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

**Name of Center:** Kinderwood CCC **Enrollment:** 52 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19205

**Street:** 301 W Lincoln ST **City:** Edgewood Iowa **Zip** 52042 **County:** Clayton

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 483, Edgewood, IA, 52042

**Director's Name:** Bailee Helle **Phone Number:** 563-928-6639

**On-Site Supervisor(s):** Holli Hogan **E-Mail:** director@kinderwoodcc.com

**Date(s) of Visit:** 06-26-2025

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

**LICENSING VISITS**

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

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

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

**Date Inspected:** 06-02-2023

**Comments :**

**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 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 | 20 | 20 | 16 | 76 |
| 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:** Amy Lyons **Date:** 07-23-2025

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

Not applicable

**II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:**

Kinderwood Child Care Center (KCCC) is a non-profit program that has been in operation since 1987 and in their current building since 1992. The program offers year-round full-time and part-time childcare services Monday through Friday 6am-6pm for children age infant through school-age. Current enrollment is 52.

Since the last review (summer 2024), KCCC obtained a new director Bailee Helle and a new on-site supervisor (assistant director) Holli Hogan. Ms. Helle and Ms. Hogan both had experience working with children and continue to participate in much child development related training.

On 6/26/2025, program space was observed.

**III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

KCCC is a well-established program offering various childcare options to help meet the needs of families and children throughout the community. The program is located in a predominantly rural community of Delaware County. The program accepts a variety of funding sources. During 2025, KCCC is celebrating their 38th year of providing childcare to the community. Congratulations!

KCCC sponsors a social media page for enrolled families.

KCCC has a history of participation in quality initiatives including CACFP and past QRS. Management discussed possible future goals related of IQ4K participation.

During 2025, Ms. Helle and Ms. Hogan will be celebrating their first full years in management as director and on-site supervisor/assistant director. The management team (e.g. Ms. Helle, Ms. Hogan) has established systems of organization to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a secure manner. Management is knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures which were updated since the last review.

Since the last review, KCCC has retained some seasoned employees as well as hired a few new ones. Staff throughout the building reported celebrating 12 years and 1 year employment with KCCC. Management reported having a "great awesome team of staff" that work hard, are supportive, and step up to help one another. Management discussed how staff appreciation and recognition (e.g. Employee Spotlight) of professional goals are part of the center's operations.

Ownership of KCCC has remained consistent. KCCC is a non-profit program which operates under an active board of directors. KCCC has maintenance persons and the board who assist with repairs. The kitchen manager has participated in ServSafe. The board of directors, center chef and childcare staff collaborate well to help ensure all program areas are sanitary and hazard free each day. There is an AED machine on-site. Over the last couple of years, the building received many refreshes including new flooring, carpets, lighting, clothes washer, clothes dryer, mini-room refrigerators, new

windows, new doors, and new stove. Future 2025 goals are to update outdoor play areas.

KCCC continues efforts at optimal communication between the program/staff and families. The program has organized parent-staff/program information centers, offers regular program newsletters, utilizes technological communication resources, and supports family programming activities. Family activities continue to include fundraising efforts (e.g. Touch-a-Truck, upcoming 2025 Ragbrai Food Stand, cinnamon rolls, book fair, traveling cosmetologist, Valentine's breakfast). Notes of thanks and gratitude from families towards staff were observed to be posted in the infant room.

Classrooms continue to be arranged in a child friendly manner to keep learning at the forefront. KCCC curriculum includes teacher-inspired ideas as well as a combination of learning strategies. Summer 2025 curriculum includes outdoor fun, water play days, and library visits. Future goals include incorporating on-site guest speakers.

KCCC has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. KCCC successfully navigated through past historic Delaware County flooding events, 2019 winter Polar Vortex, 2019 health (covid-19) pandemic, 2021 food supply issues, 2022 infant formula shortages air quality alerts (2023, 2025) and 7/19/24 global technology outage.

KCCC collaborates well with community partners including local businesses, city council, other childcare owners/directors, health professionals, local school district, and CCR&R. KCCC is a member of the Edgewood Chamber of Commerce. KCCC has a history of applying for and achieving grants (e.g. Foundation for the Future of Delaware County) to help with building and program improvements (e.g. AED, improved security). Ms. Helle talked about how the county health department recently reviewed immunization records. Management also discussed annual Edgewood Pro Rodeo Days which the whole town celebrates including KCCC having a visit from crowned Miss Edgewood.

Each child is engaged in a daily health check upon arrival for early detection of apparent illness, communicable disease, or unusual condition or behavior which may adversely affect the child or the group. This program has policies and procedures in place for hand washing, diapering, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting.

On the day of the monitoring visit, staff were nurturing and attentive to the children's needs. Areas of study included The Rodeo (since the town's annual Edgewood Pro Rodeo Days was happening the week of this license visit). Classroom doors were observed to be uniquely decorated for a rodeo! Activities observed were many (e.g. infant cares, center play experiences, group book reading). Children have access to materials (e.g. books, imaginative play options, building materials, crafts) that encourage innovative play. Routine transitions (e.g. clean up activities, mealtime rituals) worked smoothly into the program's welcoming and cooperative play environment. Throughout the classrooms, staff were overheard providing children with many words of encouragement, using positive redirection when needed and encouraging the use of social graces. Children responded well to staff and appeared to be enjoying their childcare experiences.

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

None noted.

**V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Please ensure permanent remedies are being made to help prevent incidents of water intrusion.

Please note - Some leeway regarding outdoor playground conditions is being granted given the plan for updating outdoor play areas by end of 2025.

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The program's license remains in full status. Thank you for the visit.

*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.