Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Tatie's Playhouse

Provider No.: 53084

Address: 410 Thomas Street, Callender, IA, 50523

County: Webster

Director's Name: Kathryn Will

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5155483600

E-Mail: tatiesplayhouse2026@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 05/07/2026

Licensing Period: 02/01/2026 to 02/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/19/2026

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Monday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Tuesday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Wednesday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Thursday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Friday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		
Saturday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM		

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			16	14	30
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Unannounced licensing visits were made to Tatie's Playhouse child care center on 05-07-26, 05-19-26, 06-01-26, and 06-12-26. This is the initial licensing inspection for the program and the multiple visits were made to ensure that corrections were completed prior to the issuance of the license. During the visits I was able to meet with the center owner and director, Katherine Will, as well as designated in-charge staff on dates that Katie was out of the center. Katie is qualified as the director based on her prior experience operating an in-home child care program, and on-going professional training in early childhood care and education. The program serves only preschool and school age children. There are currently 13 children enrolled in the center served by 3 staff. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The programi is located on a commercial storefront building on the main street of Callendar. The building was renovated for use as a child care center with two rooms available for programming with one for preschool age children, and the other for school age children. While the building has physical space to accommodate 35 children the licensed capacity is capped at 30 children due to load restrictions with only 2 restrooms available for use. both classrooms have secondary egress providing direct at grade access to the outdoors which were observed to be clear of obstruction and opened easily and freely. Windows along the exterior walls provide natural light, and a view of the outdoors. Sinks are located in each restroom for handwashing, a changing station is also available in one restroom for those children which may still be toilet training or have accidents. During the initial visit it the hot water temperatures were measured to be 152.3 deg. F. and Katie was informed this needed to adjusted so that it did not exceed 120 deg. F. Activity centers are created in each classroom through the placement of furniture and play structures which were arranged so as to not create any blind areas.

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2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Child Interaction & Programming
The center is currently using the Brightwheel communication and file maintenance application which also has options for purchased curriculum plans which the center is using. The curriculum plans include identified themes and activities to help children explore and develop motor, language, cognitive, and social skills. Lesson plans can be shared digitally with parents, and/or printed to allowing posting in the classroom. Good interactions were observed during each visit with the staff being actively engaged with the children attending to their needs and implementing the planned curriculum. Observed examples included activities such as preparing/serving meals, assisting with hygiene, soothing children during nap time, and playing with the children. When speaking with the children the staff used calm tones and positive word choices. The center uses positive behavior support techniques to address behavioral issues and one staff was observed to do an excellent job of implementing this during one of the visits when a child needed assistance in the restroom and did not want to get redressed or wash their hands afterward. The staff remained calm restating the expectations with the child, offering options, and communicating with her co-worker to help the child regain control and identify solutions for compliance. The child was able to successfully rejoin the group after a few minutes and the staff did not escalate the confrontation with requiring disciplinary consequence after the child had regained control. Ratio was maintained in the center as required with at least two staff always present on-site, and no more than 5 children engaging in an off-site activity with one teacher.

Health & Safety
Good health and safety practices were observed. Staff did assist children with toileting and hygiene as needed. Staff ensured that the children washed their hands as required and provided supervision to ensure they did so in an effective manner. First aid kits were present and contained materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. During the initial visit employee purses were observed to be left where they were accessible to children, but on subsequent visits these, and other items such as chemical cleaners and medications were stored where they were not accessible to children. Cots were provided for children that nap and on the initial visit did not have cover sheets that could be removed and laundered as needed but on subsequent visits a second blanket was provided for each child until cover sheets could be obtained.

Kitchen & Meal Service
The center does have a small kitchen area where meals and snacks can be prepared on-site. A copy of the menu was posted which identified a good variety of nutritious meal options. Not all foods were properly stored in air tigh sealable food grade containers on the initial visit but were properly stored during subsequent visits. Good food handling practices were observed during each visit with staff washing their hands, and using measured portioning practices. The teachers did not eat with the children but supervision was provided at the tables.

Playground
The center does have outdoor space adjacent to the building for a playground space but is still in the process of developing the playground. During the course of the visits the center did show progress with pouring a concrete sidewalk, obtaining fencing, and removing trees. The center is making use of community facilities such as parks, the library, and pool.

Administrative Documentation
All required notices for Permission to Open, No Smoking, Consultant Contact, and Mandatory Abuse Reporting. Other required notices for emergency evacuation, emergency contacts, diapering, handwashing, daily schedule, curriculum, and menu were also present. All child files were reviewed and initially the center had obtained immunization documentation but not physicals. It was clarified that a physical was required for each child within 30 days of enrollment and Katie had worked to obtain physicals for each child. All staff files were reviewed and while the staff were still working to obtain all trainings they were within the allowed grace period. All other required employee documentation was present. In reviewing inspection logs and certificates the center has begun conducting fire and tornado drills, fuel burning appliances were inspected for operation as part of the renovations, and the center will need to complete radon testing within the first year but should wait until the spring due to the foundational work that was completed which could result in a false positive reading. The center parent handbook was reviewed and found to contain all required written policies though some were identified as being minimal and should be expanded.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

None Cited

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4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

Various documents including a list of required written policies with suggestions for implementation, required postings, and other information was provided to the center.

As issues were identified guidance was provided to Katie on options for corrections and those issues were addressed and verified in subsequent visits.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

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

Date: 06/14/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.