

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

Name of Center: Wee Care Inc/Kiddieland **Enrollment:** 122 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 29947

Street: 1200 Central Ave **City:** Hawarden **Iowa Zip** 51023 **County:** Sioux

Mailing Address: 1200 Central Ave, Hawarden, IA, 51023

Director's Name: Jennifer Kooi **Phone Number:** 712-551-1949

On-Site Supervisor(s): Nikki Frye **E-Mail:** weecarehawarden@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 06-06-2024

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:** 05-16-2023

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

Date Inspected: 06-24-2022

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: 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:	<u>Year-round</u>		<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>	
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	19	10	53	27	109
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 07-01-2023 to 07-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew

Date: 06-18-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An visit was made to the Wee Care Inc. Kiddieland center on 06-06-24 and spoke with center director Jennifer Kooi. Jennifer has a CDA and has been working in child care for the past 34 years. This program is located in a building that was specifically designed for child care. The program is operated as a non-profit entity overseen by a board of directors. The center has Four classrooms designated by age group and provides daycare and preschool programming to infants through school age children. The center is open from 5:00am to 6:00pm Monday thru Friday. The program is apart of the preschool initiative program which has PS Monday thru Thursday 8:00am to 2:30pm and no Preschool on Fridays. The program is no longer doing the 3 year old preschool program. They plan to use the PS room for before/after school and during the summer.

There are 122 children enrolled in the program, however 65 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, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in cleaning toys daily that children use.

The center is very resourceful and uses community resources for the children. The center has 1 volunteer staff from the Senior Campaign Program who come and help out in the toddler room on a regular basis. The preschool is apart of the Universal Preschool program for 4/5 year old's which meets Monday, Tuesdays and Fridays and offers a morning and afternoon 8:00am to 11:30am and 12:00 to 3:30pm preschool program. They were doing a 3 year old preschool program on Wednesday and Thursdays mornings 8:30 to 11:00am but beginning with the fall of 2024 they are no longer doing the 3 year old preschool program. The center also hosts a room for Head start which has a seperate license.

Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Children have access to bathrooms. Displayed throughout the room were colors, numbers, food groups, nursery rhyme characters, children's artwork, picture schedule for the children, treasure chests, pictures of the children in various activities, shapes and the alphabet. Very colorful rooms. It is recommended that the center remove bobby pillows and to make sure that each bottle has their own lid to the bottle.

Center serves breakfast, lunch, and snacks on site. They are on the food program and follow the food program guidelines. Monthly Fire and Tornado drills are documented, however, a few months were missing on the playground inspections. The playground now has 3 playgrounds one for 3 and up, a toddler playground and a seperate infant playground. The toddler and the 3 and older playground have a variety of play structures and access to areas with a variety of ground cover including grass, pavement, and pea gravel for fall surfacing. The center's new infant playground, has a variety of toys and has grass for surfacing at this time. Center is looking at possibly turf for surfacing as well as a shade structure for the infant playground. Radon testing was completed and in normal range. Furnace inspection is done annually.

The center uses the Procure program which allows Jennifer to track data, renewal dates, and maintain information electronically.

Strengths of the center are that her staff have been with the center for many years and they are dependable as well are good

quality staff. The center has a good relationship with the families and community they serve. The center is apart of the Universal Preschool Program and have Head start as well. The program is on IQ4K level 1.

The center's goals are to apply for a level 2 on the IQ4K program as they are currently on a level 1.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is currently participating in the IQ4K program at a level 1 out of 5 scale.

The center continues to work hard in reducing staff turnover and has been able to get staff raises the next couple of years. Focusing on quality of their program thru IQ4K has helped teachers being more knowledgeable about early childhood education, reduced turn over of employees, and higher levels of staff cohesion. Continue with staff training's.

The center has cameras in all the rooms.

The center seeks community support and resources. The city provides snow removal, donated light bulbs when needed, the city dumpster if needed, and usage of the community center gym when inclement weather.

Center works well with head start who is also apart of the building for combing their resources for playground and kitchen usage.

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain:A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information.Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.

Number not in compliance: 1

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.

Number not in compliance: 1

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center needs to email consultant by 07-30-24 confirming that those items that fall below standards have been corrected.

It is recommended for the director to continue working with CCRR for ongoing support.

A full license is recommended at this time 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.

