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

Name of Center: A Child's World **Enrollment:** 233 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 37616

Street: 475 68th Street **City:** West Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50266 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 475 68th Street, West Des Moines, IA, 50266

Director's Name: Ashley Anderson/Nancy Fuller **Phone Number:** 515-224-1339

On-Site Supervisor(s): NA **E-Mail:** ashmanderson@aol.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-16-2023

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:** 11-01-2023

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

Date Inspected: 02-21-2023

Comments : fire inspections due at least every three years.

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 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	77	30	134	14	255
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 11-30-2023

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 11-16-23 The director/owner Ashley Anderson was present through parts of the visit and the co-director/owner Nancy Fuller was present for portions of the visit also.

A Child's World first opened in 2005 at another location. They had the opportunity to move to a larger location so this site opened on 10-31-11. In 2012 an addition was built on and the licensing capacity was increased to 255 children. Ashley Anderson and Nancy Fuller have always been the owners and co-directors. Ashley had previously been an elementary teacher, and Nancy has been a center director for many years. They both meet the requirements to be a director.

The hours of operation are 6:30 am-6:00 pm. They serve infants through school age children. Their only advertisement has been word of mouth from the families they serve.

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 playground had some snow cover.

Room Observations: There are 15 enclosed classrooms, plus the former sanctuary area which has enough square footage for 122 children. This area is used as an indoor gym. This sanctuary space is not figured into the licensing capacity. The center uses the Creative Curriculum and the tadpole application. There is a Thanksgiving theme to the curriculum in the classrooms now. The rooms had a variety of centers/activities in each room. Staff were in Ratio. Staff were observed to be responsive to the children and maintain a good structure in the classrooms. Handwashing posters were missing from some classrooms which the co-director replaced while the visit was occurring.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen and dedicated kitchen staff. Menus follow CACFP guidelines and are crafted by the kitchen staff who also does the food ordering. Meals and snacks are served family style in the classrooms. Menus rotate every 4 weeks and seasonally. The kitchen was clean and nicely organized with good storage practices.

Health and Safety: Medications are stored securely in the breakfast room along with guidelines for dispensing. The classrooms contained first aid kits. Emergency plans are posted in the rooms and drills documented to have been completed monthly. Radon was last tested 1/3/22 and was under the 4.0 cutoff. This center has a newer heating and cooling systems. There are carbon monoxide detectors in hallways and by director's office. There was discussion regarding deep, thorough cleaning of the changing tables.

Playground: The children are able to utilize the gym area when there is inclement weather. The outdoor play area is enclosed with chain link fencing and is divided by ages. There are play structure that were in good repair. Safety surfacing is rubber chips. There is a large shade structure. The co-director indicated that the goal is to update the safety surfacing when budget allows.

Transportation: NA

Administrative Review: Information for mandatory reporter, handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license, fire/tornado emergency plans and non-smoking signs were posted. There were six child files reviewed, 3 missing physicals and 2 updated physicals provided later in the day that had been completed. There were five employee files reviewed with one employee in need of mandatory reporter training. The other staff certificate for mandatory reporter training was current x5 years. This center has a well-established policy.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is family owned and parents can rely on either Ashley or Nancy to be present.

There are long term staff at the center who are invested in providing quality care to children. There are five staff who have worked at this center since it first opened, seventeen years ago, and several staff who have worked at the center over 10 years.

The teachers are engaged with the children in a positive manner and the children are happy. The center has a good core staff and a solid team, they are a good group of caregivers and are dedicated and loyal.

The center has a good reputation in the community and do not have to advertise due to strong word of mouth.

There are "AM Notes" available for staff information and current goings-on.

The center offers two conferences a year for families.

The center receives positive feedback from parents on their annual surveys and exit forms.

The center has a secure entrance.

The center has a family atmosphere.

The owners give staff random bonuses for things such as being on time consistently, not having call ins or no show to work days and getting vaccinated.

Enrollment is high and staff morale is high, even with all of the stressors of the past few years.

The owners send the Lakeshore catalog to all staff for them to put in a wish list for their classrooms.

The owners feel they have a strong curriculum and the children are ready for Kindergarten.

The center partners with AEA and AEA comes out once a month for classroom observation and gives ideas to staff.

The owners/directors are a strong team and they balance each other's strengths.

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

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Number not in compliance: 1
One staff Mandatory reporter training was verified active for five years and another needed repeat training as the last training on file was 2017.

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs. One child needed updated.

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment.
For school-age programs in the child's school, all files include a statement signed by the parent that the immunization information is available in the school file.
Number not in compliance: 3
Three children were missing updated physical forms, which Nancy was able to get in contact with the families and 2 of 3 provided updated documentation.

109.9(3): Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.

Number invalid: 1
One immunization record was not dated or signed.

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. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
Several changing tables contained observable debris and one with left over feces; along with a thorough cleaning under changing mats. The co-director did initiate staff attention to complete those tasks during the visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is required every two years. The last testing was completed in January of 2022 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The staff were consistently observed to be engaged and responsive to the children. There was a structure maintained in each room and the children were observed to be content

This center has a plethora of activities and centers for the children in each room.

*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.