

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

Name of Center: Sac County Head Start **Enrollment:** 19 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 34173

Street: 1408 Robbins St **City:** Sac City **Iowa** **Zip** 50583 **County:** Sac

Mailing Address: PO Box 427, Carroll, IA, 51401

Director's Name: Tonya Weber **Phone Number:** 712-662-6294

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kimberly Peterson **E-Mail:** tweber@newopp.org

Date(s) of Visit: 02-13-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** NA

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

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

Date Inspected: 03-23-2020

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: Accredited X NAEYC NSACA Other NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS: Year-round School-Year Summer Only

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 2

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 03-01-2023 to 03-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury

Date: 02-16-2023

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An announced annual visit was made to the Sac County Head Start program on 02-13-23 where I met with lead teacher Kimberly Peterson. Kimberly became the lead teacher at the start of the 2018-2019 school year. and has a Bachelor degree in early education. Mary Janssen is the assistant teacher and she has also been with the program for the past several years. The program is located in a single classroom in the Kid's World Daycare Center in Sac City. While the program does share some facilities with the daycare it is operated independently and is overseen by a separate board of directors. The program does have a separate entrance which is locked once the program begins operation for the day. The program provides preschool programming only serving children that are 4 years of age. There are currently 19 children enrolled in the program. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The layout and design of the room remains the same as in prior reports. The classroom has two entrances with an exterior entrance, and an interior entrance that opens directly to the child care center. All entry/exit doors opened easily and freely, and were clear of obstruction. The space was observed to be clean with no immediate safety concerns noted due to maintenance or design. Restrooms and sinks are accessed directly from the classroom and additional sinks are located in the classroom space that allow for hand washing, and food preparation/drinking water. Windows along the exterior walls provide ample natural light, a view of the outdoors, and can be opened for ventilation.

The room is divided into a variety of activity centers through the use of low shelves, furniture, and play structures. Kimberly does change the arrangement of the room each year to provide a new look for returning children. The current arrangement is such that there were no blind areas, and provided the children with ample room to move and play. Each center was observed to have good supply of toys and materials for the children to choose from that were clean, in good repair, and appropriate to the ages of the children present. Activity centers include arts/crafts, dramatic play, library, group learning, and a Smart Board media center which can be used as a chalk board, or access internet content related to the planned curriculum. A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum is posted with the identified theme of Valentines. Good interactions were observed with the teachers being actively engaged with the children attending to their needs, and doing activities related to the planned curriculum. The center continues to make strong use of positive behavior support systems to reduce the occurrence of negative behaviors. This included the use of transitional activities, giving the children jobs to provide a sense of belonging and accomplishment, redirection, and positive recognition.

Good health and safety practices were observed. As noted the center does give the children jobs to assist including helping to wipe tables but the teachers direct the children to other areas of the classroom before using chemical cleaners. Chemical cleaners, personal items, and other items that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not accessible. The center did not have any children that are currently taking any medications or which have any diagnosed allergies. The center first aid kit is located in an area where it is readily available but not accessible to the children. A good supply of items necessary to address most common first aid needs was present.

Meals are contracted from the daycare and are served in the classroom family style. A small refrigerator is maintained in the classroom and is used to store small amounts of milk and other items. A thermometer was present to ensure good cold holding temperatures are maintained. Good food storage and handling practices were observed. The teachers do sit with

the children when eating meals to provide supervision and model good eating habits.

The program makes use of the daycare playground facilities but schedules use for times that are separate from the daycare children. While the Head Start teachers do inspect the playground it is the responsibility of the daycare center to maintain the playground and any issues identified are addressed in the licensing evaluation for the daycare. The Head Start program addresses any identified issues by limiting the children from using those aspects of the playground.

All required notices were posted in an area readily accessible to parents and visitors. All staff files were reviewed and found to contain all required documentation and certificates with the exception of 1 which did not have a copy of the Iowa SING background check. It was also noted that the SING check for another employee was present but the second page with the information regarding the date the record check was completed was missing. All child files were reviewed and found to be in full compliance. Record of fire and tornado drills were available and current. All other inspection logs and certificates are maintained by the daycare and again are reviewed during the licensing visit for that program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The teachers continue an excellent job of implementing a positive approach to behavior management. As an example when addressing running behavior with the children Kimberly would tell them, "flip the switch on your shoes from run to walk". This approach engages the children in a manner that identifies the desired behavior without engaging in a negative reflection of the current behavior. It also engaged the children in a manner that they viewed as fun which improved compliance.

The program also seeks to implement best practice recommendations through accreditation by NAEYC.

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

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.
Number not in compliance: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the non-licensing 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.