Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Linn County Child Development Center
Provider No.: 24425

Address: 1020 6th St SE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52401

County: Linn

Director's Name: Gloria Witzberger
On-Site Supervisor: Colette Stocks

Phone Number: 3198925700
E-Mail: gloria.witzberger@linncounty.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/21/2026

Licensing Period: 04/01/2026 to 04/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/20/2025

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 4

- [X] Accrediation

Comments: Accredited +
Program ID: 276343
Program Valid Dates: 6/2/2024 to 6/1/2029
In operation since: 10/1/1969

Program Duration:

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

Health and Human Services

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General		16	78	6	100
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

The Linn County Child Development Center (LCCDC) has been in operation since 10/1/1969. In November 2019, this program relocated to their current building which houses other community partners including public health. The Linn County Child Development Center offers full and half day early childhood programs for children ages 2 to 5. Total enrolled and attending children were reported to be 62 on 4/21/2026.

The program's director is Gloria Witzberger. Ms. Witzberger has been the director since 2016. Ms. Witzberger has a MS degree in social counseling and a BA degree in psychology. Ms. Witzberger has been the director of the Linn County Family and Community Health Alliance for several years, has experience working with children and participates in professional development. On-site supervisor Colette Stocks has been employed with LCCDC for over 28 years. Ms. Stocks has a BA degree in elementary education with an early childhood education endorsement, has experience working with children and participates in professional development.

On 4/21/2026, program space was observed. Primary programming occurs in five separate rooms with one room specifically designated for the youngest children. Program materials are organized in cabinets and on shelves for ease of use. The program has access to a small indoor large gross motor room, a large indoor gymnasium, and outdoor play area. Sufficient restrooms including hand washing sinks are available to accommodate total capacity. There is an on-site kitchen which is regularly inspected. All foods are prepared on-site and the center chef is ServSafe certified. Since the last review, the program obtained a new outdoor shed. On 4/21/2026, areas of study included bugs. Activities observed included small group work (e.g. Unique flower painting in room 3), group circle discussion with book reading, center play exploration (e.g. Fancy dress-up was being enjoyed in room 4), and outdoor large gross motor play. During the monitoring visit, routine transitions were also observed to go smoothly and included clean-up procedures and restroom/drink breaks. Evidence of

previous days' learning was displayed throughout the space (e.g. Clever room 5 "Pete the Cat White Shoes", individual birthday easel painting). Curriculum allowed for a variety of experiences that were observed to pique child interest as well as build cognitive skills, strengthen emotional intelligence, enhance physical coordination, and encourage the use of social graces. On 4/21/2026, staff were observed to be in ratio, utilizing positive behavior interventions when needed and engaged in programming with the children. Children appeared comfortable with staff and to be enjoying the day.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

LCCDC was established in 1969 in response to a need for full day child development services for working families on limited incomes. While the programs primary mission is to serve limited-income families and children with special needs, we also enroll families on private pay basis.

LCCDC has the following website for families and persons in the community to learn more about their program: https://www.linncounty.org/129/Child-Development-Center.

In 1990, LCCDC was one of first childcare centers in the state of Iowa to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The program continues to be NAEYC accredited (renewal due 4/1/2029). LCCDC has achieved IQ4K Level 4 and participates in CACFP.

LCCDC is non-profit, part of the Linn County Child and Youth Development Department and operates under a board of directors. As of 4/21/2026, ownership and management of LCCDC has remained consistent. The seasoned management team (e.g. Ms. Witzberger, Ms. Stocks) is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures. The management team is organized and has noteworthy systems of organization (e.g. Excel program) in place to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a secure manner. Ms. Stocks acknowledged their seasoned team of employees. All lead teachers have a BA degree in Early Childhood Education with endorsements in special education. Assistant teachers have BA degree, AA degree or a CDA. Documentation supports staff participate in annual professional growth hours that exceed minimum guidelines. LCCDC has partnerships with the TEACH program and a business plan which rewards and celebrates staff success including on-going education and professional goals.

On 4/21/2026, LCCDC was again found to be maintaining required postings, maintaining family-program information centers, offering regular newsletters, utilizing technological communication resources, and offering family programming activities. LCCDC has an active parent advisory board and monthly parent meetings. LCCDC has an on-site lending and gifting books library. LCCDC curriculum includes a combination of learning strategies incorporating Creative Curriculum and teacher-inspired ideas (e.g. Zones of Regulation, Child Reading Retention Opportunities). Curriculum presents opportunities for letter awareness, phonics, and sounds. Ms. Stocks discussed how since the last review increased and extended opportunities for outdoor play have been established. The program maintains a low staff to child ratio to allow for increased small group work and individualized learning opportunities. Curriculum also incorporates off-site field trip experiences (e.g. neighborhood walks with some local truck honking, Wickiup Hill, local pet store), on-site events (e.g. guest speakers, gardening, bird feeders), themed days, STEM (e.g. science experiments, sensory opportunities) and parent/teacher conferences. Communication between children and staff is done verbally, with picture cues, and through sign language.

LCCDC continues to have and update as needed policies and procedures that include those for safety, daily health checks, hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. There is an AED on-site. Cleaning checklists and reminders were observed in various areas. Management discussed how they continue to help ensure the children's space is sanitary and hazard free each day by following the policies and procedures. The program also continues to have much support from their board of directors, the health department, their custodial staff and their maintenance persons as to daily building and grounds conditions and repairs.

LCCDC has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. LCCDC has successfully navigated through flooding events (2008 historic Linn County flood), 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 8/10/20 Derecho Storm, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages, air quality alerts (2023, 2025), and repeated technology outages (7/19/24 global technology outage, 10/10/2025 AWS outage, 10/29/2025 Microsoft outage).

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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None noted.

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

Not applicable.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Since the program's outdoor play space is shared with the public outside of program hours, please add an outdoor trash receptacle to help improve sanitation and decrease possible infestations of insects, vermin, etc.

Remove the dilapidated wood items and replace with other outdoor materials.

Licensing supports applying for and accessing funding opportunities as they are available to help with improvements (e.g. Growing Iowa Funds https://iowaccrr.org/blog/2025/9/10/News/Growing_Iowa_Funding_Program/ar/3665/).

A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

Date: 04/24/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons

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**.