



**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:** 4/2/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 8:15 AM    **Departure:** 10:55 AM

**CCLC-31001**

**Joyful Praise Academy**

2965 Holcomb Bridge Rd Building C Alpharetta, GA 30022 Fulton County  
(770) 594-8300 jpaalpharetta@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Shannon Curtis  
Phone: (770) 342-7802  
Fax: (678) 891-5904  
shannon.curtis@decal.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
04/02/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/17/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/08/2018	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	

**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	Room A	Infants	1	5	C	22	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Diapering
Main	Room B	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	27	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room C		0	0	C	23	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room D		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room E	Three Year Olds	1	5	C	21	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	Room F	PreK	1	4	C	23	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 126						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 20			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 126			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A (Infant - 2 yrs)	12	C
Main	Playground B (3 - 13 yrs)	85	C

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit and to follow up to the previous visit conducted on October 17, 2018.

Consultant provided staff file checklist on this date via email to assist the Director with organizing the staff files.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/02/2019

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.state.ga.us/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.

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#### 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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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.

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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 New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

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Iysha Stringer, Program Official

Date

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Shannon Curtis, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 4/2/2019    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 8:15 AM    **Departure:** 10:55 AM

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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.

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

**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**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

**Correction Deadline: 11/17/2018**

**Corrected on 4/2/2019**

**Previous citations were corrected:**

**Consultant observed the white pipes that surround the play area to be in good repair on this date.**

**Consultant observed the fence liner up and in good repair on this date.**

**Consultant observed the concrete path leading to the infant/toddler playground leveled on this date.**

**Consultant observed limbs to be spray painted on this date.**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Safety**

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.36(7)(c) requires the center to use passenger transportation checklists, in a format approved by the Department, to account for each child during transportation. A separate passenger checklist must be used for each vehicle. It was determined based on consultant's observations the program did not have evidence of transportation checklists as required for reviewing on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will maintain a passenger checklist as required and have on the premises when a State Representative comes to conduct a visit.

**Correction Deadline: 4/3/2019**

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 10****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 02/01/2010	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 04/01/2011	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 09/29/2017	
Staff # 4	Met

**Records Reviewed: 10****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Date of Hire: 08/21/2017

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 02/01/2010

Staff # 6

Met

Date of Hire: 09/03/2018

Staff # 7

Met

Date of Hire: 06/26/2017

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/04/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.24(1)-Evidence of Orientation Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 9

Met

Date of Hire: 06/27/2016

Staff # 10

Met

Date of Hire: 02/01/2010

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 10****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Director provided one file for employees hired since last visit on October 17, 2018 on this date.

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

Discussed staff training. Please obtain required documentation.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(2) requires the initial orientation to include the following subjects: the Center's policies and procedures; the portions of these rules dealing with the care, health and safety of children; the Employee's assigned duties and responsibilities; reporting requirements for suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or deprivation; communicable diseases and serious injuries; emergency plans; childhood injury control; the administration of medicine; reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); hand washing; fire safety; water safety; and prevention of HIV/Aids and blood borne pathogens. It was determined based on consultant's review of staff files that one new hire with a hire date of March 4, 2019 did not have valid evidence of completed staff orientation on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide orientation in all missing subjects to the employee(s) and will take steps to provide a complete orientation to new Employees in the future.

**Correction Deadline: 4/2/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment that will count toward required annual training: Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the health and safety training within the first 90 days of employment. It was determined, based on review of staff files, that health and safety orientation training was not on file for eight of nine staff members on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and have for review during the next visit.

**Correction Deadline: 4/30/2019**

**Recited on 4/2/2019**

**Defer**

Consultant will evaluate during next visit.

**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.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2018**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on Consultant's observations of staff files that two staff members in a Lead position did not have valid evidence of lead teacher credentials on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

**Correction Deadline: 4/2/2019**

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<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.