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

Name of Center: Iowa's Child Early Learning Community **Enrollment:** 230 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50547

Street: 135 E Douglas Ave **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50313 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 135 E Douglas Ave, Des Moines, IA, 50313

Director's Name: Tracey Bolin **Phone Number:** 515-282-1729

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** iowaschildearlylearning@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-27-2023

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:** 03-27-2023

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

Date Inspected: 03-06-2023

Comments : Des Moines Fire Marshal. Licensing requires these inspections be done at least every three years. The city of Des Moines typically do these inspections annually.

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 X 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	20	70	70	120	280
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2023 to 05-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 04-28-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 4/27/23. The director was present throughout the visit as was staff member, Blaine Bolin.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Iowa's Child Early Learning Community was given permission to open on 4/29/19. This program was formerly known as Bear Basics under the previous ownership. As of 4/29/19, the center is under a new name and new ownership. The center serves children roughly six weeks in age to 12 years in age and they use the Creative Learning Curriculum and Big Day Learning Curriculum with lesson planning. The center is open year-round, Monday - Friday, 5:30am - 10:00pm and then again on Saturdays from 6:00am - 6:00pm.

This is a family owned business. The director of the center is Tracey Bolin. Tracey has over 20 years' worth of experience working in child care. There is not currently an on-site supervisor, but it is recommended based on the size and hours of operation, one be explored.

During the visit, children in the classrooms were in a variety of activities which included napping in cribs, being held by staff, washing hands, engaged in free-choice play at different learning stations set up in classrooms, having diapers changed, and doing an art project facilitated by staff.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

A staff recognition program is in place and staff have their own, personal break room which they didn't always have in the past.

There once again has been several renovations made throughout the center which includes but is not limited to new paint, new flooring, new walls, new classroom, new restrooms, new sinks, etc.

The center has been under a new name and new management now for four years roughly.

There is secure/uniform entrance/exit at the center. The center is also using the Pro-Care system for parents to sign children into/out of the center. Kid Reports are used for daily sheets.

The center has been working regularly with CCR&R and their nurse consultant.

The center is a QRS Level 3. QRS is a voluntary program based on best practice (name will soon be IQ4K). The center is preparing for IQ4K.

The center participates in CACFP

There is a continued focus/theme on respect, responsibility, safe, and kind.

The center works in collaboration with AEA, mobile dentist, mobile vision and health screenings, therapists, and other outside agencies.

The center provides alternative hours of care and are one of the few centers in the Des Moines Metro that has extended hours.

The center offers staff health insurance.

The director has her NAC.

The DOT Vehicle Enforcement Agency inspects the center vehicles annually.

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

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
Information lacking: All children enrolled need to have listed a doctor and a dentist. The name, address, and phone number should be listed. Two files were missing phone numbers. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

109.9(2)f: All files contain parent authorization for attendance at center-sponsored field trips and non-center activities. If an inclusive authorization form for activities is used, a copy is kept on file at the center.
Number not in compliance with center-sponsored trips: 1
Number not in compliance with non-center activities:: 0

109.10(9): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are: In the center. In the outdoor play area. On field trips.
The location of classroom first-aid kits were labeled, but the actual first-aid backpacks should also be labeled.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
1. Two tricycles need at least one new handlebar.
2. There were some dangling cords in the upstairs preschool classroom that need to be more securely fastened to walls and/or tucked behind other equipment.

109.12(4): Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.
One table in the cafeteria area was not cleaned and sanitized after use.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last completed in classrooms 2/25/23 - 2/27/23. Because radon levels came back below the 4.0 cutoff, radon testing can now move to being done at least every five years.

The annual furnace inspection on file was from 12/14/22.

I-Power was discussed. All staff will need to create I-Power profiles.

It is again recommended an on-site supervisor be explored based on the center's size and hours of operation.

Cribs and cots should be sanitized daily rather than weekly.

Hand washing signs are recommended for the school age classroom sink.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.