



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE  
COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF  
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS**

**DATE OF REPORT**  
11/29/2022

**DVN**  
002600555

**FACILITY NAME**

TALENTED TOTS - KEARNEY, LLC

**FACILITY ADDRESS**

155 S PLATTE CLAY WAY

**CITY**

KEARNEY

**ZIP CODE**

64060-7649

**PHONE NUMBER**

(816) 903-4038

**COUNTY**

CLAY

**ASSIGNED SPECIALIST**

TRUSSELL, MICHELLE RENEE

**RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)**

**VIOLATION(S)**

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(D)1.

Infants and toddlers shall have constant care and supervision. Home monitors or commercial devices marketed to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) shall not be used in place of supervision while children are napping or sleeping.

5 CSR 25-500.112(1)(A)

Birth Through Two (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2) years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group;

**CONCLUSION SUMMARY**

On November 29, 2022 the Office of Childhood received an allegation that staff members will leave classrooms which puts the facility out of compliance with staff/child ratios. After conducting the investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Michelle Trussell had found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

5 CSR 25-500.112 (1)(A) which states the following: "Birth Through Two (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2) years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group;"

AND

5 CSR 25-500. 182(1)(D)1 which states the following: "Infants and toddlers shall have constant care and supervision. Home monitors or commercial devices marketed to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) shall not be used in place of supervision while children are napping or sleeping."

On December 19, 2022 CI Trussell conducted telephone interviews with Kimberly Stallo and Dorothy Skelton . Ms. Stallo stated she works directly with staff member Cortnie Kania in a toddler classroom . Ms. Stallo stated Ms. Kania will leave the classroom for 15 minutes or longer leaving her alone with eight toddlers. Ms. Stallo stated no other staff member will take Ms. Kania's position while she is out of the room. Ms. Skelton stated she works in the infant room. Ms. Skelton stated she observes Ms. Kania in the hallway when she supposed to be in a classroom. Ms. Skelton stated other staff members have commented about Ms. Kania leaving her classroom out of ratio.

On January 12, 2023 Compliance Inspector (CI) Michelle Trussell observed video footage from December 22, 2022 where Cortnie Kania, staff member, was present in a toddler room with another staff member . CI Trussell observed more than four children in attendance in the room. CI Trussell observed Ms. Kania take a bottle of paint and leave the classroom. This placed the other staff member with more than four children by themselves.

**VIOLATION(S)**

5 CSR 25-500.090(2)(A)

At all times, a copy of the facility's disaster and emergency plan is readily available in the office area and in each room used for care of children; and

**CONCLUSION SUMMARY**

On November 29, 2022 the Office of Childhood received an allegation that staff members do not know what the Emergency Preparedness Plan is or where it is located. The allegation also states staff members are not trained on the procedures within

the Emergency Preparedness Plan. After conducting the investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Michelle Trussell had found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

5 CSR 25-500.090(2)(A) which states the following: "At all times, a copy of the facility's disaster and emergency plan is readily available in the office area and in each room used for care of children..."

On December 5, 2022 CI Trussell conducted interviews with facility named director Lauren Osborn and staff member Mariah Adame. Ms. Osborn stated she was not aware if every staff member knew the Emergency Preparedness Plan was located in a bag in each classroom. Ms. Osborn also stated she is not aware if a plan is in each bag. Ms. Adame stated she does not know what an Emergency Preparedness Plan is or where it is located. Ms. Adame stated she has never seen the plan after CI Trussell showed her a copy of the plan that was located in the office.

CI Trussell did not see a copy of the Emergency Preparedness Plan located in each of the classrooms.

**VIOLATION(S)**

5 CSR 25-500.082(1)(C)

Children shall have no access to areas not approved for child care.

**CONCLUSION SUMMARY**

On November 29, 2022 the Office of Childhood received an allegation that children have access to unapproved spaces as the doors to the kitchen, laundry room, attic and basement are not locked. After conducting the investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Michelle Trussell had found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence :

5 CSR 25-500.082(1)(C) which states the following: "Children shall have no access to areas not approved for child care."

On December 5, 2022 CI Trussell conducted interviews with facility named director Lauren Osborn . Ms. Osborn stated the lock on the kitchen door was broken and they have not had it fixed. Ms. Osborn also stated these violations were observed on the last monitoring inspection conducted by CI Macie Herrig.

CI Trussell observed a monitoring inspection in MOCCIS dated September 13, 2022 where two violations were listed by CI Herrig regarding children having access to unapproved spaces.

CI Trussell conducted a walk through of the facility during the unannounced visit and found the following doors to be unlocked and spaces to be accessible to children: kitchen, laundry room, storage/closet, stairs leading to an attic space and stairs leading to a basement.

**CORRECTIVE MEASURES**

<b>CORRECTIVE MEASURE</b>	<b>COMPLETED (Y/N)</b>	<b>COMPLETED DATE</b>
The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review all licensing rules and regulations. The facility must provide the Office of Childhood with a statement, signed by all staff (paid employees and unpaid volunteers), to indicate they understand and agree to follow those rules and regulations.	Yes	12/11/2023
All staff members and volunteers (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers) must obtain one clock hour of approved training on emergency preparedness. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar . The training calendar can be found at <a href="http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/">http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/</a> . The local Child Care Aware agency may also assist in finding training . The Child Care Aware website can be found at <a href="http://www.childcareaware.org/">http://www.childcareaware.org/</a> . Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.	Yes	11/2/2023
The facility shall update their emergency preparedness plan . A copy of the updated emergency preparedness plan shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood for approval. After approval, the facility shall review the updated emergency preparedness plan with all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers) and submit a written statement to the Office of Childhood indicating it was reviewed by all staff. The facility must also submit photo documentation to the Office of Childhood indicating how the plans are posted in each classroom.	Yes	2/16/2023
The facility director shall develop a plan to assure that all non-licensed spaces is	Yes	11/3/2023

not accessible to children. This plan will be submitted to the Office of Childhood.

**CORRECTIVE MEASURE**

Signs shall be posted at all entrances of the rooms displaying the required staff/child ratios. A statement indicating that this has been completed shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.

**COMPLETED (Y/N)**

Yes

**COMPLETED DATE**

1/12/2023

**CORRECTIVE MEASURE**

The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review the center's policies and all licensing rules and regulations regarding supervision, specifically that pertaining to infant and toddlers. The facility must provide the Office of Childhood with a statement, signed by all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers), to indicate they understand and agree to follow those rules and regulations.

**COMPLETED (Y/N)**

Yes

**COMPLETED DATE**

11/3/2023

**DISPOSITION**

SUBSTANTIATED

**DISPOSITION DATE**

2/8/2023

**APPROVING SUPERVISOR**

NURNBERG, TONY A