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

Name of Center: Little Steps Daycare **Enrollment:** 24 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30097

Street: 206 South D ST **City:** Sergeant Bluff Iowa **Zip** 51054 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 206 South D ST, Sergeant Bluff, IA, 51054

Director's Name: Kelly Adams **Phone Number:** 712-943-8805

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kasha Conway **E-Mail:** adamskel@sblschools.com conwakay@sblschools.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-29-2023

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 09-15-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-09-2023

Comments :

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 Other X NA

Program Serves: X 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	4	5	27		36
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2023 to 12-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 12-07-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An licensing visit was made to Little Steps Daycare on 11-29-23. I met with the onsite supervisor Kasha Conway. I also met with director and principal of the school Kelly Adams. Ms Conway became the onsite supervisor for Little Steps Daycare in August 2022. Ms Conway has six years of experience at the Little Steps Childcare with the center and a vet tech degree. The programs capacity has changed due to the school age program being dropped by the school and the YMCA taking over the school age program. Beginning 08-21-23 capacity has changed from 176 to 33. The Little Steps will now serve children ages 6 weeks to preschool. The name of the program is just Little Steps Childcare. Hours of the program are Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 5:00pm. The program follows the school calendar and only provides care during the school year.

Little Steps Daycare is a daycare center that is located in the Sgt. Bluff Primary school. They utilize 2 rooms for the daycare. The center uses creative curriculum. Little Steps serves infants through preschool. The center is locked therefore staff must let you into the building. The program rearranged their infant room to be divided into two rooms. One part of the room is for infants 6 weeks to age 2 and the other area is for 2 year old. They separated the two's for part of the day from the preschool room. They will do parts of the day in the preschool room when their numbers are lower and children go to preschool. On Wednesdays there is no preschool so children are at the daycare.

There are 24 children enrolled enrolled in the childcare program. 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 center continues in following all guidelines put forth by DHS regarding the corona-virus and doing everything they can to support their staff and families. The center has been cleaning toys.

Center Nutrition Practices Observed
Refrigerators are clean. Good food storage practices were observed. The center participates in the federal food program. The kitchen is not accessible to the children. The center provides breakfast and snacks for the child care and lunch is provided by Aggies Restaurant. Menus were posted. The school provides breakfast and the center provides afternoon snack for the school age program.

Center Health & Safety
Medication is administered by the school nurse. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon testing is completed. The boiler inspection is was not available at the time of the visit. Center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained.

Center playground
Playground is located next to the center. The playground has rubber pads around the climbing equipment and has cement area for chalk and riding toys. Monthly playground inspection completed. Shade is available on the playground. The childcare program does have access to the school gym if unable to go outside.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Filed Trips
The center uses school buses for transporting the children for field trips.

The center's discipline practices consist of redirection, encouraging appropriate behavior and PBIS.

Goals of the childcare program is to continue striving for success.

Strengths of the program is that they follow a routine and curriculum for the children and have a good relationship with the families that they serve. Staff work well as a team.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Program is kid friendly and are positive with the kids.

The program rooms look good and have a fun variety of age appropriate toys and equipment.

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

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Program will email consultant by 12-30-23 confirming that all items that are below standards have been corrected.

A full license is recommended at this time at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.