



**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: 1/10/2023 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-33044

Little Miracles Daycare

411 W. Orange Street Jesup, GA 31545 Wayne County
(912) 588-0110 lonnieesandy@att.net

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
01/10/2023	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/27/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/03/2022	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	A	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	9	C	10	C	NA	NA	Circle Time, Nap, Transitioning, Lunch
Main	B	Infants and One Year Olds	1	9	NC	9	C	NA	NA	TV, Lunch, Diapering, Nap, Floor Play, Transitioning, Feeding, Music, Free Play
Main	C	Four Year Olds	1	16	C	15	NC	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap, Lunch, Music
Main	D	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	4	C	8	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap, Lunch, Clean Up
Main	Room E		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 38			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 48			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	50	C

Comments

An in person Licensing Study was conducted in conjunction with a Complaint. The center director was not present during this visit, was called by a staff member and ask to come to the center and had not arrived at the time the consultant left. There is a total of ten staff members with three of the ten staff being newly hires.

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.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 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 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Sandra Beasley, Program Official

Date

Connie Boatright, Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

The consultant observed a variety of age appropriate activities through out the center.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

Comment

Current lesson plans were observed to be posted in all classrooms in use.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

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

Met

Comment

Toys and equipment were observed to be clean and in good repair.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation, child head count and review of koala outback that classroom C is licensed for fifteen children and sixteen were present. Additionally, classroom D is licensed for eight children and nine are present.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that a toilet plunger is being stored in the four-year-old children's bathroom and accessible to the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 1/11/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(3) - requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. The back door on the right side of the building has molding that is broken and taped and in need of repair.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(8) - The center director and staff will ensure that protective caps are placed on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation and pictures taken that the following hazards were present during this visit:

- The yellow climbing dome is chipping paint.
- The blue, "Let the Music Play", musical metal toy has two wire strings attached to the toy and to the zylephones that are freyes and has metal wire protruding, and accessible to the children.
- The red metal truck is chipping paint.
- Two of four black tries on the red metal truck are split, exposing wire and accessible to the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2023

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition

Technical Assistance

Comment

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(5) - requires that the Center provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week except for School-age Centers where the food may be provided by the Parent(s) by agreement between the School-age Center and the Parent(s). Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu and menus shall be retained at the Center for six (6) months. The lunch menu for today was listed as chicken cassarole, sweet peas and strawberries where baked chicken, green beans, and strawberries were served. No substitution was noted at the time of arrival.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations

Met

Comment

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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) **Met**

Comment

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Not Met**

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

Finding

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) requires the Center to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on the statement of staff number 6 that no emergency preparedness plan could be produced on this day.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will write or revise an emergency plan that includes all of the required items.

Correction Deadline: 1/15/2023

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Comment

Please make sure that all required signs are posted and up to date.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

Comment

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

Comment

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children (Staff # 8 and staff # 9).

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **Met**

Comment

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Met**

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.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Comment

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

Staff Records

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment

Director provided 3 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR

Met

Comment

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2022

Corrected on 1/10/2023

.14(1) - The previous citation is observed to be corrected on this day.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.24(1) requires 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; It was determined based on review of all staff files and staff # 6 statement, that a file for staff # 9 could not be located.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will secure required information for all Personnel. The Center will ensure that complete information is in the personnel file for all Directors, Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other Support Staff.

Correction Deadline: 1/15/2023

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

Not Met

Comment

Documentation observed of required staff training.

Finding

591-1-1-.33(1) requires all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task. It was determined based on review of staff files that staff # 6, 9, and 10 does not have proof of completing the initial center orientation as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and provide orientation for all new Staff prior to their staff's assignment to children or task.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2023

Recited on 1/10/2023

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2022

Corrected on 1/10/2023

.33(3) - The previous citation is observed to be corrected on this day.

Correction Deadline: 10/7/2022

Corrected on 1/10/2023

.33(4) - The previous citation is observed to be corrected on this day.

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2022

Corrected on 1/10/2023

.33(5) - The previous citation is observed to be corrected on this day.

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.31(1)(a) requires the Center to have a Director who is responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center. The Director must be on the Center's premises. If the Director is absent from the Center at any time during the hours of the Center's operation, there shall be an officially designated person on the Center site to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center, and this person shall have full access to all records required to be maintained under these rules. It was determined based on observation and a staff statement and collateral contact information that the center director is not present and on the premises eighty percent of the time as required. Additionally, on January 10, 2023, the center director nor the designated person in charge was present on the premises as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure a director, responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center is on the premises. during operating hours. The Center will officially designate a person to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center when the director is not present who has full access to all records.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(i) requires that newly hired teachers who do not possess the educational and qualifying child care experience requirements must enroll in a program of study to obtain one of the educational credentials and qualifying experience requirements as required by these rules within six months after employment at the Center and complete the credential or degree within 18 months after enrollment. It was determined based on review of all staff files that staff # 5, 7, 8, and 10 do not possess the required educational credentials.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that all teachers will comply with the educational and qualifying child care experience requirements.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2023

Recited on 1/10/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)3.(ii)(I)-(VIII) requires the Center develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's who do not possess the educational credential or degree listed in 591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.(i) through (xii). It was determined based on review of all staff files that staff # 5, 7, 8, and 10 do not have a written professional plan on file as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop a written plan for newly hired teacher's and ensure that the teacher's follow the plan.

Correction Deadline: 1/20/2023

Recited on 1/10/2023

Staffing and Supervision

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.32(1) requires the Center to maintain the required Staff:child ratios as follows: under 1 year or under 18 months if not walking = 1:6; 1 year and walking = 1:8; 2 years = 1:10; 3 years = 1:15; 4 years = 1:18; 5 years = 1:20;and 6 years and older = 1:25. A Center must establish groupings of children for care with maximum group sizes as follows: under 1 year = 12; under 18 months/not walking = 12; 1 year and walking = 16; 2 years = 20; 3 years = 30; 4 years = 36; 5 years = 40; and 6 years and older = 50. It was determined based on observation, child head count and the lead teachers statement that one staff member was supervising two infants and seven one-year-old children upon the consultant's arrival for thirty-five minutes, where two staff members is required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will hire additional Staff or reschedule current Staff to meet required Staff:child ratios and will organize children into groups that meet requirements.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.32(5) requires that during day-time rest or sleeping periods, at least one Staff person is in each room providing direct supervision of the children and all Staff required by these rules relating to Staff: child ratios are in the Center and available to assure safe evacuation in an emergency. Staff: child ratios may be doubled for children three (3) years and older provided these requirements are met. It was determined based on observation, child head count, and age of the children that one staff member was providing supervision to two infants and seven one-year-old children during nap time where two staff are required due to the children being under the age of three.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will rearrange staff schedules to ensure the required number of staff are in each room and available.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation, child head count and the lead teachers statement that one staff member was supervising two infants and seven one-year-old children upon the consultant's arrival for thirty-five minutes, where two staff members is required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 1/10/2023