



**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:** 7/15/2021    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 12:20 PM    **Departure:** 3:05 PM

**CCLC-37107**

**In His Arms Pooler**

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**Mailing Address**

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**Regional Consultant**

Chrissy Miller

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**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
07/15/2021	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/29/2021	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
03/05/2021	Complaint Closure	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	A-infant	Infants	2	7	C	8	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B-1-2 years	One Year Olds	2	10	C	16	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C-2 1/2 years	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	20	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D-3-4 years	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	40	C	41	C	NA	NA	Nap

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 85

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 77

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 85

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	44	C

**Comments**

On this date, the consultant followed up to the previous visit and conducted an on-site Licensing study. The consultant requested that the provider submit required documents for the Administrative Review process. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed off-site due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/15/2021

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



### Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://decal.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Austin Lipski, Program Official

Date

Chrissy Miller, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 7/15/2021    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 12:20 PM    **Departure:** 3:05 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

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

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - Please ensure that the allergy information and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, mental retardation or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program is included on the enrollment form. The consultant observed one out of five records missing the allergy and a required statement regarding potential limitations of the child. Please also ensure that the work address is listed for each parent on the enrollment form. The consultant observed one out of five children missing the parent's work address.

**Correction Deadline: 7/15/2021**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(6) - Please ensure that if electronic records are used, that the children are signed in and out of the program upon arrival and departure.

**Correction Deadline: 7/15/2021**

**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**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(3) requires that the playground be adjacent to the Center or in an area which can be reached by a safe route or method approved by the Department. Except in School-age Centers, the playground shall have shaded areas. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the two chains leading to the playground were rusted and accessible to the children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will identify a safe route or method to reach any non-adjacent playground and submit it for approval. The Center will install structures to provide shade if there is not sufficient natural shade on the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 8/14/2021**

**Finding**

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. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that on the playground, the black tape on the seats of the seesaw equipment were weathered and unraveling, there was a section of one of the wooden boards missing on the floor of the yellow school bus, and one of the tricycles on the playground had a missing seat.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

**Correction Deadline: 7/25/2021**

**Food Service**

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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Technical Assistance****Comment**

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk  
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk  
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15(5) - Please ensure that the food menus are labeled with the correct dates as required.

**Correction Deadline: 7/15/2021**

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**591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.18(1) - The consultant discussed with the Director about ensuring that the food located in the freezer that has an expiration date older than the current date is not served to the children in care and removed from the center.

**Correction Deadline: 7/15/2021**

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

<b>Policies and Procedures</b>
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**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(1)(d) requires that all sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged to avoid obstructing access to exit doors, to provide the caregivers access to each child, and to prevent children's access to cords hanging from window treatments and other hazardous objects. To reduce the transfer of airborne diseases, sleeping and resting equipment shall be arranged as follows. There shall be a minimum of twenty-four inch (24") corridor between each row of sleeping or resting equipment. There shall be a minimum of twelve inches (12") between each piece of sleeping or resting equipment in each row of equipment. Children shall be placed on cots and mats so that one child's head is toward another child's feet in the same row. It was determined based on the consultant's observation that the children in classroom D were napping with one child's head towards another child's head in the same row and were not head to toe as required to minimize airborne diseases.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will arrange and place sleeping and resting equipment according to the requirements in the rule; will train Staff; and will monitor for continued compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 7/15/2021**

**Staff Records****Records Reviewed: 11****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 7**

Staff # 1	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 01/04/2021

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff # 2	Met
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Date of Hire: 06/07/2021

Staff # 3	Met
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Date of Hire: 05/10/2026

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 4	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 05/19/2016

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 5	Not Met
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Date of Hire: 06/10/2014

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 6	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 7	Not Met
Date of Hire: 09/02/2014	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	
Staff # 8	Not Met
Date of Hire: 10/05/2020	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 06/10/2014	
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Not Met
Date of Hire: 03/02/2018	
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training	

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 7**

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

**Correction Deadline: 5/12/2021**

**Corrected on 7/15/2021**

**.09(1)(j) - The consultant observed this rule to be corrected. The current staff had valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determinations on file as required.**

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**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR Met**

**Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training Defer**

**Defer**

591-1-1-.33(5)- All applicable staff must complete at least ten (10) annual training hours by December 2021 to be in compliance with this rule. This rule will be evaluated at the first visit in 2022.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2021**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2. requires teachers and lead caregivers to meet minimum academic requirements and qualifying experience at the time of employment. It was determined base don the consultant's review of records that a staff member who was hired on June 10, 2014 did not meet the minimum academic requirements of the lead teacher position. Additionally, the professional learning plan for the staff member expired on January 27, 2020 to complete the certification test for the CDA credential.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

A teacher/lead caregiver will be hired that meets the minimum academic requirements and qualifying work experience.

**Correction Deadline: 7/15/2021**

**Recited on 7/15/2021**

**Staffing and Supervision**

**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Visit:**

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 5/12/2021**

**Corrected on 7/15/2021**

**.32(7) - The consultant observed this rule to be corrected. Adequate supervision observed on this date.**