



**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:** 7/26/2023    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 10:00 AM    **Departure:** 1:35 PM

**CCLC-57517**

**House of Agape Child Development Center**

3008 Tobacco Road Hephzibah, GA 30815 Richmond County  
 CCLC-57517 zandrab73@gmail.com

**CCS Coordinator**

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672  
 Fax: (866) 359-7490  
 kesha.mcneal@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
07/26/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
04/24/2023	Initial 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
Main	2L-Three Year Old	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	8	C	22	C	NA	NA	Outside,Transitioning
Main	L-1 Infant	Infants and One Year Olds	2	11	C	19	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Transitioning,Nap,Floor Play
Main	R1-One Year Old	One Year Olds	1	8	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning,Story,Free Play
Main	R2-Two Year Old	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	14	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 70					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 33			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 70			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Left -Preschool	11	C
Main	Front Left-Infant	6	C
Main	R-Front and Back Toddler Playground	16	C

### Comments

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit and Complaint Investigation.

Director provided four file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/26/2023

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.dec.al.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](http://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 at 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

---

Toni Elam, Program Official

Date

---

Kesha McNeal, CCS Coordinator

Date



**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

**(Findings Report)**

**Date:** 7/26/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:35 PM

**CCLC-57517**

**House of Agape Child Development Center**

3008 Tobacco Road Hephzibah, GA 30815 Richmond County  
CCLC-57517 zandrab73@gmail.com

**CCS Coordinator**

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672

Fax: (866) 359-7490

kesha.mcneal@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

**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**

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**

**Not Met**

**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 the consultant's observation that was a three inch hole located on the middle section of the Back-left preschool playground causing a potential tripping hazard. It was further determined based on the consultant's observation that the cement steps on toddler playground entrance is not level or flushed to the ground causing a potential tripping fall hazard.

**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: 7/26/2023**

**Recited on 7/26/2023**

**Health and Hygiene**

**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that children in L-1 were observed with pacifier clips attached to their clothing.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

**Correction Deadline: 7/26/2023**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the diaper changing surface in classroom R-2 was not cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

**Correction Deadline: 7/26/2023**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that staff in L-1 and staff in 2-L were observed handling bodily fluids and not washing their hands with liquid soap and warm running water as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

**Correction Deadline: 7/26/2023**

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

---

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

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

---

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
---

---

**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Comment**

The correct number of cots, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of cots was discussed with the director on this date.

<b>Staff Records</b>
----------------------

---

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided four file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

---

**591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.24(1) - Please ensure that the center to maintain a personnel file on the Director, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance, and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; any other records required by these rules; and as applicable to the position held, evidence of required orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation.

**Correction Deadline: 7/31/2023**

---

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

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
---------------------------------

---

---

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

Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the director on this date.

**Comment**

Discussed combining children of mixed ages.

---

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.