



**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:** 8/17/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:00 AM

**Departure:** 10:00 AM

**CCLC-39263**

**Merry Hearts Daycare**

508 West 7th Street Rincon, GA 31326 Effingham County  
(912) 826-9753 lagreeneg@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. BOX 904  
Rincon, GA 31326

**Regional Consultant**

Haley Carwile

Phone: (229) 317-9868

Fax: (229) 317-9865

haley.carwile@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.
08/17/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/28/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
12/21/2021	Licensing Study	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	A	Infants	1	1	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap,TV
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 11			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 1			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance							
Main	PG A	77	C							

**Comments**

Only child present and enrolled is the provider's grandson.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/17/2022

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/RuleAndRegulations.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



### 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 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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)

Loretta Greene- Gaines, Program Official

Date

Haley Carwile, 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)** N/A

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

#### Evening Care

**591-1-1-.32 Staffing/Supervision(CR)** N/A

**Comment**

No evening care hours provided

#### 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**

Center appears clean and well maintained.

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

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

## Health and Hygiene

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

Met

#### Comment

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Met

#### Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Not Evaluated

#### Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

## Safety

### 591-1-1-.05 Animals

Not Evaluated

#### Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

### 591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

### 591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)

Not Evaluated

#### Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

### 591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

N/A

#### Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

## Sleeping & Resting Equipment

### 591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

## Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 2

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Staff # 2

Met

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2

### 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 the director's statement that she has not updated her CPR/First Aid as required.

**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: 9/16/2022****Recited on 8/17/2022****591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Defer****Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)-Will review annual training for 2022 during the first visit of 2023 as required.

**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: 1/20/2022****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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.