Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: ASAC Heart Of Iowa Child Care Center

Provider No.: 6788

Address: 4050 Bowling ST SW, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52404

County: Linn

Director's Name: Amanda Meggenberg

On-Site Supervisor: Amanda Meggenberg

Phone Number: 3198621050

E-Mail: ameggenberg@asac.us

HHS Visit Date: 07/14/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2026 to 09/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/11/2023

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	8:00 AM to 7:30 PM		
Tuesday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Wednesday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Thursday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Friday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	16	10	16	24	66
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

ASAC Heart of Iowa is one of the "oldest, largest, and most comprehensive substance abuse prevention and treatment agencies in the state of Iowa". Specifically, ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center became licensed in 2002. ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center provides care to children age infant through school-age while their mothers are receiving inpatient substance abuse treatment. The program does have an on-site residential treatment component.

ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center combined director and on-site supervisor (OSS) is Amanda Meggenberg. Ms. Meggenberg has been in this role since July of 2020. Ms. Meggenberg has a BA degree in psychology and criminal justice, has experience working with children and participates in professional development.

On 7/14/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in age-defined rooms. The program has access to restrooms with handwashing sinks to accommodate capacity. This childcare has outdoor play areas. All foods offered to the children are stored and prepared in the on-site kitchen which is inspected by the health department. Since the last review, some room areas were noted as having been re-arranged. On 7/14/2026, activities observed included primarily nap time rituals and routines. Staff were observed to be in ratio, providing a nurturing quiet rest environment and engaged in a variety of childcare tasks (e.g. planning, organizing, cleaning).

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The Heart of Iowa program "...is committed to providing services in a warm and welcoming patient-centered environment to help women overcome barriers and stabilize families. Our ultimate goal is to help families become healthy and resilient as they transition back to their homes...." ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center serves an important role in that mission.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center maintains the following website for families and the community http://www.asac.us/treatment/heart-iowa/.

As of 7/14/2026, ownership and management of this program has remained consistent. Ms. Meggenberg has been the director of this program for 6 years and has also assisted with some duties related to facility compliance and apartment management. The management team (e.g. Ms. Meggenberg, support services, ASAC administration, board) has systems of organization to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a confidential manner. The management team is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center retains staff. Staff throughout the classrooms reported celebrating 26 years and 6 years of employment with this program. Staff discussed continuing to have a strong willingness to not only help the children but also the families move forward.

On 7/14/2026, ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center was found to be maintaining most required posting, maintaining a parent-staff-program information area, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. Curriculum continues to support children learning through play. Communication between children and staff is done verbally and with picture cues. School-age summer 2025 field trips include local parks and splash pads. On-site events historically include an annual cook-out.

As of 7/14/2026, ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center continues to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. On the day of this monitoring visit, staff discussed 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. Staff report having continued supports from the program's board, ASAC custodial persons, ASAC maintenance team, and ASAC administration persons as to daily building and grounds conditions and repairs.

ASAC Heart of Iowa Child Care Center has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. This program has successfully navigated through flooding events (2008 historic Linn County flood), relocation situations, 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 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

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

Not applicable.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The upper-level room's plaster ceiling is again displaying signs of cracking and particles chipping off falling onto child items below. This needs to be permanently remedied.

Outdoor play area was observed to have much weed-thistle-grass overgrowth. Increase weed-thistle-grass control measures to help prevent possible skin irritations and decrease insects, vermin, etc.

Increase areas of shade on the older outdoor play area.

Install a hand-washing sink to the preschool-age room. This will help with sanitation and repeated trips to the public restrooms located in the front entrance of the building.

Licensing continues to request all administrative documents required for childcare licensing be maintained on-site in their entirety (e.g. staff file documents, training certificates).

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

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

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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-staff discussed having a unique program which allows for lower enrollment at times and maintains a low staff-child ratio. Management-staff also talked about how they are present in the center talking with staff, holding regular staff meetings, offering professional development to staff, ensuring staff have breaks, establishing child behavior plans, communicating with families, completing incident reports and exercising required polices for enrollment and discharge of children as needed.

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

Date: 08/06/2026

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**.