Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 8/14/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:45 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

CCLC-50312

Mrs. Tippy's

704 Cherokee Avenue Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County
(229) 251-9028 slickdawg79@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Rena Keene

Phone: (912) 544-9930
Fax: (912) 544-9926
rena.keene@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
08/14/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
01/24/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
07/13/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing

Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.

Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.
Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Back Main	A - 2 through 12 yrs	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Lunch,TV,Centers
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 10			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 10		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 10			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Back Main	All Ages	13	C

Comments
The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Licensing Study,

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/14/2023

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).

Please refer to the website, http://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx , for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at http://gbi.georgia.gov to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), do the following:

1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)

Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!**

VENETIA SOUTHALL, Program Official	Date	Rena Keene, Regional Consultant	Date

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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Met**

Comment
A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Child # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing,.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Family Physicians,.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Phone Numbers

Child # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing,.08(1)-Doctor, Clinic, Phone Numbers,.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Family Physicians,.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Phone Numbers

Child # 4 Not Met

Records Reviewed: 5	**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Family Physicians,.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Phone Numbers

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Family Physicians,.08(1)(c)-Keep center advised of change in Phone Numbers

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of children's records that two of five records did not include complete information for both parents work addresses and telephone numbers. One of the five records did not contain complete information for the persons to whom the child could be released including relationship and addresses. Additionally, one of the five records did not list the telephone number of the child's physician.

Note: The Center had been using forms created for use in Family Child Care Learning Centers that did not have all required information. The sample form for Child Care Learning Centers was emailed to the Director.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2023

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1)(c) requires Center Staff to maintain a file for each child that includes Parental acknowledgment of their responsibility for keeping Center advised of any significant changes in enrollment information concerning phone numbers, work locations, emergency contact, family physicians, etc. It was determined based on a review of children's records that none of the five records reviewed included a Parental Agreement that is utilized in Child Care Learning Centers. Director was provided sample forms for Child Care Centers that include the required parental agreement.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center staff will obtain parental or guardian acknowledgement of responsibility to update enrollment information and maintain it on file for each child. The center will begin immediately to use forms intended for use in Child Care Learning Centers.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2023

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.08(5) requires center staff to maintain daily attendance records for each child for the 12 preceding months that need not be filed in each child's record, and to make these records available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. Please be sure that attendance records are completed daily by parents to indicate times of arrival and departure.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2023

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Met**

Comment
Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR) **Met**

Comment
Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center appears clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26 - Please be sue to always check to be sure that plants displayed in the outdoor play area are not toxic or pose a hazard to the children.

Finding
591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on Consultant's observation that cement and clay flower pots were placed on a brick ledge where they posed a hazard for children whereas if they were pulled down could possibly cause injury. Additionally, the tent used for shade was not anchored to the ground and some of the square cushioned tiles used for resilience were loose and need to be secured to prevent tripping hazards.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
Current requirement for meeting USDA standards for meals and snacks are as follows:

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA’s website:
DECAL
http://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx
USDA
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.15(4) requires that a feeding chair or similar equipment designed for feeding children shall be provided for the use of each child being fed who is capable of sitting up but who is unable to sit unassisted at a table and must be cleaned with a disinfectant after each use. Such chair or similar equipment shall have a broad base to prevent tipping, a surface that the child cannot raise, a strap or other device which prevents the child from sliding out of the chair, and a feeding surface free of cracks. Please be sure that the chairs used by each child are age appropriate and smaller chairs are used by the younger children whose feet do not touch the floor when using the taller chairs.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2023

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.15(5) requires that the Center provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week except for School-age Centers where the food may be provided by the Parent(s) by agreement between the School-age Center and the Parent(s). Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months. Lunch served during visit included breaded chicken nuggets, corn and tater tots. Please be sure to mark substitutions when they are made.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2023

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment
Kitchen appears clean and well organized. Paper/disposable products are used for food service.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Met**

Comment
There were no children enrolled in the program on this date. Proper diaper facilities were observed with warm running water and proper ventilation.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Met**

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **Met**

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Comment
Observed all required posted notices.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR) **Met**

Comment
Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.30(4). requires that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags. It was determined based on Consultant's observation and staff statements that cots and covering for three of the ten children present and enrolled were stored on open shelves touching each other.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will store cots and mats so children do not have access to them and they don't take up play space and will store them so each child's bedding is separate from the others.

Correction Deadline: 8/14/2023

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Met**

Comment
Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of staff records and staff statements that the Director did not have current certification of CPR; the card on file expired in May, 2023.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 9/29/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

Finding
91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of staff records that the provider did not complete the required ten (10) hours of annual training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed. Center staff will obtain the required ten hours of ongoing training for the 2023 calendar year by December 31, 2023.

Correction Deadline: 12/31/2023

Recited on 8/14/2023

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Met**

Comment
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Met**

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.