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: 10/12/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 8:55 AM **Departure:** 11:45 AM

CCLC-289
The Gingerbread House

96 W. Felton Road Cartersville, GA 30120 Bartow County
(770) 386-4568 director.cobb@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
Sharnette Glenn

Phone: (404) 651-8365
Fax: (404) 334-4612
sharnette.glenn@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
129 Gant Qtrs. Ct.
Marietta, GA 30068

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
10/12/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
12/05/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/20/2021	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	Downstairs Front Right		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Downstairs Rear Left		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Upstairs 1st Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	6	C	4	NC	NA	NA	Centers
Main	Upstairs Left		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Upstairs Rear Right		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 42			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Two	Downstairs Room-PreK	GA PreK	2	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Two	Upstairs Room-PreK	GA PreK	2	8	C	31	C	NA	NA	Centers
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 52			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 29		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 94			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance

Comments
The purpose of this visit is to conduct a licensing study.

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)

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!

Michael Wall, Program Official	Date

Sharnette Glenn, Regional Consultant	Date

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(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**

Comment
A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

Comment
Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2022

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.12(4) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant did not observed a white storage cabinet downstairs in the Pre-K Classroom.

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

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**

Child # 3 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child’s name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child’s primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child’s participation in the program. It was determined based on review of records, children records #3 and #5 was missing the address for the people the child may be released to.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 10/20/2023

Recited on 10/12/2023

Facility

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**

Comment
Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Finding
591-1-1-.25(11) requires that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable.

It was determined based on observation, that in the main building downstairs, the floor tiles were cracked and damage.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Floors will be maintained to be safe and sanitary.

Correction Deadline: 11/30/2023

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 in the main building's 1st left classroom, that the consultant observed on the left side of the back corner of the teacher's desk a pair of teacher scissors, staff purse/bag, and hand sanitizer 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: 10/13/2023

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 severe mold was on the air duct system located in the downstairs area of the main building. Additionally, cobwebs were observed throughout the center in the kitchen windows, above the stove in the ventilation fan, and in the classroom windows.

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: 10/31/2023

Recited on 10/12/2023

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

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.26(4) -Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure the gate on the playground is always closed.

Correction Deadline: 10/12/2023

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 that the playground consultant observed flower and vegetable garden soil bags open and accessible to the children. Additionally, the two swings were rusted. Furthermore, the consultant observed the yellow playground equipment to have chipped paint.

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: 11/24/2023

Food Service

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

Comment
Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2023

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.18(3) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed the Bartow County Fire Department affidavit affirms that the residential stove used by this facility is not used for frying foods but is only used for warming already cooked food and for boiling water.

Finding
591-1-1-.18(5) requires the refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and served promptly after cooking. Freezer temperature shall be maintained at zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below. It was determined based on observation the temperature of the white refrigerator located in the kitchen was 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will refrigerate foods as required, will train Staff on proper refrigerator and freezer temperature settings and monitor the settings. Food will be served promptly after cooking.

Correction Deadline: 10/27/2023

Recited on 10/12/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
No children enrolled who require diapering. Center cares for children three-years-old and older.

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

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2022

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.17(7) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant observed warm water throughout the center.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2022

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.17(9) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant did not observed no laundry in the children's bathroom.

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

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment
Center does not keep animals on premises.

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.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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) **Met**

Comment
Center does not care for infants. 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.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR **Not Met**

Comment
Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

Finding
591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on review of records, staff member #7 did not have certification in CPR and First Aid in person training.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will develop a schedule to ensure there is always a staff person with current first aid and CPR training present and will develop and implement a plan to ensure all staff members have satisfactorily completed first aid and CPR training by the specified date.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2023

Recited on 10/12/2023

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Met**

Correction Deadline: 12/10/2022

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.24(1) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed all staff files.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Met**

Comment
Documentation observed of required staff training.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2022

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.33(2) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed the staff members initial center orientation.

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2023

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.33(3) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed the staff members ten hours health and safety training.

Correction Deadline: 12/5/2022

Corrected on 10/12/2023
.33(5) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant reviewed the staff members annual ten hours training for the year of 2022.

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.