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

Name of Center: Seeds Of Faith Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 82 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28319

Street: 10395 University Ave **City:** Clive Iowa **Zip** 50325 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 10395 University Ave, Clive, IA, 50325

Director's Name: Jennifer Mauro/Christina Rostermundt **Phone Number:** 515-689-8334

On-Site Supervisor(s): Janet Mack/Christine Kennedy **E-Mail:** seedsoffaith@faithlc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-07-2024

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:** 03-07-2024

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

Date Inspected: 08-30-2023

Comments : fire inspections required at least every three years; Johnston FD

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) X 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			53		53
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 5

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2024 to 05-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 06-08-2024

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 completed May j7/2024. Jennifer, co-director, was present throughout the visit.

Seeds of Faith Early Learning Center has been in operation since 2001. The preschool is located within the Faith Lutheran Church. There is a secured entrance to the preschool area. Jennifer Mauro is the Director, starting in this position in March of 2020. Jennifer has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and over 10 years of experience teaching in a preschool setting. Christina Rostermundt is a co-director and Janet Mack and Christine Kennedy serve as the on-site supervisors. All have Bachelor's degrees in education and several years experience in a preschool setting. They meet qualifications for these roles.

This program operates during the school year only; offering a variety of session times/days.

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 preschool has a Board of Directors.

Room observations/Activities: The preschool uses the Creative Curriculum and utilizes three primary rooms along with an outdoor playground a large motor play room available when needed. The classrooms offered a variety of age/developmentally appropriate play centers/toys. The staff maintained good structure in the rooms and were responsive/nurturing with the children. Handwashing signs were posted.

Nutrition Practices: This program runs for a short time and offers snack; that are eaten family style. The program does not utilize a kitchen on a regular basis.

Health/Safety: Medications are stored securely with first aid kits in the rooms. Tornado/fire diagrams were posted. Drills were documented to have been completed as required, monthly. Radon was tested 9/22/23, with all levels testing below 4.0. HVAC is managed by the church in which this program is housed. There is a carbon monoxide detector in the hallway. This center is very clean and very organized.

Playground: Safety checks are documented completed. The playground is enclosed with chain link; having natural shade with play equipment, safety surfacing is rubber chips/ and artificial turf. The playground appears in good repair.

Transportation/Field Trips: NA

Administrative review: Fliers for information on mandatory reporter, handbook. consultant contact, license, and non-smoking signs are posted. Eight child files were reviewed and contained all the required information; Four employee files were reviewed; one missing a employee, volunteer, substitute statement and one missing Essentials training documentation.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center is working to apply for IQ4K (quality rating) level 4.

All of the teachers have a Bachelor's degree and the lead teachers are all certified in early childhood education. Two lead teachers have a Master's degree. The teachers work well together and are a strong team and have been with this center for an extended period of time.

The teachers have built in planning every week and once a month there is a teacher collaboration. The teachers also incorporate an area of study every school year.

The preschool has a community and family atmosphere. The teachers know the children and the families well and communicate well with the families.

The preschool offers family events, and the preschool will have parties and events for the children. The center has a Spring Family Event, and will have a Mother's Day Tea Party at the center.

The preschool has a website and a Facebook page. A monthly newsletter is sent to the families. A private Facebook page was started last year for each classroom to post pictures and updates.

The directors and on-site supervisors are a strong team and work well together, providing strong leadership.

The program has strong enrollment and has high enrollment for next school year.

The program put in a new playground, with new turf and equipment, a new sand box and new flower beds.

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

109.9(1)a: All files contain statement signed by staff indicating whether they have a criminal conviction or founded child/dependent adult abuse.
Number not in compliance: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is now due every five years if testing is under the 4.0 cutoff. The last radon test was completed on 9/22/23 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

Staff in all classrooms were observed to be actively leading a group activity and maintained good structure in the rooms. Staff worked well together to ensure the program runs smoothly.

*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.