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

Name of Center: Little Charger Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 36 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 31551

Street: 207 Park AVE **City:** Guthrie Center Iowa **Zip** 50115 **County:** Guthrie

Mailing Address: 207 Park AVE, Guthrie Center, IA, 50115

Director's Name: Sydney Henderson **Phone Number:** 641-332-2028

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** littlechargerearlylearning@gmail.com
sydelc@netins.net

Date(s) of Visit: 07-11-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-22-2021

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

Date Inspected: 01-06-2020

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X 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	9	10	10	2	31
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2021 to 12-01-2023
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 12-14-2022

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 Little Charger Early Learning Center on 7-11-2022. Sydney Henderson continues to be the director, she became the director on 9-27-2021, She has an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education and has many years of experience in the child care field.
Little Charger Early Learning Center is located in a remodeled house just southwest of the elementary school. Child care services are offered to infant age to school age children 6:30 am to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday. (In the past the center used the school gym and cafeteria for the school age program).
The center is owned by the school and is overseen by a Board.
There are 36 children enrolled in the center.
I met with Sydney Henderson during my visit.

Observation rooms:
There are two program rooms.
There were seven children and two staff in the infant room. The daily sheets looked good. There were twenty five children in the other room - two years and older room. The children were having fun participating in a variety of activities. The older children went outside to play while the younger children took a nap. The staff were positive and attentive to the needs of the children.
Staff in each program room complete lesson plans and Sydney reviews them.
There have been issues with the center operating over ratio and using the basement for programing for the older children. The basement isn't licensed and the fire marshal won't approve the basement for programming. You can't use the basement for child care programming. You can't operate the center over ratio in either program room at any time.
The center has closed rooms, called parents to pick up their children, and closed the center to maintain ratio.
A room at the school was used in the past for school age children, this room is no longer in use. The center has significantly decreased the enrollment of school age children.

Nutrition:
The center prepares the daily snacks and the lunch is catered from the local hospital. The kitchen is located in the basement. Proper food storage was observed. Make sure you are following the CACFP food program guidelines. Menus are posted.

Health and safety:
The center is following the 3 step bottle procedure for sanitizing and disinfecting - 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Clorox hydrogen peroxide for sanitizing and disinfecting. .
Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented.
Please let me know when the annual fuel burning inspection was completed. Last years furnace inspection was completed on 11-9-2021.
Radon testing was done in 11-2021, please email me the radon test results. Make sure radon testing is done in the program rooms. Radon testing is required every two years and the test score must be under a 4.0 pCi/L. The previous radon test from February 2020 had a test result of 4.8 pCi/L. If your test results continue to be higher than 4.0 pCi/L you will need to consult with the radon specialist with the Iowa Department of Public Health. The center has a radon mitigation system.

Staff reported they follow medication management procedures when a child is prescribed medication.
Please review your emergency policies and procedures with all staff.

Playground:
Playground safety checks had not been done for 2022. Sydney will begin completing them each month.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide transportation services.

Administrative records:
Staff files were read and were incomplete, files were missing the national record checks, training and physicals. Sydney has made the corrections and staff files have been updated.
Children's files were read and were incomplete, files were missing emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist, current physicals, and make sure enrollment/registrations forms are updated annually and are signed by the parent. Sydney has reviewed all of the child files and the parents have turned in the corrected information.
Staff meetings are held on a regular basis and Sydney meets with staff individually on a frequent basis. Sydney is in ratio in rooms for periods of time.
The center is owned by the school and the school does some repairs. The finances are all through the school.
The center has an active and supportive board.
Sydney has hired new staff, some are high school students.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is an excellent resource for the community.
The center has received services from Child Care Resource and Referral in the past. They are actively receiving services from the Family Resource Center - Trisha Christensen. The center has partnerships with other local agencies/businesses.
The center is making plans to build a new center hopefully in the next couple of years. They are applying for grants. Sydney has also been looking for other buildings for relocation until the new building is completed.

Sydney Henderson has worked hard to learn the DHS polices/procedures and daily operations of running the center.

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

CORRECTED - 109.6(6)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.

CORRECTED - 109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.

CORRECTED - 109.8(2): Ratio maintained in center as required by age.

CORRECTED - 109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.

109.11(7)b Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.
Please email me the radon test results.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 12-1-2021 to 12-1-2023.
Off year licensing visit 7-11-2022.
Administrative change - Capacity has been decreased to 31 children. Capacity for nine children in the infant room and twenty two children in the 2 years and older room. Capacity of 14 children for the school age room at the school was previously noted on the license - previous capacity was 45.

*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.