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

Name of Center: Lil' Hands Big Dreams - Indianola **Enrollment:** 28 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51843

Street: 1812 N 7th ST STE 200 **City:** Indianola Iowa **Zip** 50125 **County:** Warren

Mailing Address: 730 Main ST, Norwalk, IA, 50211

Director's Name: Mary Ferden **Phone Number:** 515-961-4995

On-Site Supervisor(s): Melissa Christian **E-Mail:** lilhandsbigdreams@live.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-29-2024

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:** 06-10-2022

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

Date Inspected: 07-22-2022

Comments :

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 School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	18	12	36		66
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 08-08-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Lil Hands Big Dream - Indianola opened in August 2022. The daycare is located in on the end of a large building that has another business located within. The daycare has a secured entrance. The daycare offers child care services for infant age through preschool age. Brian and Mary Ferden are the owners of the daycare. The Ferdens also own Lil' Hands Big Dreams in Norwalk. Mary is the director of the daycare. Mary was a registered in home child care provider prior to opening up the daycares. She also had experience in a child care center working at Principal Child Development Center. Melissa Christian is the on site supervisor. Melissa has been employed at Lil' Hands Big Dreams in Norwalk since 2012.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Classroom schedules and lesson plans are posted by classroom doors. The center has four classrooms: an infant classroom, toddlers, early preschool and preschool. Classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate supplies and furnishings. There is a bathroom in the preschool room. There is a shared bathroom located between the preschool and toddler classrooms. The center uses Bright Wheel and the Bright Wheel - Experience for lesson plans.

Mary and Brian assisted with today's visit. There were seven infants in the infant classroom. Two staff were working in this classroom. The toddler room had eight children present. The toddler classroom had four children. One staff was working in this room. The 2's/3's classroom had nine children present. Two staff were working in this classroom. The 4/5's classroom had eight children present. One staff was working with this class.

The center has a full kitchen. The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. Menus are on a six week rotation. Menus reviewed showed compliance with CACFP requirements.

The center has a playground that has fencing. The surfacing is grass, turf and poured rubber.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The Ferdens have owned another daycare for several years. Their experience and leadership will be a benefit to the staff at this daycare. The classrooms have a nice supply of toys and learning supplies.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during the visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*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.