Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Corning Head Start

Provider No.: 28428

Address: 1012 10th St, Corning, IA, 50841

County: Adams

Director's Name: Stephanie Haffner

On-Site Supervisor: Chris Wirtz

Phone Number: 6413224601

E-Mail: shaffner@maturaia.org

HHS Visit Date: 10/27/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2025 to 09/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/11/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [ ] Licensing Visit
- [X] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 4

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

Health and Human Services

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday			
Tuesday		7:45 AM to 3:15 PM	
Wednesday		7:45 AM to 3:15 PM	
Thursday		7:45 AM to 3:15 PM	
Friday		7:45 AM to 3:15 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			21		21
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Corning Head Start on 10/27/26. The center is located in the Southwest Valley School. Southwest Valley School built a new building in 2025. Also located in the building is Southwest Valley Schools Early Childhood Center. Preschool services are provided Tuesday through Friday 7:45 AM to 11:15 AM and 11:45 AM to 3:15 PM. There are morning and afternoon sessions. Stephanie Haffner is the director and Chris Wirtz is the on-site supervisor. Chris has a K-6 Elementary Education Degree with four endorsements. Chris started working for Head Start in 2017 and moved to the Corning location in 2019. There are 19 children enrolled and 11 were present during my visit. I met with Chris Wirtz during my licensing visit.

Observation of room:
The center was in ratio. The room looked great and was arranged with fun activity centers. The equipment is rotated on a regular basis. The centers are rotated when they change studies, some rotate daily, and some stay year-round. The lesson plans looked great. The center uses Creative Curriculum Teaching Strategies Gold. The current study was building and ramps. The children were having fun participating in a variety of activities including centers, lunch, and circle time. The center provides a monthly newsletter and calendar for the families. The staff had excellent interactions with the children; they were positive and attentive to the children's needs. There are two home visits a year and two parent teacher conferences a year. The center is IQ4K level 4.

Nutrition:
The school provides breakfast and lunch. The center provides both morning and afternoon snacks. The center is on the federal food program. Menus were posted and also go home with the families at the beginning of the month.

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Health and safety:
Head Start is located in the Southwest Valley School. Since it is in a school, the Department of Education is responsible for radon testing. Child Care Licensing will no longer monitor radon testing. The center has all electric appliances. Monthly fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented. The center uses SaniDate for sanitizing and Oxiver TB for disinfecting. The first aid kit is properly stocked. There are monthly inspections to make sure it remains properly stocked. Staff follow proper medication procedures if a child is prescribed medication. There is a restroom located in the room.

Playground:
The center shares the playground space with Southwest Valley Schools Early Childhood Center. The playground has a climbing structure, slides, rock walls, Little Tykes playhouse, and riding toys. Poured in place fall surfacing is used. Monthly playground inspections are completed.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide daily transportation services. They will provide transportation for field trips. The Trolley provides transportation for some of the children that is paid for by the parents.

Administrative records:
Chris Wirtz's staff file was reviewed with director Stephanie Haffner on a previous date at the central office and was in excellent order. Three children's files were reviewed during my visit and were in excellent order. Staff meetings are held on a weekly to every other week basis. Head Start provides a variety of training for staff.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Corning Head Start is a wonderful resource for the community. Staff had excellent interactions with the children; they were positive and attentive to the children's needs. Chris identified the center's strengths as staff longevity, the routine is consistent and the children know the daily schedule, two home visits occur every year, and two parent teacher conferences are held every year. The center is IQ4K level 4.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended for 9/1/25 to 9/1/27.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Stephanie Haffner her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. MATURA Head Start has Professional Development that focuses on behavior management. They utilize a mental health consultant for both staff and children. All of the staff have PBIS training or take PBIS training after they start. There is a disabilities coordinator. They get AEA involved for children if they need additional help.

Date: 10/29/2026

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

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**.