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

Name of Center: Gan Shalom **Enrollment:** 34 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 41870

Street: 33158 Ute Avenue **City:** Waukee Iowa **Zip** 50263 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 33158 Ute Avenue, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Juli Margolin and Raizel Small (interim directors) **Phone Number:** 515-987-0899

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lisa Nelson and Rhonda Leslie **E-Mail:** juli@jewishdesmoines.org, raizel@jewishdesmoines.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-18-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 11-09-2021

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

Date Inspected: 09-08-2022

Comments : Waukee Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years per licensing regulations. The program had a few items to correct and have done so and will be submitting these to the Fire Marshal.

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA X Other NA

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	13	37	0	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-01-2022 to 01-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-18-2022

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 11/18/22. The directors, their supervisor, and the on-site supervisors were all present for at least portions of this visit.

All areas of the program were observed with the exception of the playground which could not be observed up close due to weather and snow cover. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation (from inside and also monthly playground inspections observed), field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Gan Shalom is a child care center that was given permission to open under HHH (formerly known as DHS) supervision on 9/2/13. The center serves children two years in age through preschool age (five years old). There is a preschool component to the center and then all-day care Monday through Friday, and year-round. Children do not have to be of the Jewish faith to enroll at the center. The center utilizes the Creative Learning Curriculum Gold Standards and there is also a Jewish and Hebrew learning curriculum that are also incorporated into lesson planning.

Gan Shalom is overseen by a Board of Directors. The interim directors of the center are currently Juli Margolin and Raizel Small. Juli and Raizel were previously on-site supervisors. Juli has a Masters degree in Education and has many years of experience working in child care including this program. Raizel has a Bachelors degree and also many years of experience working in child care. Lisa Nelson and Rhonda Leslie are the on-site supervisors. Both individuals meet the qualifications for on-site supervisors.

There are four classrooms. The two year old room has a capacity of 13 children. The three year old classroom has a capacity of 12 children. The three/four year old classroom has a capacity of 15 children. The four/five year old classroom has a capacity of 10 children. There are other classrooms that are used sparingly (library, yoga/musical classroom, downstairs open area).

During the visit, children were observed washing their hands, engaged in free-choice play at different learning stations set up in classrooms, and also engaged in a large-group music activity facilitated by staff.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center was again very clean and well organized. A professional company comes in several times a year to do a professional deep clean of the classrooms and common areas. Another professional company cleans the building daily.

A radon mitigation system is in place.

There is a large, indoor gym area for children to play when weather does not permit outdoor play. There is also a library

that the program has access to.

All lead teachers have their degrees.

The center has their own website where additional information regarding the center, (their teachings, vision, programs, etc.) can be found.

Two parent teacher conferences are held each year and weekly newsletters/emails are sent to parents. There is also an online app (SeeSaw and/or Remind) for communication between parents and staff.

There is a large storage closet for classroom toys, equipment, etc.

The center has a garden on their playground for children to grow their own fruits/vegetables.

There is a secure entrance into the building.

The center has good community partnerships (i.e. Des Moines Symphony). Agencies/professionals also come in to teach yoga, music, and other things to children.

Good staff-child interactions and lesson planning was observed and overheard. Children were highly engaged listening and interacting with their teachers.

The directors believe all staff work well together and are a close-knit group. There is also support from other individuals working within the building/campus.

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

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment.
For school-age programs in the child's school, all files include a statement signed by the parent that the immunization information is available in the school file.
Number not in compliance: 1 child did not have a current physical on file. THE CENTER WAS WORKING ON GETTING THIS UPDATED PHYSICAL DOCUMENTATION FORM FROM THE PARENT AT THE TIME THIS REPORT WAS SUBMITTED.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
October 2022 tornado drills were not documented. All other monthly fire and tornado drills were documented.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is due every two years and was last tested 9/7/22 - 9/9/22. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. A radon mitigation system was also installed in 2017.

The annual furnace inspection was completed on 6/20/22.

As previously noted, the center provides the AM and PM snacks. Parents are responsible for providing lunches for their child.

The center goes on field trips and they take a center van. The center will also bring different agencies into the building for presentations for the children.

As stated last year, this consultant's more updated posting should replace the old version.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit.

It is recommended the Emergency Preparedness kit be stored in a suitcase on wheels so it is more mobile if ever needed.

*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.