



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 4/14/2022 **VisitType:** Incident Investigation/Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:30 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

CCLC-27902

Lowndes I Head Start Center

1613 Ulmer Avenue Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County
 (229) 244-6300 vwilliams@cpheadstart.org

Regional Consultant

Kelly Wilson

Phone: (770) 405-7928

Fax: (404) 591-4948

kelly.wilson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
 Same

Joint with: Beth Houtz

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.
04/14/2022	Incident Investigation/Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
04/14/2022	Incident Investigation Closure	Good Standing	
11/05/2021	Licensing Study	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	3 years- Rm G	Four Year Olds	3	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Rm A	Three Year Olds	2	7	C	15	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm B	Four Year Olds	2	16	C	17	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm C	Three Year Olds	2	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm D	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm E	Four Year Olds	2	13	C	17	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm F	Four Year Olds	2	12	C	16	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	Rm H		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	
Main	Rm I	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	14	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
Main	Rm J		0	0	C	16	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 160

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 102

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 160

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	155	C

Comments

An in-person walk through of the facility was conducted on April 14, 2022. A letter requesting documents be uploaded by April 22, 2022, for the annual review was left with the director after the walk through. The center does provide transportation. Background checks for all staff were reviewed during the walk through visit. The annual review was completed on April 28, 2022, and a copy of the report was emailed to the provider on this day. The completion of the visit was delayed due to the center being closed on April 13, 2022 and a state holiday on April 15, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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



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!

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)

Valerie Williams, Program Official	Date
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Beth Houtz, Consultant	Date
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Kelly Wilson, Consultant	Date
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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)**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

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

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2022

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 capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Technical Assistance

There was a plate cover missing over an outlet in Classroom F. The consultant discussed with the director the requirement that protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. The director notified the maintenance staff during the visit to replace the plate cover.

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2022

Technical Assistance

On the playground there was a packing pallet leaning against the fence and a board around the air conditioning unit that had an exposed screw. The consultant discussed with the director the requirement that the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards. The director notified the maintenance staff during the visit to remove the pallet and the exposed screw.

Correction Deadline: 4/14/2022

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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

Met

Comment

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

Met

Comment

The Provider currently 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

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.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Met

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.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 18	Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0
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Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 10/21/2019

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 09/08/2020

Staff # 3 Met

Date of Hire: 02/14/2012

Staff # 4 Met

Staff # 5 Met

Date of Hire: 07/07/2016

Staff # 6 Met

Date of Hire: 02/10/2020

Staff # 7 Met

Staff # 8 Met

Date of Hire: 08/17/2019

Staff # 9 Met

Staff # 10 Met

Date of Hire: 07/19/2015

Staff # 11 Met

Date of Hire: 06/22/2021

Staff # 12 Met

Date of Hire: 07/30/2013

Staff # 13 Met

Date of Hire: 02/26/2016

Staff # 14 Met

Date of Hire: 08/13/2018

Staff # 15 Met

Date of Hire: 06/02/2017

Staff # 16 Met

Date of Hire: 09/14/1995

Staff # 17 Met

Date of Hire: 03/13/2012

Staff # 18 Met

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

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

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