**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:** 2/22/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 3:10 PM

**CCLC-39336**
**ICare Child Development Center, LLC**
7 Anniston Avenue Atlanta, GA 30317 DeKalb County
(404) 790-5655 kilby2003@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
Kajora McCoy
Phone: (678) 239-9361
Fax:
kajora.mccoy@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**
Same

**Quality Rated:**

| Compliance Zone Designation | | |
|---|---|---|
| 02/22/2024 | Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study | Good Standing |
| 02/08/2024 | TA Follow Up | NA |
| 12/06/2023 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Building 2 | 1st L Thriving Three's | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 1 | 15 | C | 17 | C | NA | NA | Centers |
| Building 2 | 1st R Terrific Two's | One Year Olds and Two Year Olds | 1 | 5 | C | 17 | C | NA | NA | Transitioning |
| | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 34 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | | |
| Main | A - 1st R | Infants and One Year Olds | 1 | 4 | C | 5 | C | NA | NA | Nap |
| Main | B - 2nd R | One Year Olds | 1 | 6 | C | 6 | C | NA | NA | Diapering |
| Main | C - 2L | Infants and One Year Olds | 1 | 5 | C | 8 | C | NA | NA | Diapering,Transitioning |
| Main | D-1L | | 0 | 0 | C | 3 | C | NA | NA | Not In Use,Centers |
| | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 22 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | Building @35 capacity limited by Centers Request | | |
| Total # Children this Date: 35 | | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 56 | | | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 | | | | | |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Building 2 | Building 2 porch | 4 | C |
| Main | Back | 18 | C |
| Main | Building 1 Frontyard left | 3 | C |
| Main | Building 1 porch | 3 | C |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Main | Building 1 Right front yard | 4 | C |

**Comments**
Consultant conducted an onsite licensing study on February 22, 2024.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 02/22/2024

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.

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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.

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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 Licensing Study Visit:**

## Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)** **Not Met**

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

**Comment**
Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

**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 there was a play stove in the dramatic play area in the Building 2:2nd Right classroom with a broken plastic cover to the bottom cabinet that posed a potential hazard to the children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

**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 # 2 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(1)(a)-Work Address Missing,.08(1)(a)-Work Number Missing

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**
591-1-1-.08(7) - Please ensure that parents list an address for authorized release persons.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

## 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**

**Correction Deadline: 10/29/2023**

**Corrected on 2/22/2024**
**.25(11) - This citation was corrected on this date. Flooring was observed to be in good condition.**

**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 existed:
Main Building 2nd R:
-There was a staff bag hanging next to the diaper changing table.
-There was a broom next to the trash can.

Building 2:2nd R:
-There was a dust pan next to the diaper changing table.

Building 2:1st R:
-There were plastic storage bags behind 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: 2/22/2024**

**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 there were several roaches in the kitchen area of the Main Building.

**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: 2/22/2024**

**Technical Assistance**
591-1-1-.25(7) - Please ensure that storage closets are locked.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

**Technical Assistance**
591-1-1-.25(8) - Please ensure that cords are not accessible to the children.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**
591-1-1-.25(14) - Please ensure that the lighting is not too dark during naptime.

**Correction Deadline: 3/23/2024**

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

**Technical Assistance**
591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure that exposed bolts do not exceed two threads in length.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

**Technical Assistance**
591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure that S hooks are closed properly.

**Correction Deadline: 3/3/2024**

## Food Service

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

**Comment**
Please ensure that bottles are covered and fully labeled with child's full name.

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

**Comment**
Discussed proper steps for dishwashing.

**Finding**
591-1-1-.18(6) requires that non-disposable dishes, glasses and silverware are properly cleaned by pre-rinsing, or scraping, washing, sanitizing and air drying. A three (3) compartment sink or a dishwasher with a sani-cycle or capability of maintaining a rinse water temperature of a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) degrees Fahrenheit and a two (2) compartment sink shall be available. Dishes, glasses and silverware shall be rinsed in the approved dishwasher or rinsed in a chemical sanitizer and air dried. It was determined based on observation that children's spoons were being sanitized in a plastic cup with bleach water.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
The Center will train Staff in the required dishwashing methods, will repair or replace any equipment that cannot meet the standards, and will routinely check equipment and monitor dishwashing.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

## Health and Hygiene

**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**
591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on observation that the diaper changing pad in the Main Building 1st L classroom was torn. It was further determined that the diaper changing table in the Main Building 2nd L classroom was not properly cleaned and had used disposable wipes left on it.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

**Technical Assistance**
591-1-1-.10(6) - Please do not store diapers, wipes, or diaper rash creams on the diaper changing table.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**
591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that staff did not wash hands before diapering or after handling bodily fluids in the Building 2:2R classroom as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
The Center will ensure liquid soap and warm running water are available for handwashing, train Staff on the handwashing requirements, review the requirements with Staff periodically, and monitor handwashing.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

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

**Comment**
The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

## Organization

**591-1-1-.37 Inspections & Investigations** **Met**

**Correction Deadline: 11/7/2023**

**Corrected on 2/22/2024**
**.37(b) - This citation was corrected on this date. All requested access was allowed.**

**Correction Deadline: 11/7/2023**

**Corrected on 2/22/2024**
**.37(d) - This citation was corrected on this date. Center and staff were cooperative during the visit.**

## 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 a review of records that fire drills were not conducted during the months of October, November, and December of 2023. It was further determined that the smoke detectors were not checked during the months of October, November, and December. It was also determined that the lock down drill was not conducted every six months as required.

**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: 2/27/2024**

**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices** **Met**

**Comment**
Observed all required posted notices.

**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting** **Met**

**Comment**
Discussed reporting requirements.

## Safety

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

**Comment**
Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

**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)** **Not Met**

**Comment**
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Finding**
591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. It was determined based on observation that the cribs in the Main Building:1st L and 2nd R were not at least twenty-four inches apart as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
The Center will arrange and place sleeping and resting equipment according to the requirements in the rule; will train Staff; and will monitor for continued compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

## Staff Records

**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**
591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on a review of records that staff #6 did not submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review clearance letters to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as 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 review CBC requirements to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

**Finding**
591-1-1-.09(1.)(b) requires the Center to ensure that every Director 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 Director 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 #6 who was acting as director during the visit did not have a satisfactory comprehensive records check prior to being present at the center.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review CBC requirements to ensure that the Director 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 Director 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 review CBC requirements to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**
Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Finding**
591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of records that there was no evidence of valid and current CPR/1st aid for at least fifty percent of center staff.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**
The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

**Correction Deadline: 3/23/2024**

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

**Comment**
Documentation observed of required staff training.

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

**Comment**
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

## 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.

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that staff were not seated with children during lunch in the Building 2:1st Right and Building 2:2nd Right classrooms that contained children ages one, two, and three.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024**