



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: 9/12/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:25 AM **Departure:** 4:20 PM

CCLC-124
Sheltering Arms - East Lake Village
350 Eva Davis Way Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 373-6430 laswhite@shelteringarmsforkids.com

Regional Consultant
Jessica Johnson
Phone: (770) 357-5090
Fax:
jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

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.
09/12/2024	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
01/24/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/21/2023	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	1	Infants	1	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Free Play
main	10	GA PreK	2	10	C	27	C	NA	NA	Centers
main	1A, sleeping	Infants and One Year Olds	1	3	C	0	NC	NA	NA	Nap
main	2	Infants	2	2	C	13	C	NA	NA	Feeding, Free Play
main	2A, sleeping		0	0	C	0	C	NA	NA	
main	3	One Year Olds	2	10	C	20	C	NA	NA	Free Play
main	4	One Year Olds	2	5	C	22	C	NA	NA	Free Play
main	5	Two Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Centers
main	6	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	8	C	22	C	NA	NA	Centers
main	7	Three Year Olds	2	17	C	27	C	NA	NA	Centers
main	8	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	3	13	C	27	C	NA	NA	Centers
main	9	GA PreK	3	15	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 217					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 95					Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
main	3-5	41	C
main	Toddler	37	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
12	11	20	31	27	1	0

Comments

An on-site inspection was conducted on September 12, 2024 with the Director LaShandra White. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. An on-site complaint investigation was conducted on September 12, 2024. Investigative findings were not concluded on September 12, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/12/2024

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), 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!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 9/12/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing **Arrival:** 9:25 AM **Departure:** 4:20 PM
Study

CCLC-124

Sheltering Arms - East Lake Village

350 Eva Davis Way Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 373-6430 laswhite@shelteringarmsforkids.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

Phone: (770) 357-5090

Fax:

jessica.johnson@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study 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-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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:

Classroom 4:

- A plastic bag in the cubby accessible to children in care.

Classroom 7:

- A plastic bag in the cubby accessible to children in care.

- Diaper wipes on top of the cubby accessible to children in care.

Classroom 9:

- Diaper wipes and Aquaphor in a clear bin on top of a cabinet accessible to children in care.

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: 9/12/2024

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

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant discussed with the Director replacing the rusted S hooks on the hanging swing chair on the toddler playground.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2024

Comment

591-1-1-.26(8) - The Consultant discussed with the Director adding a copy of the ASTM certification to the centers files. The Consultant discussed that a 6 to 9-inch deep resilient ground cover (sand, pea, gravel, or shredded wood) must be under all swings, merry-go-rounds, slides, and climbing equipment.

Correction Deadline: 9/22/2024

Correction Deadline: 1/31/2024

Corrected on 9/12/2024

.26(9) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed the tree removed.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed covering the missing poured surface with mulch to reduce the tripping hazard and cutting back the weeds growing through the fence on the 3-5 playground.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

Food Service

591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**Technical Assistance**

Correction Deadline: 1/24/2024

Corrected on 9/12/2024

.15(3) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed bottles labeled on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.15(3) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that baby bottles and formula must be labeled with the individual child's name; supplied by the Parent daily in bottles; and refrigerated at a temperature of forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit or less. The Consultant discussed adding a thermometer to the refrigerator in classroom 2.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation that two infants had pacifier clips attached to their clothing in classroom 1.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will instruct Staff regarding this safety requirement.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

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

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment

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.

	Policies and Procedures
--	--------------------------------

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures	Met
--	------------

Comment

Program observed complete emergency drills

	Safety
--	---------------

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

Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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)	Not Met
---	----------------

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Finding

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that a infant had a pacifier clip attached to their clothing while sleeping in the crib.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will take all steps necessary to provide a safe sleep environment for infants as listed in these rules; will train Staff to follow these rules; and will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

Staff Records

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #4, staff #13, and Staff #14 worked at the program when children were present with an expired CRC letter.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will check to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The center will check to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) - Please ensure that all independent contractors and or volunteers who work less than once every 90 days or other individuals who do not require a CBC must be supervised at all times by center staff.

Correction Deadline: 9/12/2024

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

Met

Comment

Complete first aid kits observed in center.

Comment

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

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.24(1) - The Consultant discussed with the Director that the center must 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.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2024**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**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.