



**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:** 4/19/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 4:00 PM  
**Visit**

**CCLC-35606**

**Childcare Network #224**

4719 Warm Springs Rd. Columbus, GA 31909 Muscogee County  
(706) 563-0829 cni224@childcarenetwork.com

Regional Consultant

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

Fax: (678) 891-5613

penny.svenson@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                                            |               | <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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 04/19/2024                  | Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11/16/2023                  | Licensing Study                            | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 10/02/2023                  | Incident Investigation 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                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bldg. I                         | Back Left         | GA PreK                            | 2                               | 13       | C                             | 22                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                                 |
| Bldg. I                         | Back Left Middle  | One Year Olds                      | 1                               | 6        | C                             | 11                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                                 |
| Bldg. I                         | Back Middle Right | Infants and One Year Olds          | 2                               | 10       | C                             | 15                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Feeding, Floor Play, Nap, Diapering |
| Bldg. I                         | Front Left        | GA PreK                            | 1                               | 12       | C                             | 23                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                                 |
| Bldg. I                         | Right Back        | One Year Olds                      | 1                               | 8        | C                             | 17                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                                 |
| Bldg. I                         | Right Front       | Two Year Olds                      | 2                               | 12       | C                             | 20                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                                 |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 108 |                   |                                    |                                 |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |                               |              |            |              |                                     |
| Bldg. II                        | Back Left         | Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds | 2                               | 15       | C                             | 30                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap                                 |
| Bldg. II                        | Front Left        | Three Year Olds                    | 2                               | 13       | C                             | 17                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap, Transitioning                  |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 47  |                   |                                    |                                 |          | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |                               |              |            |              |                                     |
| Total # Children this Date: 89  |                   |                                    | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 155 |          |                               | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                                     |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bldg. I  | Main       | 49                   | C                     |

### Comments

April 19, 2024--The complaint investigation and monitoring visits were conducted on this date. The complaint investigation was not substantiated. The findings were discussed with the Director.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/19/2024

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/RuleAndRegulations.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](http://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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Samantha Weaver, Program Official

Date

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Penny Svenson, Regional 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)**

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety. It was unclear how many toys were available for children to have access to because they were not sorted and in appropriate centers.

**Finding**

591-1-1.12(8) requires toys for children under three years of age to be age-appropriate; non- toxic and lead-free; too large to be swallowed by a child and not capable of causing asphyxiation or strangulation; free of sharp pieces, edges or points; free of small parts which may be pried off by a child, free of rust; and easily cleaned with a disinfectant daily. It was determined based on observation that toys in the two-year-old classroom were not cleaned daily when they were observed not to be sorted and cleaned during naptime on Friday. Further, toys were not in their designated centers.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will provide age-appropriate toys and remove any toys that are not age-appropriate in each room housing children under three years of age. The Center will implement a plan to train Staff to regularly examine toys for the listed hazards and remove toys when hazards are identified and to clean toys with a disinfectant daily.

**Correction Deadline: 4/19/2024**

**591-1-1.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 3**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.08(3)-Address of Release Person Missing

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that child number three only had the city and state listed for the address listed of the person(s) authorized to pick them up and the complete address was not listed as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/19/2024****Recited on 4/19/2024****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)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that these hazards were present:

Rust at the bottom of the bathroom doors in the back classroom for three-year-old children

Right Bathroom door splintered around the door knob in the afterschool classroom

Window frames splintered and screws backed out of screens placed on the windows in order to prevent children from sitting in the windows

The walls and door frames observed to be drew on with color and pencil and were observed to be dirty in the afterschool classroom

Walls and baseboards throughout the Center were treated for painting and it was unsure when the Center would be painted

Vanity in Pre-K A had exposed particle board

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

**Correction Deadline: 4/30/2024****591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Met**

**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 observation that there was rust present on several of the platforms of the climber on the right hand side of the preschool playground and the edges were sharp.

**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: 4/29/2024**

**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed trimming the bushes down on the toddler playground so that the limbs were not in the path of the eyes of the children. Further, the Consultant discussed to continue painting exposed roots so that a tripping hazard was not posed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/19/2024**

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

**Correction Deadline: 11/16/2023**

**Corrected on 4/19/2024**

**Proper handwashing was observed on this date.**

**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**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Met**

**Correction Deadline: 11/17/2023**

**Corrected on 4/19/2024**

**The correction was observed during a review of records.**

**Correction Deadline: 11/17/2023**

**Corrected on 4/19/2024**

**The correction was observed during a review of records.**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with a new staff member proper placement of children during naptime and to place children head to toe.

**Correction Deadline: 4/19/2024**

**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)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on staff statements and technical assistance provided on November 16, 2023, that one-year-old children were not supervised during diaper changes when staff members took children to wash their hands at the sink placed in the back right corner, and a wall was present that did not allow for children to continue to be supervised during diaper changes.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times. The Center will implement a supervision plan that ensures children are supervised during diaper changes in any classroom where there is not a direct line of sight during diaper changes.

**Correction Deadline: 4/19/2024**