Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Happy Hollow Preschool & Childcare-Southwest

Provider No.: 51189

Address: 400 3rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52404

County: Linn

Director's Name: Haley Mussman

On-Site Supervisor: Angela "Angie" Clifton, Taylor Brewer, Diane Prenosil

Phone Number: 3195400410

E-Mail: haleymussmann@gmail.com, HappyHollow18@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 09/01/2026

Licensing Period: 10/01/2026 to 10/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/28/2026

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	36	12	23	5	76
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Happy Hollow Preschool and Childcare - Southwest (PSCC-SW) commenced operations on 9/14/2020. Happy Hollow PSCC-SW operates year-round M-F 6:30am to 5:30pm. Total enrolled and attending children were reported to be 79 on 9/1/2026.

Original owner and director of Happy Hollow PSCC is Haley Mussman. Ms. Mussman has a MS degree in early childhood studies, has a BA degree in early/elementary education, has experience working with children, and participates in professional development. On-site supervisor (Assistant Director) is Angela "Angie" Clifton. Ms. Clifton has an AA degree in business management, has experience working with children, and participates in professional development. On-site supervisor (Facility Manager) Taylor Brewer and on-site supervisor (lead teacher) Diane Prenosil have experience working with children and participate in professional development.

On 9/1/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in age defined classrooms. There are restrooms and handwashing sinks to accommodate capacity. The program has access to an outdoor play area. There is an on-site kitchen in which all foods are prepared. On 9/1/2026, activities observed included infant cares and various play experiences. Area of study on 9/1/2026 was "Back to School". Curriculum on the day of this monitoring visit was observed to allow for a variety of play experiences that piqued child interest as well as encouraged social emotional growth, innovation and child choice. During the monitoring visit, routine transitions were observed to go smoothly and included clean-up procedures, restroom/drink breaks and indoor-outdoor movements. On 9/1/2026, staff were observed to be in ratio and actively engaged with the children providing encouragement and positive redirection when needed. Children appeared comfortable with staff and to be enjoying the day.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The mission of Happy Hollow PSCC - SW is "...based on the belief that children learn best in a program that provides developmentally appropriate educational experiences...Our goal is to provide a safe, loving and stimulating environment from the time you walk in the door until the time you leave..."

Happy Hollow PSCC - SW sponsors a private social media page for families and staff.

Owner Ms. Mussman is a seasoned local entrepreneur celebrating her 6th year of business during 2026. The program's management team (e.g. Ms. Mussman, Ms. Clifton, Taylor Brewer, Diane Prenosil) is invested in the community and continues to have a system of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed and maintained in a secure manner. The management team remains knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. Management talked about their new employee orientation policies and practices which include paring seasoned staff with newly hired staff for mentoring. Upon entering the facility, a clever summer-themed staff "hello" display was observed. Many staff throughout the classrooms are seasoned and reported celebrating 6 years and 5 years of employment with Happy Hollow. On the day of this monitoring visit, management acknowledged having a really good fun team of staff who are quick to celebrate joys, share ideas, collaborate when it comes to problem-solving and support one another through challenges both inside and outside of work.

On 9/1/2026, Happy Hollow PSCC-SW was again found to be maintaining required postings, maintaining a family-staff program information area, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Curriculum includes learning through play and teacher-inspired ideas. Curriculum also incorporates added enrichments of on-site guest speakers, themed days, and seasonal-holiday parties.

As of 9/1/2026, Happy Hollow PSCC - SW continues to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily child contact, hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On the day of this monitoring visit, staff and management were able to verbalize how they help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following their current policies and procedures as well as maintaining checklists for cleaning and maintenance. On 9/1/2026, management and staff discussed how they have continued support from CCR&R, nurse consultant, the church-building owner as to daily building and grounds conditions and repairs.

Happy Hollow PSCC - SW has emergency plans, policies, and procedures. This childcare successfully navigated through the 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages, air quality alerts (2023, 2025, 2026), technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage) and 2026 nationwide cyclosporiasis outbreak.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

None noted.

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

Not applicable.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Increase school-age materials (e.g. games, books, imaginative play items, wheeled cart for mobile storage-space transition).

Increase large gross motor materials (e.g. riding toys, balls, low to ground balancing items). Licensing is aware the current shredded rubber cushion surfacing stains children's clothing and shoes as well as program materials. The current shredded rubber cushion surfacing also becomes very hot to the touch on days with much sunlight. Licensing supports replacing the cushion surfacing with a more child friendly cushion surfacing as funding becomes available.

The diaper station in the older infant/toddler room does not fit all the children served in this classroom. Please obtain a large diaper station to accommodate older infant height and weight. The 2yo diapering station that is showing ware and in need of replacement. Please continue to note all diapering surfaces shall be non-porous to ensure proper cleaning and

disinfecting between each diaper change. Wood surface and soft pads are porous and not sanitary for diapering.

Licensing supports replacing the older infant/toddler room table that has built-in bucket seats with tables and chairs that are more developmentally and physically appropriate for this age group.

To help with cleaning and sanitizing, please consider installing a dishwasher in the young infant room.

The program's kitchen space is shared with the church. The childcare shall obtain their own pots and pans, additional food storage shelves, milk refrigerator and freezer space.

To help with the items noted in this report, please connect with CCR&R and apply for the "Growing Iowa" fund (https://www.iowaccrr.org/child-care-providers/iowa-child-care-funding-opportunities/) designed to support childcare in Iowa.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
Licensing discussed with management oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) understand expectations, 2) manage frustrations, and 3) monitor performance. Management discussed how they are present in the center talking with staff, step into rooms with elevated noise levels, encourage staff to come to management with child behavior concerns, ensure staff have breaks, schedule extra staff whenever possible, establish child specific behavior plans when needed, complete written incident reports, send children and/or staff home when needed, and exercise their required polices for enrollment and disenrollment of children as needed. Licensing and management also talked about resources available through the CCR&R behavioral specialist position and our CCNC as well as the local Tanager Place Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) program.

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

Date: 09/30/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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**.