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: 11/19/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 3:00 PM

CCLC-51382
Kidz Zone Child Development and Learning Center
4764 Rockbridge Road Stone Mountain, GA 30083 DeKalb County
(678) 974-8672 abrighterday2@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant
Maryn Accord
Phone: (404) 591-6031
Fax:
maryn.accord@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Carrie Spangler

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
11/19/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/19/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/23/2023	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- 18mth-2 yrs	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B- 2 year olds		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- 6wks- 18mths	Infants and One Year Olds	1	5	C	6	C	NA	NA	Floor Play,Transitioning,Lunch
Main	D- 4 and up	Three Year Olds	1	9	C	11	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Music
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 30			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Building Department		
Total # Children this Date: 21		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 30			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back	25	C
Main	Front	22	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	**1 years**	**2 years**	**3 years**	**4 years**	**5 years (Prekonly)**	**5 years and older**
1	5	7	9	1	0	8

Comments
The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/19/2024

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)

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.

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

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

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

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) — **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
591-1-1-.25(13) - requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Consultants discussed with the Director to ensure that floor vents in the classroom shall remain in good repair and are maintained as needed.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2024

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 there was a four and a half inch gap on the bottom of the fence located in the front right corner of the playground causing a potential entrapment hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will install additional material to the bottom of the fence to ensure there are no gaps present that do not measure more than three and a half inches. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards.

Correction Deadline: 12/19/2024

Technical Assistance
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. The Consultants discussed with the Director to ensure that unused playground equipment shall be positioned as inaccessible to children, and that discarded equipment shall be removed from the playground.

Correction Deadline: 11/29/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the resilient surface under the blue slide on the front playground measured at two and a half inches, when three inches of resilient surfacing was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 12/6/2024

Recited on 11/19/2024

Finding
591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based upon observation that there was a concrete slab located on the back playground by the air conditioning unit posing as a potential hazard. It was also determined that on the front playground there were three areas of the PVC pipe barrier that were disconnected. It was further determined that on the back playground there was one area where the PVC pipe barrier was disconnected.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 12/3/2024

Food Service

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

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2023

Corrected on 11/19/2024
.15(7) - Correction of previous citation in that the Consultants observed that the food products stored in the kitchen were in good condition and were not passed their expiration dates.

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
Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **Met**

Comment
Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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 there was not a fire drill conducted in October 2024 when fire drills are required to be conducted monthly.

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: 11/29/2024

Recited on 11/19/2024

Safety

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-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Comment
A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

Comment
Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Comment
The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date. Please ensure that the first aid kit is routinely checked for missing items.

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(f)1. requires that all transported children be secured in a child passenger restraining system or seat safety belt in accordance with current state and federal laws and regulations and according to manufacturer's directions. It was determined based on observation that five of five child safety seats were not installed per the manufacturer's directions

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that manufacturer directions and state and federal laws are met when using child passenger restraining systems and seat safety belts.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2024

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

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

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 upon a review of records that the Director of the Center did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while children were present for care on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will view the training videos 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 view the training videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2024

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 #1 did not have a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will view the videos 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 view the videos to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.09(1)(l)3. requires the Center to immediately require a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination for a Director, Employee or Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 1 did not immediately obtain a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter as required when staff #1's previous records check determination letter expired on August 8, 2024. It was further determined that staff #2 did not immediately obtain a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter as required when staff #2's previous records check determination letter expired on June 19, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will view the videos to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. 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 view the videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 11/19/2024

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) **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 upon observation that a staff member in Classroom A left the children briefly unsupervised by walking out of the classroom to answer the front door. It was also determined that a staff member in Classroom D left the children briefly unsupervised by leaving the classroom to close the back door leading to the playground. It was further determined that a staff member in Classroom D left the children briefly unsupervised by leaving the classroom to get materials in the kitchen.

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: 11/19/2024