



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: 9/25/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:30 AM **Departure:** 2:20 PM

CCLC-50331

Helping Hands Learning Center

2115 Windsor Spring Road, Suite 24 Augusta, GA 30906

Richmond County

(706) 748-7599 dewaynas33@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Ashley Richards

Phone: (229) 584-1482

Fax:

ashley.richards@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
09/25/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/17/2024	Incident Investigation & Follow Up	Good Standing	
06/04/2024	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	Room A	Infants	2	9	C	19	C	NA	NA	Nap, Floor Play, Art, Feeding
Main	Room B	One Year Olds	2	13	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	Room C	Two Year Olds	3	23	NC	21	NC	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 39			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations				
Suite 16	Left Classroom	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	24	NC	21	NC	NA	NA	Lunch
Suite 16	Right Classroom		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 40			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 69			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	13	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
10	20	21	15	15	0	13

Comments

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/25/2024

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.dec.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 at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.ga.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: 9/25/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:30 AM **Departure:** 2:20 PM

CCLC-50331

Helping Hands Learning Center

2115 Windsor Spring Road, Suite 24 Augusta, GA 30906
Richmond County
(706) 748-7599 dewaynas33@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Ashley Richards

Phone: (229) 584-1482

Fax:

ashley.richards@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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)

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.19(1) requires a Center to provide 35 square feet of usable space per child, which will determine the Center's License capacity. It was determined based on observation that the Center cared for 24 children within Suite 16 - Left classroom which was licensed for 21 children. It was further determined that the Center cared for 23 children within Main Room C which was licensed for 21 children on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will limit the number of children in this space to the licensed capacity.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

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

Not Met

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - The Consultant discussed ensuring that items such as baby wipes and lotion remain inaccessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

Correction Deadline: 10/11/2024

Corrected on 9/25/2024

.25(3) - Correction of previous citation in that there was no water damaged observed and the walls had been repaired on this date.

Finding

591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that television cord located on the left wall in Suite 16 - Left Classroom was unsecured and accessible to children on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

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

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

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 broken wooden fence slats with sharp and splintered ends were located on the gate, front left, back left, and top back left sections of the playground fencing. It was further determined that the black fencing that provided a barrier between the play area and electrical boxes located on the front wall of the playground was unsecured on the left side on this date.

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: 10/31/2024

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - The Consultant discussed ensuring that weekly playground checks are conducted to ensure that hazards are not accessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 10/5/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

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

Discussed age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection on this date.

Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.30(1)(b)4 - The Consultant discussed ensuring that each child has a light covering for use during nap time on this date.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

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.

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

Met

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date.