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

Name of Center: The Learning Journey **Enrollment:** 72 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 7224

Street: 15111 214th ST **City:** Council Bluffs Iowa **Zip** 51503 **County:** Pottawattamie

Mailing Address: 15111 214th ST, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503

Director's Name: Lisa Wilcox/Assistant director Jordan Hiffernan **Phone Number:** 712-256-3978

On-Site Supervisor(s): Mindy Roesler **E-Mail:** lhiffernan@aol.com, Jordan.wooten@hotmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-24-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 06-02-2020

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 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	15	17	30	11	73
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2022 to 07-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 05-25-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year licensing visit was made to The Learning Journey on 5-25-2023. The Learning Journey is located adjacent to Lisa Wilcox's parents' home on private property. The center was a very large garage that was renovated, the center opened in July 2008. Lisa Wilcox is the director, and Jordan Hiffernan is the Assistant director. Mindy Roesler is the on-site supervisor.
Lisa has her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and Jordan has a Bachelor's Degree in Business. Child care services are offered to infants to school age children 7:00 am to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday. There are 72 children enrolled in the program. I met with Jordan during my visit.
Lisa is also the director of her second site, The Learning Journey II.

Observation of rooms:
The program rooms were in ratio. The children were observed during nap time. There is a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment in each room. The staff were attentive to the needs of the children.
Lisa's daughter Paige has been developing the curriculum with lesson plans/activities. The center is using the Tadpole app to communicate with parents and infant daily sheets.
The center has new carpet. The half walls have been removed in the toddler room, preschool/school age room and infant room.

Nutrition:
Meals are prepared on site, menus are posted and are on a four week rotation. The kitchen was clean, proper storage was observed and there are thermometers in the refrigerator/freezers.

Health and safety:
The center follows the medication management procedures when a child is prescribed medication.
Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented.
Three radon tests were completed in June 2021 and all test results were under a 4.0 pCi/L. Radon testing will be done soon.

The center follows the water testing protocols that are required, they test the water daily and someone comes in once a week to test the water.
The building is all electric.
Bleach/water is used for sanitizing and disinfecting, the center uses the three step bottle procedure.

Playground:
The center has a very nice playground with a climbing structure. Monthly playground safety inspections are documented.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide daily transportation services.

Administrative records:

Jordan maintains daily contact with the staff and has staff meetings on an almost monthly basis.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Lisa and Jordan are very enthusiastic and proud of their program. They provide quality child care services and are an excellent resource to the community.
Lisa maintains frequent contact with Jordan.
Jordan is always very friendly, organized and helpful during my visits.
The center has special programming and visitors that come to the center for presentations and interactive hands on learning.
The center uses the Tadpole child care app for communicating with parents - daily sheets, etc.

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 7-1-2022 to 7-1-2024.
Off year licensing visit 5-24-2023.

You will need a new fire marshal inspection by 6-2-2023.

*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.