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

Name of Center: Mother Goose Child Care & Preschool Site III **Enrollment:** 16 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30903

Street: 108 N 22nd ST **City:** Council Bluffs Iowa **Zip** 51501 **County:** Pottawattamie

Mailing Address: 108 N 22nd ST, Council Bluffs, IA, 51501

Director's Name: Ardith K. and Robert Caputo **Phone Number:** 712-323-1899

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jackie Watts **E-Mail:** mothergoosechildcare@outlook.com jwattsmo3@aol.com

Date(s) of Visit: 08-22-2023

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: 01-26-2022

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 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	12	10		30	52
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 10-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 09-13-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit to Mother Goose Child Care & Preschool Site II and III on 8-22-2023. Mother Goose III is located in a residential area. The center provides care to infants on the main floor and school age children in the basement area. Before and after school programming is offered for school age children, and full day programming when the children are not in school and during the summer. The hours of operation are 6:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. Robert and Ardith Caputo are the owners and directors of the center. Ardith received an Associate's Degree in Child Development-Business in 1968. Jackie Watts is the on-site supervisor. The center is located across the street from Mother Goose II, which provides care to toddlers, preschool age and school age children. There are 16 children enrolled in the center.
Bob and Ardith Caputo celebrated fifty five years in child care in February 2022. They opened their first child care center on the farm in February 1967. This is an amazing accomplishment.

Observation of rooms:
I met with Bob Caputo and Jackie Watts during my off year licensing visit on 8-22-2023.
The infant room looked nice and had a fun variety of toys. The daily sheets looked good. There were four children in the infant room with Angie. Angie had excellent interactions with the children, she was nurturing and attentive to the needs of the children, she has worked at the center for over thirteen years. One infant had a blanket in the crib, please review safe sleep practices as nothing can be in the crib with the infant.
The school age program looked nice and had a fun variety of developmentally appropriate toys and equipment.
Gabe was working with the thirteen school age children in the basement, they go across the street to Mother Goose Site II to eat. Gabe had excellent interactions with the children, he was positive and having fun with the children. After lunch the school age children returned to their program room and watched a movie.
The program didn't have plans. When school starts Tori will prepare lesson plans. During the school year in the day Gabe and Tori each work with a group of preschool age children at Mother Goose site II. Lesson plans/activities are needed year round.

Nutrition:
Jackie prepares the meals. Menus were posted. Even though you aren't on the federal food program you still need to follow the CACFP guidelines. Please refer to their website for credible food selections and portions.

Health and safety:
Monthly fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed on 4-8-2023.
Radon testing was done in May 2023 and the test score was 1.7 pCi/L.
There continues to be confusion about what needs sanitized and what needs disinfected, I reviewed with Jackie what the difference is. Sanitizing is for food surface areas, tables, hard surface toys etc., disinfecting is for the diaper changing stations. The bleach/water bottles for sanitizing and disinfecting must be mixed correctly and mixed daily. Please use the three step bottle procedure for sanitizing and disinfecting - 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. If you are using bleach/water make sure the bleach is EPA approved and you must follow the directions on your specific bottle of bleach/website.

Incorrect sanitizing and disinfecting has been a violation every year since 2019. Jackie and staff have been trained on sanitizing and disinfecting several times and have been referred to their specific bottle of bleach for proper mixing instructions. It is very concerning that this continues to be a violation since 2019.
Please make sure the bleach/water for disinfecting the diaper changing table is correct, and the bleach/water for sanitizing in the infant and school age program.

Playground:
Bob reported that the wooden structure playground piece of equipment isn't used and will be removed. The sandbox isn't used either. They only use the cement area. The playground area is fenced. Please refer to the Public Playground Safety Handbook for specific information. (Playground located across the street at site II)

Transportation:
The center has a van that provides transportation to some local schools.
The van is used for transportation for field trips.
Make sure you keep a log of repairs and make sure you have a checklist/children's name that is used when children enter the van, are dropped off and picked up from school and when they exit the van returning to the center. Please check the van seats after each transition.

Administrative records:
Jackie has NAC accreditation.
Staff files were read and were incomplete. Files need record checks and an evaluation, mandatory reporter training, universal precautions and employee statement. All staff are taking the PITC ten hour (5 classes) training.
Review files and have them updated with the necessary corrections as soon as possible. Please complete the record check evaluation immediately.
Child files were read and were incomplete - files were missing complete emergency contact information for the doctor and the dentist, physicals need to have a date on them. Registration needs to completed annually. Jackie ran out of registration forms and was using one that doesn't have the required emergency contact information for the dentist. Review all child files and have them updated with the required information immediately.
The staff and child file form that states what is needed in the files and the timelines has been given to Jackie several times.
The school age children aren't required to have physicals, you can use the annual statement of health form signed by the parent - this has been reviewed with Jackie several times.
Jackie said she doesn't have time to to her administrative duties. Incomplete staff and child files have been a repeat violation for several years. Can you explore other options for having the staff and child files kept up to date with the requirements. Would it be a possibility to delegate these functions to another staff?
We also discussed different options for ensuring registration packets are complete - Review the packet with the parent when it is received to make sure everything in completed correctly, having a dedicated time when the annual registration packets are received to make sure everything is completed correctly.

I asked Jackie to review the Care Centers and Preschools Licensing Standards and Procedures Handbook and she said she didn't have one. I know your center has had one in the past. I emailed the link to make a copy of the current handbook to the center and Jackie on 8-23-2023. It is vital that you make a copy of the handbook, and directors and on-site supervisor need to read the handbook as they need to know the policies and procedures.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Staff are proud of the center and the care they provide. Staff are helpful during during my licensing visits.
Jackie has worked at the center for 40 years, Angie has worked at the center for over thirteen year.
Staff have excellent interactions with the children.
Jackie and Bob have received services from Child Care Resource and Referral in the past.

The center received the Stabilization Grant - Bob reported that construction will begin in mid September 2023. Mother Goose site II will be getting new tables and chairs, new rugs, new kitchen counters, the bathrooms will be remodeled and the rooms will be painted. They will look at doing the flooring. Mother Goose site III will be installing new carpet in the basement and mud jacking the side walk.

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

109.9(1)a: All files contain statement signed by staff indicating whether they have a criminal conviction or founded child/dependent adult abuse.
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.

I couldn't locate one staff persons national record check and one staff persons record check process needed an evaluation. The record check directions were emailed to the center and to Jackie on 8-23-2023. Please follow the instruction for the record check evaluation and have this completed immediately. For those who need record checks please complete them immediately.

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
I couldn't locate mandatory reporter training for Bob. Make sure all staff have current mandatory reporter training
Staff are in need of universal precautions training.

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.
Child files were read and were incomplete - files were missing complete emergency contact information for the doctor and the dentist, physicals need to have a date on them. Registration needs to completed annually. Jackie ran out of registration forms and was using one that doesn't have the required emergency contact information for the dentist. Review all child files and have them updated with the required information immediately.

109.9(2)b: 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.
Information lacking: Child files were missing emergency medical contact information. Please review all files and have them updated with the required information. The name of the doctor, dentist and phone numbers are required.

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Some files were missing a current physical and a couple needed a date on the physical.

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.
There continues to be confusion about what needs sanitized and what needs disinfected, I reviewed with Jackie what the difference is. Sanitizing is for food surface areas, tables, hard surface toys etc., disinfecting is for the diaper changing stations. The bleach/water bottles for sanitizing and disinfecting must be mixed correctly and mixed daily. Please use the three step bottle procedure for sanitizing and disinfecting - 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. If you are using bleach/water make sure the bleach is EPA approved and you must follow the directions on your specific bottle of bleach/website.
Incorrect sanitizing and disinfecting has been a violation every year since 2019. Jackie and staff have been trained on sanitizing and disinfecting several times and have been referred to their specific bottle of bleach for proper mixing instructions. It is very concerning that this continues to be a violation since 2019.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
The center didn't have lesson plans. Tori will prepare the lesson plans when school starts. Lesson plans/activities are needed year round.

109.12(5)e: The provider shall follow safe sleep practices recommended by AAP for infants under one year of age:Infants shall always be placed on their back for sleep.Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet that meets Consumer Product Safety Commission federal standards.Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface. No child will be allowed to sleep in any items not designed for sleeping but not limited to, an infant seat, car seat, swing, bouncy seat.No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.No co-sleeping shall be allowed.Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound.If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required.
One infant had a blanket in the crib, please review safe sleep practices as nothing can be in the crib with the infant.

Please send me an email by September 29th, 2023 letting me know how the items listed above have been corrected.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 10-1-2023 to 10-1-2025.

I emailed the link to make a copy of the current handbook to the center and Jackie on 8-23-2023. It is vital that you make a copy of the handbook, and directors and on-site supervisor need to read the handbook as they need to know the policies and procedures.

Please send me an email by September 29th, 2023 letting me know how the noncompliance items have been corrected.

A referral to Child Care Resource and Referral will be made for consultation and training on the following topics - sanitizing and disinfecting procedures, review of staff files requirements i.e. record checks, training. Review of child files - CACFP, annual registration, current physicals, emergency medical contact information for doctor/dentist, lesson plans/activities, licensing policies and procedures.

*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.