings ST, Sioux City, IA, 51105

County: Woodbury

Director's Name: Tiffany Woodside

On-Site Supervisor: Breiona Strand

Phone Number: 7122585137

E-Mail: t.bertrand@marytreglia.org

HHS Visit Date: 03/10/2026

Licensing Period: 04/01/2025 to 04/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 03/06/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 3

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	8:15 AM to 3:00 PM		
Tuesday	8:15 AM to 3:00 PM		
Wednesday	8:15 AM to 3:00 PM		
Thursday	8:15 AM to 3:00 PM		
Friday	8:15 AM to 12:15 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit at this center and met with Director Tiffany Woodside. Ms. Woodside has completed her associate's degree in early childhood education and is nearing completion of her bachelor's degree in early childhood education. She also holds a substitute teaching license in the state of Iowa. Ms. Woodside is currently completing the Aim for Excellence training, a nationally recognized leadership and management program designed to strengthen administrators' skills in areas such as program planning, family engagement, staff supervision, and quality improvement. All staff members have consistently completed more than the required amount of ongoing training. Notably, staff member Sara Ferris holds a master's degree in special education. This level of professional development demonstrates the staff's continued commitment to providing excellent care and high-quality early childhood education.

The center participates in the Preschool Initiative Program, which ensures the presence of a certified teacher, the use of an approved curriculum, regular assessments of each child's progress, and verification that the program meets state preschool standards. Classes are held Monday through Thursday from 8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The center also offers two summer sessions, held in June and July, to support continued learning and school readiness.

There are 17 children enrolled in the program. At the time of the visit 12 children were present.

I observed all areas of the center, including classrooms, activities, nutrition practices, health and safety procedures, playground, and administrative review.

One of the unique strengths of this center is the linguistic diversity within its student population, with ten different languages currently represented. Teachers utilize a pocket translator to support effective communication with children

throughout the day. The center also connects families with English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) classes, demonstrating its commitment to serving and supporting the entire family, not just the enrolled child. The center actively includes families in classroom projects and learning experiences. For example, during the Christmas holiday season, children received information about different types of animal homes and were encouraged to work with their families to create a replica of an animal habitat. This activity supported family engagement and strengthened home–school connections while reinforcing the curriculum.

The classroom is bright and colorful, with a wide variety of children's artwork displayed throughout the space. Numerous learning activities are posted on the walls, many of which pair a picture with the corresponding printed word to support early literacy development. During the visit, I observed a reading activity. Staff demonstrated strong classroom management skills, and the children remained attentive and engaged in the story being read. The center utilizes several high-quality assessment tools to support each child's development. Creative Curriculum and GOLD help teachers plan meaningful learning experiences and track progress across developmental areas. IGDIs (Individual Growth and Development Indicators) provide quick checks on early literacy and language skills, while Ages and Stages Questionnaires offer a broad screening of developmental milestones. Together, these tools help staff understand each child's needs and provide appropriate support.

The center has converted a former community garden into a nature-based play area, featuring a grass surface and two large umbrellas to provide shade. The main playground now has a poured-rubber surface, offering additional safety and accessibility. When children attend off-site activities, the center contracts with the SRTS bus service for transportation. The program holds parent–teacher conferences twice a year and hosts three family nights annually to give families meaningful opportunities to engage with staff and learn more about the experiences their children are having at the center. Fire/tornado drills and playground inspections are up to date along with other administrative records.

The first aid kits contained appropriate supplies for treating minor injuries. The refrigerator was clean and maintained at the proper temperature. Breakfast, lunch, and snacks are provided through the Sioux City Community School District. The center participates in the CACFP food program and follows its nutritional guidelines. All food items were properly stored, dated, and organized.

Their goal is to achieve level 5 of IQ4K. The center has achieved a Level 3 rating in Iowa's IQ4K system, indicating that it consistently goes beyond basic licensing requirements and demonstrates strong quality practices. This level reflects solid staff training, intentional teaching and assessment, healthy and safe environments, and meaningful partnerships with families.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Ms. Woodside has also secured a grant that helps ensure all children can continue attending preschool, even if a family experiences financial hardship. This funding allows the center to support families during challenging times and maintain consistent care for the children.

The center will again be completing a fidelity assessment, which is used to ensure that interventions, programs, and assessments are being implemented as intended—an important process for maintaining effectiveness and supporting strong child outcomes. In their most recent assessment, the center achieved the highest score among participating preschools, earning an impressive 96 percent.

The atmosphere of the center is welcoming and well-organized. Classrooms are bright, with children's artwork and learning materials displayed neatly throughout the space. The environment is clean and orderly, with the soft sounds of classroom activity creating a calm, productive setting. Staff remain attentive and engaged with the children, providing steady guidance and support during daily routines and learning activities.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

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4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

I discussed with Tiffany her oversight of behavior management relating to helping childcare staff: 1) Understanding Expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance:

Tiffany and her staff meet regularly to discuss their individual “hot button” issues. Each staff member identifies specific triggers or challenging situations, allowing the entire team to be aware of potential stressors and to offer support when needed. During these meetings, staff also review acceptable discipline practices and collaborate on strategies for addressing behavioral concerns. When issues arise with a particular child, they communicate consistently with one another and with parents to ensure a coordinated approach. Tiffany maintains an open-door policy, encouraging staff to reach out when they need a break or additional support. She reports that this system has been highly effective, noting that the center has not had any behavioral reports in the past five years.

A full license will remain in effect at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

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Date: 03/10/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.