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

Name of Center: Ready, Set, Grow Learning Center **Enrollment:** 52 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 47826

Street: 1723 W Milwaukee AVE **City:** Storm Lake Iowa **Zip** 50588 **County:** Buena Vista

Mailing Address: 1723 W Milwaukee AVE, Storm Lake, IA, 50588

Director's Name: Emily Bodholt **Phone Number:** 712-213-2101

On-Site Supervisor(s): Amy Taylor **E-Mail:** readysetgrowbv@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-28-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 07-10-2023

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	28	27	26	76	157
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

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: Leann Steinhauer **Date:** 08-13-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

I completed an unannounced annual visit to the Ready Set Grow childcare center on 07/28/25. I was able to meet with the center director, Emily Bodholdt. Emily is the board president and took over as the acting director in 2023 and is well qualified for the position having a nursing degree and experience in pediatric care. The center has hired a new Director Teresa Bartlow who has requested the role Ms. Bartlow needs to enter her information into IPOWER so her credentials can be verified.

The program is in a standalone building. The center is operated as a non-profit entity overseen by a board of directors. On the day of my visit, board members were present and assisting in cleaning the center. The program provides daycare services to infants through school-age children.

All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The building has two spaces that are currently being used for classroom programming. One room is being used for infants, and the other is a larger space that has two classrooms with one for toddlers 18-36 months of age, and the other for preschool/school age children. The infant room uses a low mobile fence structure to divide the room into an area for primary programming, and an area with cribs for sleeping. The fence does have a gate which is easily operated. There is a restroom located off the programming space of the infant room with a changing station for that classroom. The other children make use of a restroom off a common corridor space. The facilities were observed to be clean with no issues related to maintenance.

Activity centers are created through the placement of furniture and play structures which were arranged so as not to create any blind areas. The toys and equipment present in each room and activity center were generally in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present.
A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum were posted in each classroom.

The center is currently implementing a general, center-wide theme with specific learning concepts, and each classroom plans developmentally appropriate activities based on those concepts The center displays a variety of visual aids, including children's artwork, the alphabet, numbers, and sight words. Pictures of staff members with brief descriptions are posted, along with family photos, creating a warm and welcoming environment for the children.All staff were actively engaged with the children, participating in play, implementing the planned curriculum, and attending to individual needs. The center utilizes a positive behavior support approach, including transition activities, reminders of expected behavior, recognition of positive behavior, redirection, and providing nurturing support to help children self-regulate. Staff consistently used calm tones of voice and positive comments when interacting with children. Generally, appropriate handwashing and diapering procedures were observed, consistent with health and safety guidelines. I did observe one child not washing her hands.

The center has use of a small kitchen space which was observed to be clean. Good food storage and handling practices were observed in the kitchen and classrooms. A menu is posted which provides a good variety of nutritious meal options for the children.

The center has a small playground space which is fully enclosed by fencing. The playground does have a climbing structure which was observed to be in good repair. Pea gravel is used for fall surfacing .

First Aid Kits were observed and have supplies to treat minor injuries. I observed staff taking the first aid kits outside when they were using the playground. Radon checks were completed as well as fire/tornado drills and playground checks.

The center is currently with CCR&R and Public Health in applying to participate in the IQ4K program which seeks to implement best practice recommendations This is their goal for the upcoming year as they transition to a new director

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Staff at this center appear dedicated and engage with children on their level.

They use a Bright wheel app too communicate with parents.

This center has a board that is helpful and has knowledge of the day to day activates of the center.

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.

109.9(2)a-c: All files contain sufficient information to allow the center to contact the parent or emergency contact at any time child is in center's care as well as who can pick up the child as authorized by the parent.

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.

109.10(6): Children's hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response identifying a plan to correct and maintain those issues cited as not meeting licensing standards and a date of anticipated compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Please have all staff enter their credentials etc. into IPOWER, including mandatory reporting and CPR/First Aid

*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.

VI. ADDENDUMS:

- Addendum1: The capacity of this center should be as follows - 8 infants - 15-2 two-year-olds - 12 preschoolers and 8 school age children with a capacity of 43.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 5/4/2026 4:06:24 PM