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

Name of Center: Lyon County Head Start **Enrollment:** 14 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30253

Street: 302 S Lincoln St **City:** Rock Rapids Iowa **Zip** 51246 **County:** Lyon

Mailing Address: 302 S Lincoln St, Rock Rapids, IA, 51246

Director's Name: Kendra Rensink **Phone Number:** 712-472-2153

On-Site Supervisor(s): Amanda Sandbulte **E-Mail:** krensink@midsioux.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-18-2024

Licensing Visit **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:** 02-07-2023

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

Date Inspected: 12-18-2023

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2023 to 04-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 03-26-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited Lyon county Head Start on 03-18-14 and spoke with onsite supervisor/lead teacher Amanda Sandbulte. She has an Elementary Education degree and has eleven years of experience working with children. Lyon County Head Start is administered through Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc. The program is located in a building that was built specifically for preschool children. The program serves children ages 3 to 5 years old. The center operates Monday through Thursday 8:30am to 12:30pm.

There are 14 children enrolled in the program, however only 11 children were present at the time of the visit. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in cleaning toys that children use.

The center uses the High Scope curriculum and Gold assessments. The center has the following areas throughout the room for the children to explore and learn: computer, blocks, library, house area, grocery store, toys, art, puzzles, music, sensory table and writing table. During the visit observed the children participating in free play (during this time children can explore the various centers throughout the room), lunch and stories read to the children. Staff had excellent interaction with the children throughout the day. Observed staff assisting children with activities, sitting with the children during mealtime, on the floor playing with the children, reminding children of rules, reading stories to the children and talking to the children throughout the day. Children have access to bathrooms. Daily schedule of activities was posted.

Effective August 2023, the center went back to preparing lunches in house rather than being catered by Sherry's kitchen. Breakfast were being prepared by the program in a well-equipped kitchen, which is separated from the program area. Refrigerator is clean and kept at the appropriate temperature. Meals served family style. Good food storage practices are being followed. The center follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. Menus were posted.

Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. The children brush their teeth after breakfast and swish at lunch time. Observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children. First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon test was completed and within normal range. Annual heating inspection are complete. Good sanitary procedures are followed. Center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Good health and safety policies /procedures are in place.

A playground is adjacent to the building and is inspected monthly. The playground has rubber tiles for surfacing. The fenced-in playground has slides, climbing equipment, playhouse and sandbox. Shade is available on the playground.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
Head Start bus transports children to field trips and some children are transported to and from home.

Goals of the center are to remodel and expand the kitchen to add a range hood and heavy duty dishwasher. The program

applied for IQ4K, however, have not received back of the approval yet.

Strengths of the center are the program is well organized and the teachers have a good relationship with the children and their families and involved with families. They also have good community support along with two school districts, West Lyon and Central Lyon.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center has a picture schedule of the day at the children's level.

Staff sit down at the tables with the children during meals and engage them in conversations.

Two parent/teacher conferences a year to let parents know how their child is developing.

Display pictures of the children with their family.

Display the children's art work in a visible area.

Center uses an app called bloomz to help communicate with the parents to help keep parents aware of what is going on in the program.

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

none

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next 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.