



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: 4/2/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:45 AM **Departure:** 3:10 PM

CCLC-2289
Bessie's Child Care
 1842 Wrightsboro Road Augusta, GA 30904 Richmond County
 (706) 481-9968 bessiesdirector@gmail.com

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

Mailing Address
 Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

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.
04/02/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	
04/02/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Support	
09/23/2024	LS POI Follow Up	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
I	A - 1st Right	One Year Olds	1	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch
I	B - 2nd Right	Infants	1	3	C	5	C	NA	NA	Feeding
I	C - 1st Left	GA PreK	2	18	C	32	C	NA	NA	Lunch
I	D - 2nd Left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Lunch
I	E - 3rd Left		0	0	C	44	C	NA	NA	
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
II	F - Left Side	Two Year Olds	1	7	C	12	C	NA	NA	Lunch, Transitioning
II	G - Right Side	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	11	C	14	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Lunch
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 26			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 56			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
----------	------------	----------------------	-----------------------

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	7	10	13	21	10	27

Comments

Consultant conducted an onsite monitoring visit on April 2, 2025.

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 04/16/2025

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.decga.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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 4/2/2025

VisitType: Complaint Investigation &
Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:45 AM **Departure:** 3:10 PM

CCLC-2289

Bessie's Child Care

1842 Wrightsboro Road Augusta, GA 30904 Richmond County
(706) 481-9968 bessiesdirector@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Kajora McCoy

Phone: (678) 239-9361

Fax:

kajora.mccoy@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

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

Comment

Discussed rotating toys to support the procedures of daily disinfecting.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure that classroom equipment is in good repair.

Correction Deadline: 4/2/2025

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.

Correction Deadline: 4/2/2025

Not Met

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 on observation that the following potential hazards were observed:

- There was an exposed nail protruding from the white PVC pipe barrier.
- There was a water hose in between the steps and storage shed.

- There was a discarded and broken white PVC pipe barrier.
- There was a discarded door next to the back door steps.
- There were discarded wooded planks stacked next to the back door steps.

Met

Not Met

N/A

Safety

Met

Not Met

Page 3 of 5

Finding

591-1-1-.36(7)(c)2. requires that the driver or other designated person shall immediately document in writing, with a check or other mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist each time a child enters and exits the vehicle. The driver or other designated staff person shall document in writing with a different mark/symbol to account for each child listed on the passenger transportation checklist who was not present on the vehicle for any reason. An explanation shall be documented in writing whenever a child is transported to a field trip site but is not present on the return trip to the Center. It was determined based on a review of documents that there was no load or unload indicated for one child transported on the afternoon route of March 21, 2025 from Wilkinson Elementary School to the center.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2)(c) requires that infants shall not sleep in equipment other than safety-approved cribs, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the Center asleep or fall asleep in such equipment, on the floor or elsewhere, shall be transferred to a safety-approved crib. It was determined based on observation that there was one infant asleep in a swing and one infant asleep in a rocker.

Correction Deadline: 4/2/2025

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-.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.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.32(7) - Please ensure that staff are seated within arms length of children 36 months or younger during any meal times.

Correction Deadline: 4/2/2025