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

Name of Center: Inertia Boys and Girls Center Inc **Enrollment:** 96 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 20215

Street: 1128 Fulton ST **City:** Keokuk Iowa **Zip** 52632 **County:** Lee

Mailing Address: 1128 Fulton ST, Keokuk, IA, 52632

Director's Name: Sarah Scott **Phone Number:** 319-795-3409

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jay Scott **E-Mail:** joe@inertiacenter.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-13-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 03-11-2024

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

Date Inspected: 03-14-2025

Comments : conducted by Keokuk Fire Department Edward H. Lowe, due annually.

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 X Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

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			

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	8	12	30	36	86
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2024 to 05-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jill Seibert **Date:** 07-10-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Inertia Boys and Girls Center, Inc., is located in a very large commercial building that was formerly a grocery store in a residential area of Keokuk. The center was founded in November 2004 to provide Child care services to the Tri State Area of IA, IL, and MO.

The center is owned and operated by Inertia Boys and Girls Center, Inc., a private, for profit corporation owned and operated by Sarah and Jay Scott. Joseph and Jacqueline Scott, other family members formerly owned the business. The director is Sarah Scott. Ms. Scott has an AA from Southeastern Community College, 26 years in child care total. She has 9 years of in home child care experience, and 9 years of experience as director of Inertia Center. Onsite supervisors are Joe (Jay) Scott and Jasmine Scott. Both On Site Supervisors have worked at the center for a number of years. Joe began working full time in the center in 2010. OSS Jasmine Scott has been working in the center since 2009. The center has gradually expanded and improved the building and the outdoor play area to accommodate increasing enrollment.

On 5/13/2025 I made an unannounced off year visit to Inertia Boys and Girls Center, Inc., and met with Director Sarah Scott and other staff members. At the time of the visit, staff was actively engaged in providing the child care program to the children. The date of the visit all program areas were observed.

All areas of the program were addressed which consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Center Nutrition:

The center has a full kitchen. This area is separate from the main program area. CACFP requirements are followed and menus are posted. Refrigeration and freezing units contain thermometers. No food items were expired or stored on the floor.

Center Health and Safety:

Tornado and fire drills were conducted monthly. Radon testing and fuel burning appliances inspections were reviewed. Lead based paint assessment will be conducted this year to monitor for chipping paint. First aid kits were present and contained items to address minor injuries. All children with allergies/asthma or special health care needs have an action plan on file. The center converted the former dining area to an infant room which is still under construction.

Child Care Nurse Consultant Amy Hayes performed an Injury Prevention Checklist on 12/15/21. This is best practice and duly noted.

No blankets were present in cribs, and no swaddling was observed the date of the visit. No infants were sleeping in seats, on the floor, etc.....

Lighting in the infant room has been fixed.

Center Outdoor Play Area:

The center has a large outdoor play area, that was newly remodeled in August. 2023. The new playground has concrete areas, new surfacing, and new climbing equipment. A new fence was erected, and rubber surfacing poured the month of June.. The Child Care Weather Watch is utilized when outdoor play is questionable due to varying weather conditions. Monthly inspections of the center outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept. Outdoor play inspections should be conducted monthly. A first aid kit is taken outdoors with the children as well as emergency medication and emergency contacts.

Center Field Trips/Transportation:

The center provides transportation. First aid kits are present. Transportation and field trip ratios are followed. Emergency contacts are taken for each child and any emergency medication. Annual inspections on vehicles were present.

Center Administration:

The center has a handbook with all required polices. The center has an Emergency Preparedness Plan specific to their site. Staff are trained on the plan annually and sign and date acknowledgement of such. This was covered in a staff meeting.

Staff and child files are tracked by the Director.

Staff file information reviewed include fingerprint results, SING check results, professional development training, CPR/1st Aid, Mandatory Reporter training and Essentials.

Child file information includes dental and medical information, annual physicals, pick up and field trip authorizations and emergency contacts. These should be updated annually.
This information is reviewed annually. Public Health performs immunization audits annually.

The center utilizes curriculum daily. They have a letter, number and color of the week. Lesson plans should be utilized daily.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center sends a quarterly newsletter to parents.

The center provides dental screening and fluoride varnish services to the children in cooperation with Lee County Public Health Department.

The Keokuk Fire Department visits the center and provides a fire safety program to preschool age children.

The building is sprayed for pests annually.

The Center purchased a neighboring lot 5 years ago. They would like to put a garden here.

The center has had regular contact with IPDH and CCR&R this past year.

The center reports being audited recently by CACFP with good results.

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

No areas reviewed by licensing met a pattern of disregard the date of the visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center email is : Sarah Scott's email is sarahs@inertiacenter.com. OSS Joe Scott may still be consulted as well at

Joe@inertiacenter.com

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. The center is directed to correct the items listed in Section IV. The director gave me a verbal commitment that the noted rule violations would be promptly corrected. It is important to note, all HHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

The center may reach out to CCR&R Consultant Malia Love or Iowa Department of Public Health Child Care Nurse Consultant Amy Hayes at any time for consultation.

Child Care Nurse Consultants work with child care and early education businesses. Businesses may call or send questions to a child care nurse consultant about health and safety policies, health programs, health of personnel, and specific child health or safety issues. CCNC Amy Hayes is assigned to Lee County.

Child Care Resource & Referral offer centers assistance with meeting the DHS regulations, QRS, infant/toddler concerns, room arrangement and environment, developmental concerns, Best Practice information, CDA assistance, or any questions or concerns you may have. Malia Love is the consultant for this center. She stated, "Most of my work with them has been around IQ4K and updating i-Power. I was on site in the building 5 times over the last 12 months. What I can say is that every time I have been there, they have been in ratio and the children were in good care, nothing chaotic or wild!"

IHHS recommends centers utilize IDPH and CCR&R services throughout the year.

*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.