



**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:** 1/30/2023    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 9:15 AM    **Departure:** 2:30 PM

**CCLC-47648**

**The YMCA A.V. Kennedy Learning Center**

105 Darling Avenue Waycross, GA 31501 Ware County  
 (912) 282-9951 rhall@ymcawaycross.org

**Regional Consultant**

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

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connie.boatright@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**

1634 Plant Avenue  
 Waycross, GA 31501

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<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.
01/30/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/02/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/29/2022	Monitoring Visit	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- 1's	One Year Olds	1	5	C	9	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Free Play, Transitioning, Nap, Floor Play
Main	B- 2's	Two Year Olds	3	15	C	24	C	NA	NA	Clean Up, Transitioning, Nap, Centers, Lunch
Main	E- 3's & 4's	Three Year Olds	1	8	C	13	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning, Clean Up, Centers, Nap
Main	F- 3's & 4's	Three Year Olds	2	7	C	19	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Clean Up, Transitioning, Centers, Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 65

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 35

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 65

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Toddlers	9	C
Main	B- 2's, 3's & 4's	135	C
Main	Covered Deck	0	C

### Comments

An in person Monitoring Visit and Complaint Intake was conducted on this day. The director stated no medication is administered, no field trips or routine transportation is provided. There is a total of eleven staff with five being new hires. The complaint was not completed on this day due to pending requested documents.

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

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Kayley Hodges, Program Official

Date

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Connie Boatright, 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-.03 Activities**

**Met**

**Comment**

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

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that a sink bowl located on the wood sink is not the right size and being held in place with duct tape which is freyed.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

**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.

	<b>Facility</b>
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**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.06(7) - The center director will ensure that bathrooms are cleaned daily and through out the day (dirty toilet paper was not flushed in the middle staff in the two-year-old classroom).

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

**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)**

**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 the following hazards were observed.

Older three-year-old classroom:

\*\*\*Staff # 3 were storing her personal pocket book on a book shelf in the reading center, within reach of the children.

\*\*\*There were a broom and dust pan being stored by the children's hand washing sink and accessible to the children.

\*\*\*Staff # 3 had a cell phone on a table, accessible to the children.

Younger three-year - old classroom:

\*\*\*There were a toilet plunger stored in the left stall, within reach of the children.

One-year-old Classroom:

\*\*\*There were a 12 ounce can of Red Bull Coconut Edition and a small bag of white Cheddar cheese chips being stored on the children's hand washing sink located by the diaper changing table.

\*\*\*There were a 11.8 ounce container of Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes being stored on the children's hand washing sink located by the diaper changing table.

**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: 1/30/2023**

**Finding**

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. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed:

One-year-old classroom:

\*\*\*Two air floor vents were rusting and in need of repair.

\*\*\*Two air floor vents were taped to the floor in four places with duct tape that is fraying and peeling.

Two-year-old classroom:

\*\*\*One air floor vent located to the far left side of the classroom is not secure and accessible to the children causing a potential tripping hazard.

\*\*\*The door to the bottom cabinet under the diaper changing table is hanging and gaped open two inches.

\*\*\*The large ABC area rug is soiled.

\*\*\*Two of three while air floor vents is taped in four places each with duct tape that is fraying and peeling.

\*\*\*There is a fifteen inch x one inch piece of tile and a twelve inch x four inch piece of tile missing from the floor at the entry door inside of the classroom.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.25(8) - The center director will ensure that all unused electrical outlets will be covered with protective covers with not in use and all electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 9/30/2022**

**Corrected on 1/30/2023**

**.26(4) - The previous citation is observed to be corrected. The center has replaced all fencing with six foot fencing around both playgrounds.**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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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-.05 Animals**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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**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.

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

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.30(4) - The center director will ensure that if cots and mats are stored in the children's activity room or area, they shall be stored to prevent children's access to them and to allow maximum use of play space. When storage is available and used for the storage of cots and mats that allows the cots, mats and any bedding to be stored without touching any other cots, mats or bedding, the bedding may be left on the cot or mat. When such storage is not available for the cots and mats, each child's bedding shall be kept separate from other children's bedding and stored in containers marked for individual use, such as, but not limited to, bins, cubbies, or bags.

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

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**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

**Comment**

Director provided 5 file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

**Comment**

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

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

The center director will ensure that all Employees and Provisional Employees to receive Initial Center orientation prior to assignment to children or task (Staff # 1 is not on file).

**Correction Deadline: 1/30/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

The center director will ensure that each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development.

**Correction Deadline: 3/1/2023**

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

**Not Met**

**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 staff files that staff # 9 does not have the required qualifying experience to be a lead teacher, as required

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 1/31/2023**

**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 staff files that staff # 9 and staff # 11 do not have a professional learning 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: 1/31/2023**

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**Staffing and Supervision**

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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.