Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: War Eagle Head Start

Provider No.: 45816

Address: 3232 W 4th St, Sioux City, IA, 51103

County: Woodbury

Director's Name: Rachael Ostermyer

On-Site Supervisor: Jordan Most

Phone Number: 7122247388

E-Mail: cbeatty@caasiouxland.org

HHS Visit Date: 12/08/2025

Licensing Period: 12/01/2025 to 12/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 07/23/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 4

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	8:30 AM to 3:30 PM		
Tuesday	8:30 AM to 3:30 PM		
Wednesday	8:30 AM to 3:30 PM		
Thursday	8:30 AM to 3:30 PM		
Friday	8:30 AM to 3:30 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		8	20		28
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

I completed an unannounced visit at this center on 12/08/25. I was able to speak with staff including on-site, Jordyn Most for the HeadStart Program and Sarah Oakland who is the lead teacher in the Early HeadStart Program. Both staff bring valuable experience working with children to their roles.

War Eagle Head Start is located in a shared facility with Jackson Recovery, featuring a designated area specifically designed for childcare services. The site includes two classrooms: one for the Head Start program and one for the Early Head Start (EHS) program. The Head Start program operates Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The EHS program runs year-round, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Early Head Start program was introduced at this location in 2019. The Head Start program serves children ages 3 to 5 years old. There are 26 children enrolled in this program and 24 children present at the time of my visit.

All areas of the program were observed including classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

The center offers a welcoming and well-equipped environment, with a wide variety of toys and materials that support learning and play for the number of children enrolled. A daily schedule of activities is clearly posted, helping children feel secure and understand the flow of their day. Classrooms are thoughtfully arranged and visually engaging, with displays at the children's level that include colors, shapes, the five senses, a picture schedule, job charts, children's artwork, the alphabet, and a feelings chart. These elements create a rich, child-centered learning space. During the visit, staff were observed warmly engaging with children—supporting them in activities, leading group exercises, reinforcing classroom expectations, and sitting with them during meals. Their interactions were positive, consistent, and nurturing, contributing to

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a supportive learning environment. Both the Head Start (HS) and Early Head Start (EHS) programs use the High Scope Curriculum and GOLD assessments to guide instruction and track developmental progress. Each classroom includes inviting learning areas such as art, library, blocks, puzzles, writing, dramatic play, and computers. Additional toys are stored and rotated regularly to keep the environment fresh and stimulating. The Head Start room includes a bathroom and sink, which is shared by both classrooms. As part of their daily routine, children brush their teeth with toothpaste after breakfast and rinse with water after lunch, promoting healthy hygiene habits.

All meals—including breakfast, lunch, and snacks—are provided through the Sioux City School lunch program. Head Start prepares meals onsite in the center's kitchen, following good food storage and handling practices. The center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and adheres to its nutritional guidelines. Weekly menus are posted and accessible to families.

Medication is securely stored in a locked box, ensuring safety and compliance. Staff and children were observed practicing proper handwashing procedures, promoting healthy hygiene habits throughout the day. A well-stocked first aid kit is available to treat minor injuries. Safety protocols are in place and well-documented. Fire and tornado drills are conducted regularly, and playground inspections are completed to ensure a safe outdoor environment for children.

The center has a playground adjacent to the building. There is a cement area for tricycle riding and other playground toys are in good repair.

Goals continue to be assisting children with problem solving through curriculum and staff involvement.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center uses child plus app to communicate with their parents.

Staff are actively engaged with the children in their care. They maintain a positive, encouraging demeanor and consistently model appropriate behaviors. Staff support children in problem-solving and provide predictable routines and structure within the classroom.

The center incorporates pictures, letters, and words throughout the environment to promote and enhance learning.

The center is certified in IQ4K, indicating that it meets or exceeds Iowa's established quality benchmarks for early childhood education programs.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The program needs to email consultant by 01/30/26 confirming that all aspects below standards have been corrected.

A full license is recommended at this time.

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

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Date: 12/08/2025

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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**.