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

Name of Center: ChildServe Developmental Center **Enrollment:** 67 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 26573

Street: 5609 Greendale RD **City:** Johnston Iowa **Zip** 50131 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 5406 Merle Hay RD, Johnston, IA, 50131

Director's Name: Autumn Karmia **Phone Number:** 515-278-2499

On-Site Supervisor(s): Katey Kassmeyer **E-Mail:** barbwil@childserve.org

Date(s) of Visit: 06-10-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 05-27-2025

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

Date Inspected: 08-27-2025

Comments : Fire Inspections due at least every three years; completed by Johnston-Grimes Municipal Fire Dept

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 X Other NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care X 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	34	18	38		90
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2025 to 07-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 06-11-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An full licensing visit was completed 6-10-25; with the Director Present through the visit.

Childserve Developmental Center is located in Johnston IA and in operation for several years. The center provides traditional daycare and pre-school. Child Serve developmental Center/Daycare serves children ages six weeks to five (sometimes six if non-school age) years in age. The center is overseen by a Board that consists of the CEO of Child Serve and elected members of the community. Autumn Karmia has been in the director role as of May, 2022 and had been employed with Childserve since approximately 2017. Autumn has a Bachelor's degree in Child, Adult and Family Services. Autumn has prior experience in childcare settings. Autumn meets qualifications to be the Director. Kasey Kassmeyer is the assistant director, beginning Winter 2023. Katey has a Bachelor's degree in Child Development and Family Services with ten years of prior child care experience. She meets the criteria for her position.

Room observations/activities: The center pulls curriculum from Iowa Early Learning Standards and creative curriculum. They use the playground application to communicate with parents. Rooms are in ratio and usually this center employs a smaller child/staff ratio then is required by state licensing as was observed on the day of the licensing visit. Lesson plans are completed on Ipads and are available to parents on the playground app. Daily schedules are posted. The center was participating in water day with the children during this visit; where children were content and staff were in engaged with the children while maintaining a good structure. The centers uses soapy water. and hydrogen peroxide for cleaning/sanitizing. Handwashing signs were posted. Good handwashing technique was observed to be in use. This center did renovate and reintroduce classrooms over the past year.

Nutrition: There is an on-site kitchen and dedicated kitchen staff--who crafts the menu, which is in line with CACFP guidelines and rotates every 4 weeks/seasonally. The children have meals/snacks in their classrooms, served family style. The menu was posted in the kitchen, which was very clean and organized.

Health and Safety:
The center has 1st aid kits in the rooms; handwashing guides are posted as required. Emergency fire/tornado exit diagrams were posted;
with drills documented as been completed monthly. Radon testing was completed in July 2023 and results indicated rooms were with in recommended levels. Medications are stored securely and accessible to staff if an emergency.

Playground: Playground safety checks were documented as complete. The playground is enclosed with chain link fencing and surfacing is a combination of pour in place (safety surfacing) and grass/cement. The playground is large and offers large shade structures and a variety of play equipment all appearing in good repair.

Transportation:
The center does/not provide transportation.

Administrative records:
Fliers for mandatory reporting, handbook accessibility; consultant contact, license and non-smoking signs were posted. Ten child files were reviewed and contained all required information; Five employee files were reviewed; One file needed updated SING and FBI Checks; one provided a physical after hire (required prior to hire). This center has a well-established policy/procedure handbook.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has attained IQ4K (quality assurance) Level I.

Childserve continues to be an approved training organization for professional development.

The center participates in the food program (CACFP).

The center can provide speech therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy on-site if needed.

The center uses AEA as well as CCR&R regularly.

There is a secure entrance into the building. Parents are given a code to gain access into the main center areas. All other visitors have to ring a doorbell and be let in by staff.

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

109.6(6)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.

The center provided updated SING (Iowa) Background checks, one of which had just expired the month prior. Records are compiled by human resources.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A new 2 year full-license is recommended.

The children were content with water day and staff were engaged with the children's activities. Staff were observed to be nurturing while maintaining good program structure.

*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.