Date: 11/6/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

CCLC-55067
Happy Feet Academy Preschool
1112 North Patterson St Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
(229) 474-4288 eltonmack08@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant
Debrik Perry
Phone: (478) 599-9821
Fax: (478) 314-5864
debrik.perry@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
11/06/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
12/11/2023	TA Follow Up	NA
10/25/2023	TA Follow Up	NA

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	Room A	Three Year Olds	2	6	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	Room B	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	24	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Free Play
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 43			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 18		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 43			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	24	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	**1 years**	**2 years**	**3 years**	**4 years**	**5 years (Prekony)**	**5 years and older**
3	5	6	8	3	0	22

Comments
An in person was conducted on November 6, 2024 with the owner and director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/06/2024

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.decal.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)

QUALITY™ RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS CHILDCARE AND PARENT SERVICES

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free techincal 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)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. The six book shelves and cubbies in the one-year-old classroom were anchored on this date.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. Child is no longer enrolled.

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. The parent authorization and emergency medical care forms were completed on this date.

Evening Care

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

Comment
No evening care hours provided

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) **Met**

Comment
No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Comment
Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Food Service

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

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. The lunch menu that was served on this date included components from of the USDA guidelines.

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

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. The refrigerator in the infant classroom measured at 40 degrees on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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
Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **N/A**

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

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

Finding
591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on observation and staff statement that the drill form had not been completed for the year of 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

Correction Deadline: 11/11/2024

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined based on consultant's observation that all required notices were not posted. The administrator and the person in charge in the director's absence was not posted. Additionally, the menu showing the meals and snacks for the current week was not posted on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will post the notices as required and ensure they remain posted.

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **N/A**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on premises.

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) **Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. All drivers transportation training was completed and filed on this date.

Correction Deadline: 8/25/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. Transportation and Emergency agreements were reviewed on this date.

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(c)1 requires that children be listed individually on the passenger transportation checklist using their first and last names. It was determined based on a review of transportation records that there were no transportation records available for November 2024, therefore there were record of names of children being transported.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that each child is listed individually by first and last name on the checklist.

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on consultant's observation, a review of transportation records, and staff statements that two children were transported from W. G. Nunn Elementary School, and one child from Moulton Branch Elementary School to the center on August 24, 2023, and were not accounted for on a log when they were loaded and unloaded at the school and at the center. Additionally, these same children, Child No. 5, Child No. 6, are no longer enrolled. There was no transportation documentation route forms for the month of November, 2024, for Child #7.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The driver/other designated person will immediately document in writing with a check/mark/symbol each time a child gets on and off the vehicle.

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(d)1. requires that the first check be conducted immediately upon unloading the last child at any location including, but not limited to, a field trip destination, arrival at the Center, and the last stop during transportation to home or school. The responsible person on the vehicle shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle’s interior; sign the passenger transportation checklist (s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle; and give the passenger transportation checklist(s) to the second designated Staff person. It was determined based on consultant's observation, staff statements, and a review of the transportation logs were not documented and available for review for the first and second week of November.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.36(7)(d)2. requires that the second designated Staff person conduct a check of the vehicle immediately upon the completion of the first check of the vehicle. The responsible person shall physically walk through the entire vehicle; visually inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats and in all compartments or recesses in the vehicle's interior; and sign the passenger transportation checklist(s), indicating all of the children have exited the vehicle. There shall be continuous watchful oversight of the vehicle between the first check and second check. It was determined based on a review of transportation records that there was no signature showing that a second check of the vehicle was made on August 7, 2023 when Child No. 6 was transported from Moulton Branch Elementary School to the center. Additionally, it was determined that Child No. 1 is no longer enrolled and there was no transportation route documentation for the first and second week of November, 2024 for Child No 7.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff who are or may be involved in transporting children in how to thoroughly inspect a vehicle and properly complete transportation documentation. The Center will review and monitor.

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

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.

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

Comment
Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

Comment
Director provided files for three employees hired since last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR — Met

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. Consultant reviewed CPR/1ST Aid certification for all drivers.

Correction Deadline: 9/3/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. Thermometers were placed inside all first aid kits.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records — Met

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. All staff had completed personnel files on this date.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training — Not Met

Correction Deadline: 8/24/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
Previous citation corrected. All staff had documentation of orientation on this date.

Finding
591-1-1-.33(3) requires 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. It was determined based on a review of files that the following staff did not complete the health and safety training:
1 Staff #3
2) Staff #7
3) Staff #8

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2024

Defer
This rule will be deferred until the next regulatory visit. Annual Training for 2024 will be reviewed at that time.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2024

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined based on a review of staff records and staff statements that there were no lead teachers employed on this date. There were no lead teacher credentials for review on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

Correction Deadline: 11/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

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.