

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

Name of Center: Project Youth **Enrollment:** 135 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51498

Street: 2707 Discovery Dr **City:** Rock Valley **Iowa Zip** 51247 **County:** Sioux

Mailing Address: 2707 Discovery DR, Rock Valley, IA, 51247

Director's Name: Danika Lynn **Phone Number:** 712-451-6939

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jill Meinerts **E-Mail:** projectyouth@premieronline.net

Date(s) of Visit: 06-12-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** NA

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-12-2023

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

Date Inspected: 06-10-2021

Comments : Danika Lynn transitioned to become director in January 2023 as Julie Vande Kamp resigned. Julie remained mentoring Danika for a couple of months.

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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	54	44	57	28	183
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 07-01-2023 to 07-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew

Date: 06-13-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A visit was made to the new Project Youth Daycare Center on 06-12-23 and spoke with new center director Danika Lynn as Julie Vande Kamp. had resigned. Danika has her para educator degree and has worked at the center for several years. Danika became director in January 2023.

Project Youth was a combination of three previous centers combining as one center; Project Youth Generations, Project Youth -G2, and Jungle Kids. The center built a new center which opened on 07-19-21 and houses a headstart classroom which has it's own license. The center's hours are 6:30am to 6:00pm Monday thru Friday. The program is located in a free standing building which the city of Rock Valley and the area community helps to support the new center. The center is operated as a non-profit program overseen by a board of directors. The center serves infants to school age(children age out at age 8). There are 8 rooms, infant to 6 months, 6 months to age 1, 1 year old room, 2 year old room, 2/3 year old room, 3 year old room, 4/5 year old room and school age room. The program in August 2023 will combine the 2 year old room with the 2/3 year old room and add a 4 year old room.

There are 135 children enrolled in the program. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in following all guidelines put forth by DHS regarding the corona-virus and doing everything they can to support their staff and families. The center also continues in cleaning toys daily that children use as well as alot of children washing their hands.

Each room was observed to have a good variety of toys that were appropriate to the ages of the children present. Children have access to bathrooms. The center has the following areas throughout the room for the children to explore and learn: toys, puzzles, books, dress up, legos and kitchen.

The infant room has two rooms, 6 weeks to 6 months(non-mobile room) and 6 month to 1 year(mobile room). Good food storage and handling practices were observed. The center uses a procare app to communicate with parents. They do their daily sheets on procare to let parents know when babies are fed, diaper changed, as well as how their baby is doing throughout the day.

Center health & Safety

Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. Center follows proper guidelines for administering medication, however, currently have no child on any medications. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. Observed hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Tornado drills were complete. Fire drills were complete. Annual heating inspection was complete. Radon is completed and with in normal range. Good sanitary procedures are followed. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Good health and safety policies/procedures are in place. The center has a van for transporting kids, however, they also will use the schools bus if van is in the shop. The program do field trips to the swimming pool on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays weather permitting.

Kitchen is designed as a commercial kitchen. Breakfast, snacks, and lunch are prepared onsite. Menus are rotated every 6 weeks. The program is on the food program and follows CAFPC guidelines.

Center Playground is brand new as of 2021 and has rubber mulch and turf for surfacing. It has climbing equipment. There are two playgrounds next to each other. A playground for toddlers and a separate playground for 3 and up. Monthly playground inspections completed. The toddler playground recently added a shade structure.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips

The center does not transport children other than for field trips. The program does have a van which was in the shop due to a broken window, therefore they will use the local school bus. They go on summer field trips for the school age children mainly in the summer to the local swimming pool 3x week. Information on the van was documented.

Goals of the center is to obtain a level 2 for IQ4K, have all staff complete the passport training for IQ4K, and add cameras throughout the building (which is set to be installed sometime in June or July 2023).

Strengths of the center: They have good staff who work as a team. The center has a good relationship with their parents and the community they serve. The program provides quality childcare.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center uses Procare for communicating with parents, billings, and parents signing their child in and out.

The program does monthly staff meetings.

Children's toys are at their level and accessible.

Center displays children's art work in the rooms.

Center has upgraded the rooms by painting all of them in bright colors.

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

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.

Number not in compliance for dental: 3

Information lacking: Information was missing

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the new director work with CCRR for support and guidance.

Program will email consultant by 07-29-23 confirming that items that fall below standards has been corrected.

A full license is recommended at this time.

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

*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.