



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: 4/17/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:15 PM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

CCLC-57517

House of Agape Child Development Center

3008 Tobacco Road Hephzibah, GA 30815 Richmond County
(706) 619-1689 zandrab73@gmail.com

Exemption Unit Consultant

Brianne Walters

Phone: (912) 544-9775

Fax: (912) 544-9774

brianne.walters@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
04/17/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/01/2023	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
07/26/2023	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

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	2L-Three Year Old	Three Year Olds	1	13	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	L-1 Infant	Infants and One Year Olds	2	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Diapering,Nap
Main	R1-One Year Old	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Snack,Outside
Main	R2-Two Year Old	Two Year Olds	1	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Snack,Outside
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 70		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 46			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 70		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Left -Preschool	11	C
Main	Front Left-Infant	6	C
Main	R-Front and Back Toddler Playground	16	C

Comments

A licensing visit was completed this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/17/2024

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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 user id 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 at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Toni Elam, Program Official

Date

Brianne Walters, Exemption Unit 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

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

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed room capacities observed to be met during the visit.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Met

Comment

Center appears clean and well maintained.

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Discussed ensuring proper supervision to prevent falls on the back and right playgrounds since the ground slopes in some places.

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 several bolts were protruding from the fence towards playgrounds as follows:

Front Left Infant: 1 bolt was protruding from the gate.

Back left: on fence located to the left of the door from the 2nd Left 3's room

Back Right: Fence gate (gate between back left and right playgrounds), and on the fence between back left and right playgrounds

Front Right: back left corner of fence, on ramp railing and on the fence to the right of the ramp railing.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will cut bolts to no more than 2 threads beyond the nut and sand any sharp edges. Some bolts can be turned so they are not pointing towards a playground.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2024

Correction Deadline: 7/26/2023

Corrected on 4/17/2024

Playground observed clean and free of hazards during the visit.

Food Service**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

Health and Hygiene**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health****Met**

Correction Deadline: 7/26/2023

Corrected on 4/17/2024

Observed corrected during the visit.

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 7/26/2023

Corrected on 4/17/2024

Observed corrected during the visit.

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

Correction Deadline: 7/26/2023

Corrected on 4/17/2024

Observed corrected during the visit.

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

The director stated the program does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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) **Met**

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed. Infant sleep safety standards were observed met during the visit.

Staff Records

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

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete for all current staff.

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

Discussed ensuring that orientation is completed for all new staff and is signed/dated in staff files.

Correction Deadline: 4/22/2024

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) **Met**

Comment

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.