



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: 1/28/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:00 PM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

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@dec.al.ga.gov

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
01/28/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/22/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/16/2019	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		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 11			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 0			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG A	77	C

Comments

A virtual inspection was conducted on January 28, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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/Regulations.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), e-mail the following information to 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://www.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.

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

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 Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

No children enrolled. Provider has not kept children in multiple years.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Not Evaluated

Comment

No children enrolled.

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 not observed on this date due to inclement weather. Provider do not have any children enrolled or present.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

There were no children enrolled in the program on this date. Proper diaper facilities were observed with warm running water and proper ventilation.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

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)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

No children enrolled.

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-.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)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the director on this date.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the director on this date.