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

Name of Center: Kid Zone **Enrollment:** 125 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19978

Street: 1701 W Agency RD **City:** West Burlington Iowa **Zip** 52655 **County:** Des Moines

Mailing Address: 1221 S Gear, West Burlington, IA, 52655

Director's Name: Dianne Petersen **Phone Number:** 319-768-1234

On-Site Supervisor(s): Traci Gerling, Tasha Prickett & Kristen Rahmus **E-Mail:** dpetersen@grhs.net

Date(s) of Visit: 02-27-2025

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:** 07-17-2024

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

Date Inspected: 09-12-2024

Comments : conducted annually by local FD

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	20	23	68	50	161
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jill Seibert **Date:** 03-21-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Kid Zone child care center has been in operation since 2006. The center is in a commercial building designed for child care on the campus of the hospital in West Burlington. Kid Zone is located in a new single story building specifically constructed for child care and site on the campus of Great River Medical Center in West Burlington, IA. The center is owned and operated by Great River Medical Center. They are an employer sponsored center.

Enrollment is limited to children of employees at Great River Medical Center. The director is Dianne Petersen. Ms. Petersen also directs the sister center to this program in Ft. Madison. Director Petersen is present M/W/F in West Burlington and Tuesday & Thursday in Ft. Madison. Diane possesses a Child Development Associates. She started working at Kids Zone in 2010. The Center has three on site supervisors. Tasha Prickett, and Traci Gerling both possess CDA's and began working at Kid Zone in 2010. Kristen Rahmus is the other OSS. She is working toward a Bachelor's Degree in Early Elementary Education. She began employment with Kids Zone in 2016.

GRHS is governed by a Board of Directors. Community members served on the board. The Center is able to utilize some equipment from the city Church of Burlington when needed. Before and After school care is provided as well as full day care when school is not in session or on in service days, Winter and Spring breaks and holidays that the center is open.

The Center offers childcare ages 6 weeks through 12 years including preschool and a school age program. The Center opens from 6:00 am to 6:30 pm Monday thru Friday. The building is secured by a locked door. You must have a badge to activate the door.

The Mission of the Center is: We believe in the Family unit. It is our job to support that family unit by serving as a partner with the parents to raise a strong, self-aware child that is emotionally and socially developed.

They report their Program Goals as the following: Our overall goal is to promote the social, emotional, intellectual and physical development of each child. A child will benefit from a program that is concerned with all aspects of his/her development. Kid Zone Child Care Center has broad and specific goals for each child.
1. Each child should appreciate him/herself as a capable person.
2. Each child should build his/her skills of problem solving.
3. Each child should feel comfortable exploring and expressing curiosity.
4. Children should love learning.

On 2/27/25 all program space was observed. I met with with Director Petersen and OSS Gerling and other On Site Supervisors. The areas discussed, reviewed and noted consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Program Observations:

The center consists of an infant room, a toddler room, and two preschool age classrooms. Infant room - 0-12 months - rated for 16 infants; the center typically has 12 children in attendance in this room. This room has an attached bathroom shared with the Preschool room that has 2 toilets and 2 sinks. The infant room has a hand washing sink and a food prep sink. The program added four new rooms to the center, one being a large room divided into 2 rooms. It is used for gross motor play during the school year and school kids during summer. Breastfeeding is encouraged. Mothers are encouraged to nurse their babies at the center.

The infant classrooms prepare and serve bottles and infant meals in the classroom. Infant Sheets are updated throughout the day. The sheets met all requirements, including activities for the day.

Young Toddlers - 12 months to 24 months. Square feet in this room can allow for up to 12 children. This room shares an attached bathroom with the toddlers, with 2 sinks and 2 toilets. There is a hand washing sink in the room.

Toddlers - 24 months to 36 months. This room may have up to 16 children at one time. This room. shares an attached bathroom with the Young Toddlers, with 2 sinks and 2 toilets. There is a hand washing sink in the room.

Preschool - 36 months and up. This room may have 26 children at one time. This room shares an attached bathroom with the Infants, with 2 sinks and 2 toilets. There is a hand washing sink in the room. The day consists of music, small and large motor activities, calendar time and also learning centers. Curriculum is theme based, developed by the teachers and taught by a unit approach. The learning activities are 60% teacher directed and 40% child selected. Teachers log daily observations of each child's learning and progress. The room is loosely divided into interest centers.

The program added four new rooms to the center, one being a large room divided into 2 rooms. It will be used for gross motor play during the school year and school kids during summer. When the room is utilized for gross motor activities the rule of 75 square feet of useable floor space per child is followed. The new expansion consist of two MOTORSKILLS/FUTURE CARE ROOM with the capacity of 17, an after school room with a capacity of 23 and a preschool age room with a capacity of 24. The new area has 4 toilets and a staff toilet. Counting the adult restroom the new expansion area may have 75 children per the rule one toilet per 15 children.

A cafeteria has doubled as a before and after school classroom for school age children and summer school age program area. The cafeteria has a hand washing sink and a drinking fountain. Since the expansion has taken place it is now utilized for it's intended purposes.

The center also has a large, modern kitchen, staff break room, and director's office. The children do not have access to these areas. All classrooms are clean, bright, attractive, and equipped with a satisfactory variety of child sized furniture and equipment, toys, games and activities for the children. The classrooms are largely self-contained. Last year the program had an increase in capacity from 86 to 161. The new expansion consist of two MOTORSKILLS/FUTURE CARE ROOMs with the capacity of 17 each, an after school room with a capacity of 23 and a preschool age room with a capacity of 24.

Each classroom was clean. A Daily Cleaning check list that is in each room and is completed by staff. Each classroom was remeasured in 2015 to ensure capacity was correct.

The center contains a basement area where the children and staff may go in case of emergency or tornado. A corner is set aside for the children where carpet squares are available. Other toys were set up to keep the children occupied during drills or an actual emergency.

Center Nutrition:

The center serves breakfast, snacks, and a noon meal to the children. Meals and snacks are prepared in the center kitchen and served in an adjoining cafeteria like dining area. Meals are served family style and menu patterns appear to meet minimum nutritional requirements. The last snack of the day also meets CACFP requirements even though this snack is not claimable to CACFP. The Center is a part of the CACFP Food Program. The center rotates menus every four weeks. Some food is stored in the basement. I observed both dry and cold/freezing food storage. No food was stored on the floor.

Center Health and Safety:

The center director and I reviewed prescription and non-prescription medication storage in accordance with licensing regulations, physician directions, and parental consent. Staff and child hand washing, storage and maintenance of a first aid kit, emergency plans and drills for fire and tornado, environmental testing and the maintenance of any necessary detection equipment, and general regulations regarding safety and sanitation policies and procedures were reviewed.

Each room has its own first aid kit stored in the rooms backpack for easy access and portability. Kits need to be labeled. Parents fill out a medication form when medication needs to be administered at the Center. Only the director, supervisors or lead teachers are approved to administer non-emergent medication. Extra copies of Accident reports and Health reports are

in every room. Allergy information is posted in the kitchen, the rooms where the children are spending the day and on the room roster. Medical condition and allergy conditions lists are present with the children's pictures included. Allergy Action Plans are present on each child with allergies. These plans are posted in the rooms so that staff know how to respond in the event an allergic reaction occurs.

The center has a larger first aid kit in the staff room closet that remains locked. Emergency routes are posted in the main hall and in the rooms. Hand washing procedures are posted near every hand washing sink.

Chemicals are stored in rooms inaccessible to children. Further, the center utilizes only chemicals approved for childcare.

Radon testing was present with a level under 4 pCi/L. Updated testing is due every five years. The furnace and water heater inspections were up to date. They are due annually. Carbon monoxide detectors are hard wired in throughout the building. The center is on city water.

Ill or injured children are taken to the office. Since parents work close by, children are typically not left in the Center for long periods of time if ill or injured.

Center Playground:

The center has separate fenced and naturally shaded outdoor play areas for toddlers and preschool/school age children. The toddler area features a large, anchored plastic climbing and activity toy on shredded rubber surfacing. The preschool/school age area features a large, unanchored plastic playhouse and a large, anchored metal/plastic climbing and activity toy and three smaller, anchored activity toys on shredded rubber surfacing of inadequate depth. The play area also has areas of grass and a concrete runway for tricycle and big wheel riding. Recycled tire chips serve as a fall protecting base. The gate to this play area remains locked at all times. In 2025 the center will be added poured surfacing.

The playground is 8,289 sq. feet which would allow for 110 children. This allows for every child to have the minimum of 75 square feet per child for gross motor play.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips:

The center owns a van for transporting children to and from school and on field trips. Children are transported by center staff members. Children are transported properly in a seat belt, car seat, or booster seat according to current Iowa regulations. Parents may be required to supply a booster or car seat as needed for their child if field trips involving use of transportation are a part of the program. Staff will be sure that car seats, booster seats and seat belts are used properly and each child is properly secured before setting the vehicle in motion. Children are prohibited from eating, drinking, standing during transport. Updated vehicle inspections are present.

Children will never be left unattended in a vehicle, even for brief periods. All children will be accompanied by an adult to/from the vehicle to insure safety.. Drivers will be legally-licensed and shall not be under the influence of any chemical substance that may alter their ability to drive safely. Drivers will be First Aid and CPR certified if another staff member present is not. Drivers will have evidence of a safe driving record for the previous 5 years. Transportation must be reserved ahead of time and is on a first come first serve basis.

Transportation is offered for AM schools between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:30 am , and PM between the hours of 3:00 PM and 3:30 PM. The center transports to North Hill, West Burlington, Corse, and Notre Dame.

A consent form is sent home to inform parents of any planned field trips. The form requires a parents or a legal guardians signature authorizing their child participation in the field trip. At least one staff person with current First Aid and CPR certification will accompany children on offsite activities. At least one staff member will have a cell phone in case of emergency on all off-site activities.

Center Administrative Records:

The center utilizes positive discipline "that will encourage your child’s self-esteem. Intimidation, ridicule, physical or corporal punishment will not be allowed.. Guidance and discipline are based on developing the child’s positive self- image and self-control. Children are encouraged to use problem-solving skills and become independent thinkers and decision makers. Caregivers positively redirect inappropriate behavior. Brief, simple explanations are given for acceptable behavior. The staff is trained to give directions in a positive manner, and care is taken to prevent a child from developing a negative self-image. If it is necessary to administer discipline a disciplinary report will be sent home.

Regulations regarding required notices and postings and required written policies are provided to parents in the form of a parent handbook. Staff and child files are complete and well organized. Inspection reports are kept in a notebook and on the computer. Accident and injury reports were clearly documented and signed by parents.

When a child is suspected of having a communicable disease or condition such as, but not limited to, chicken pox, German measles, infectious hepatitis, measles, mumps, lice, ringworm of the scalp, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria or meningitis, the Center posts at the desk so that parents are aware.

The center utilizes Easy Care to track staff and child file information. No staff or child files are out of compliance regarding general requirements.

Annual emergency training is conducted. Emergency numbers including 911 and Poison Control are posted near telephones in each room. Staff are not able to start work until a physical has been completed. The Director updated the EPP to reflect the expansion when it was added. All staff sign and date acknowledgment of training on the EPP.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center follows Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards.

The program added a 1600 square foot addition.

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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.

HHS encourages you to contact your local nurse consultant. 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. Please visit the following website: http://idph.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants Your CCNC is Nancy Granaman. CCNC Granaman indicated she has visited the program multiple times.

CCNC Granaman stated, "I have made drop in visits in March, May, and August of 2024. I have recently been in contact with Dianne regarding IQ4K which she has decided not to continue with or renew at this time. She has 8 staff between the two centers that need Med Adm so I will be testing those out that take it virtually and have offered on site training in Burlington if she wishes to do that."

HHS encourages you to contact Child Care Resource and Referral. They 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. Please visit the following website: http://www.iowaccrr.org/_we_are/region_5/ Your Child Care Resource Consultant is Jodi Norton.

Supervisor Norton indicated the following, "I have been to Kid Zone West Burlington 6 times in 2024. The program continues to participate in Program Wide PBIS and works closely with me as their external coach receiving regular classroom coaching and implementing supports and resources.

Dianne is quick to reach out with any questions or concerns. Dianne serves as a trainer for CCR&R and holds regular, onsite training for her staff members.
Jodi Norton
Child Care Consultant Lead
Child Care Resource & Referral of Southeast Iowa
Community Action of Eastern Iowa
jnorton@caeiowa.org

T: 319-321-8810
500 E 59th St.| Davenport, IA 52807| www.iowaccrr.org
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*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.