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

Name of Center: Growing Tree Early Education Center **Enrollment:** 11 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52027

Street: 10000 Meredith Drive **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50322 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address:

Director's Name: Cindy Kniss **Phone Number:** 515-309-3390

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** Enrollment@growingtreeelc.com
jodi@growingtreeelc.com

Date(s) of Visit: 10-31-2022

X **Licensing Visit** **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** X **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

X **New Application** **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-28-2022

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

Date Inspected: 06-04-2020

Comments :

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 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	20	12	28		60
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-31-2022 to 02-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Debbie Hammer **Date:** 11-14-2022

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Growing Tree Early Education Center opened at this location on 10/31/22. This location/center was previously known as Tender Heart Preschool and Childcare. The owner of Tender Heart sold the center to the new owner, Cindy Kniss. Cindy Kniss is the owner of two other centers in Iowa and will be the director of this center at this time. Cindy has a Bachelor's degree in Education and has been the owner/director of Formative Years childcare center center in Ames, Iowa since 2017. Cindy meets qualifications to be the director.

The center was built in 2001. The center serves children six weeks in age to roughly five years in age and they use Creative Learning Curriculum with children. There are three enclosed classrooms and two open-area classrooms. The staff working at Tender Heart for the previous owner will remain at the center under the new owner. A visit was conducted at Tender Heart in May of 2022.

The center hours are 6:30 am to 5:30 pm.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

There was a seamless transition between owners of this center and the center maintained the same staff and children, the children did not have any disruption of care.

Many of the staff members have been employed at the center for several years.

There is a secure entrance into the center.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing in all classrooms is due every two years and was last tested 5/5/21 - 5/7/21. Results were below the 4.0 cutoff.

The new owner does not plan on making any significant changes at this time to the building, however will be doing some updates on the playground area and replacing some furniture and toys.

A full license is issued.

*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.