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: 7/25/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 2:50 PM

CCLC-51652
Little Hearts Day Care
424 Eagle Ridge Drive East Dublin, GA 31027 Laurens County
(478) 304-5197 lheartsdaycare@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
Kristy Turner
Phone: (470) 373-3232
Fax:
kristy.turner@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Lisa Pitts

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/25/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
02/05/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
08/25/2023	Monitoring Visit	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	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	B	Infants and Two Year Olds	1	2	C	6	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C	Two Year Olds	1	8	C	9	C	NA	NA	Free Play
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 26			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 18		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 26			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	34	C
Main	B	17	C

Comments
This purpose of this visit was to conduct a monitoring visit on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/25/2024

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!

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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-.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.

Children's Records

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

Correction Deadline: 2/12/2024

Corrected on 7/25/2024
.08(1) - Children #s 1, 2, 3, 4 address's for the authorized released persons were updated. Children #s 2, and 3 work address's and or phone numbers were updated. Child #4 emergency contact information was updated. Child #2 allergy and medication information were updated. Child #5 is no longer enrolled. Children's records were reviewed and corrected on this date.

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**

Finding
591-1-1-.25(12) requires heating and cooling equipment to be protected to prevent children from touching it. Fans, space heaters, etc. shall be positioned or installed so as to be inaccessible to the children. It was determined, based on observation that the provider did install a protective barrier around the heating and cooling equipment; however, the barrier did not meet the Department's requirement of four feet high.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will install a four feet barrier around the heating and cooling equipment.

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2024

Recited on 7/25/2024

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 potential hazards were found in Room A in a child's book bag that was stored in a cubby (Benadryl, Fluticason Propionate (Inhalation Aerosol), and Albuterol.

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: 7/25/2024

Recited on 7/25/2024

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

Finding
591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the lower part on the fence on playground B had exposed screws that extended more than two threads which exceeds the requirements of the Department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 7/25/2024

Correction Deadline: 2/5/2024

Corrected on 7/25/2024
.26(9) - The pine cones and sticks were observed to be removed and corrected on this date. The standing water on the playground was emptied and corrected out of the sand and water table and other toys/equipment after heavy rain and windstorms on this date.

Food Service

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

Correction Deadline: 2/7/2024

Corrected on 7/25/2024
.15(2) -It was reviewed and corrected that all infants have updated feeding plans on this date.

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.07 Children's Health — **Met**

Correction Deadline: 2/5/2024

Corrected on 7/25/2024
.07(5) - Room B it was observed a pacifier was removed and corrected on this date.

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

Comment
Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures Room C.

Staff was reminded about hand washing after diapering procedures in Room B.

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 **Met**

Correction Deadline: 2/29/2024

Corrected on 7/25/2024
.21(3) - Documentation for the fire drills for February, March, April, May, and June have been recorded monthly and corrected on this date.

Safety

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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(1)(b)1 requires that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child; and that mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick. It was determined based on observation,that the mats in Room A were replaced by the provider; however, the mats are (1") thick and does not meet the (2") thick requirement of the Department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that cots and mats are of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate the size and weight of the child and mats are in good repair, washable, covered with a waterproof material and is at least two inches thick.

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2024

Recited on 7/25/2024

Staff Records

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

Comment
Director provided 2 new file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

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

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 that Staff # 4 was lacking evidence of completing first aid and CPR training within the first 90 days of hire as required.

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: 7/25/2024

Recited on 7/25/2024

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

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 review of records, that Staff # 4 was lacking evidence of completing the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which was required within the first 90 days of employment.

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: 7/25/2024

Recited on 7/25/2024

Defer
591-1-1-.33(5)-Review of staff training hours will be deferred on the next visit date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 3/31/2024

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
Adequate supervision observed on this date.

591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR) **Met**

Comment
A supervision plan was created for mealtime in Room A and Room C on this date.