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

Name of Center: Shining Stars Child Development Center **Enrollment:** 280 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 26685

Street: 1250 NE 56th St **City:** Pleasant Hill Iowa **Zip** 50327 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1250 NE 56th St, Pleasant Hill, IA, 50327

Director's Name: Jana Lewis **Phone Number:** 515-564-0507

On-Site Supervisor(s): Dianna Marquardt, Gretchen Harris **E-Mail:** diannamarquardt@aol.com shiningstarscdc1@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 01-08-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 12-06-2022

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

Date Inspected: 12-02-2021

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	48	90	120	290
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2023 to 02-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 01-09-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Shining Stars Child Development Center has been in operation since January 2000. The center is located within a single standing building that has a secured entrance. The center has a security camera system in place that allows all the classrooms and the outdoor areas to be viewed on monitors. This center provides child care services for infants through school age children. Dianna Marquardt is the owner. Jana Lewis is the director of the center. Jana has been employed at the center since 2000. Gretchen Lewis is an on site supervisor. She has been in this role since October 2020.

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

Gretchen Harris initially assisted with the visit. Today was Jana's scheduled day off but she came to the center and assisted with the majority of the visit. Ratio requirements met or exceeded in all classrooms. The center has ten classrooms. There are four infant classrooms, two younger infant classrooms and two walker classrooms. There are two classrooms with primarily two year old children. There is a combined classroom, with two year old and three year old children. There are two classrooms with primarily four year old children. There is one preschool classroom. There is a school age classroom, which wasn't open during today's visit. Children were observed during child directed play and learning time, staff lead/group time and rest time. Some classes were observed during lunch. Children were observed to be sitting at tables with staff, doing academic and art activities. Children played individually and in small groups within interest centers. Staff led children in singing songs with motions and read books as a group activity.

The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. The center has a full kitchen. The center participates in the federal food program. Menus are on a four week rotation. Menus reviewed show compliance with CACFP requirements. Today's lunch was chicken nuggets, corn, pears and milk.

The center has a few playgrounds that are designated for different age groups. The playgrounds have fencing. Turf is the surfacing material in place. There are shading structures in place during warm months. The center completed monthly playground checks.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center participates in IQ4K and they have earned a four star rating. The center uses the Bright Wheel application for communication with parents/guardians. Dianna and Jana have worked together since this center opened. The center benefits from administrations' experience. Dianna and Jana have the "Aim For Excellence" certification.
There are several staff that have been employed with Shining Stars for many years. Management tries to provide positive

incentives for staff to maintain employment with Shining Stars.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during today's visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The 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 mlarson@dhs.state.ia.us) 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 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.

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