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

Name of Center: Yellow Brick Road ECDC - Polk City **Enrollment:** 142 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51997

Street: 415 W Bridge RD **City:** Polk City Iowa **Zip** 50226 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 756 9th ST, Des Moines, IA, 50309

Director's Name: Dee Yates **Phone Number:** 515-984-6147

On-Site Supervisor(s): Bobbie Cowden **E-Mail:** kylie.schrader@ybrecdc.org
Dee.Yates@ybrecdc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-28-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-05-2025

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

Date Inspected: 01-07-2025

Comments : Fire inspections are due at least every three years. Completed by DIAL-Seth Jones

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	16	28	74	46	164
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2025 to 04-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 03-31-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full licensing visit was competed 3-28-25; Director Dee Yates and Assistant Director Bobbie Cowden were present during aspects of the visit (occurred when transportation and lunch preparation was taking place).

Yellow Brick Road purchased this center; owners are Jessica Johnsen and Kylie Schrader. Jessica and Kylie own centers in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota. They are not a corporation.

This building opened in Dec. 2006 as a childcare center. Jamie Ballentine is the regional director. Dee Yates is the director for this center. Bobbi Cowden is the on-site supervisor, staring in this position in December of 2018. Both meet criteria for positions.

The center provides care to infants up to school age children; up to around twelve years of age. The center hours are from 6:00AM to 6:00PM.

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.

Room observations/activities: The center uses Funny Daffer; Funny Daffer is a curriculum designed by Yellow Brick Road and assists in lesson planning and ideas. Kangaroo Time is the application used to communicate with parents. The centers rooms have a variety of age/developmentally appropriate play centers and activities. The classrooms are arranged nicely and kept clean. Staff are in ratio and kept a good structure. The children appeared content and were observed to be readily interacted with their teachers. The center offers ready access to restrooms. Handwashing posters were hung and the children were redirected by staff to ensure proper handwashing technique.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen and dedicated kitchen staff at this center. Menus were posted and appear in line with CACFP guidelines. The menu is crafted by the director and is in a 6-week rotation. The children eat cafeteria style while staff are present and continue to interact. The kitchen was clean and nicely organized.

Health and Safety: Medication is kept in a secure area in the kitchen, lockbox. . First Aid kits are available. Tornado and Fire emergency exit plans were posted along with the diagram. Radon was tested in May 2022, and results were all under 4.0, so this is not due again for five years. There is scheduled inspection/maintenance of the HVAC system in the Spring and Fall. There is a carbon monoxide detector on site.

Playground: The playground area is separated by ages and enclosed by chain link fencing. Safety surfacing is rubber chips and other surfacing is cement or grass. There is play structure equipment available.

Transportation: The center has buses to assist in transportation, any maintenance or repairs are completed by a local mechanic.

Administrative Review: Posting for Mandatory reporter, consultant contact, and license were hung. Tornado/Fire exit plans and diagrams are located throughout the center. Consultant Contact information was posted. Non-smoking signs were also posted. Eight child files were reviewed with one missing doctor/dentist information and several needing to provide updated physical forms. Five staff files were reviewed; one staff needing to update mandatory reporter training and one physical that is complete, however was completed after hire and is required prior to hire.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The were observed working well together as a team to meet the classroom needs.

The center has a Facebook page and a Website.

The Director has been with this center for a number of years and brings with her expertise and experience.

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

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
Number not in compliance: 1

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.
Number not in compliance: 1

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.

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 medical: 1
Number not in compliance for dental: 1

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.
Number not in compliance: 5

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is now required every five years if testing is under the 4.0 cutoff. The last radon test was completed in May of 2022 and all rooms fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The menus reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines.

Discussion took place during the visit to complete the fingerprints (National checks) that were submitted however lacked results

Discussion took place that the wax warmer meant as an air freshener will be removed as per licensing standards.

*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.