



**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:** 9/13/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:30 AM    **Departure:** 1:30 PM

**CCLC-2282**

**The Starting Point Day Care**

1929 Skidaway Road Savannah, GA 31404 Chatham County  
(912) 236-7373 lindasmart47@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

Fax: (706) 806-0406

stacey.foston@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**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.
09/13/2019	Licensing Study	Support	
02/11/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
08/29/2018	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	Back		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	end left	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers, Transitioning
Main	Middle front		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	middle rear infant		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA	
Main	Right toddler	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	12	C	15	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Transitioning
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 46						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 22						Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 46				
						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
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**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: To Be Submitted 09/27/2019

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

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@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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)



**Important New Deadlines:**

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

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

Linda Smart, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 9/13/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

**CCLC-2282**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.03 Activities**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.03(13) - Discussed the daily schedule requirements for outdoor play with the director. Reviewed rule that states the center shall provide each child who is not an infant at least one and one-half (1 1/2) hours of outdoor activity per day and infants shall spend at least one (1) hour daily outdoors.

**Correction Deadline: 9/13/2019**

**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 - Reminded the director to ensure parents document all required parts on the enrollment form or write not applicable as needed.

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**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(6) requires the Center to maintain records of a child's daily arrival and departure for the twelve (12) preceding months that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent documents, in written or electronic format, each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the child. The documentation shall include at least the date, the child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person at the time of arrival and departure. These records shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that only 13 of the 21 children present were signed in on this date.

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**Correction Deadline: 9/13/2019**

	<b>Facility</b>
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**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.

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(7) requires that climbing and swinging equipment be anchored. It was determined based on observation that the small blue slide was not anchored and was leaning.

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**Correction Deadline: 9/16/2019**

Recited on 9/13/2019

<b>Food Service</b>
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**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition** **Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the center.

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

**Comment**

The Provider does not dispense/administer medication.

<b>Policies and Procedures</b>
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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures** **Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) requires the Center to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Center; to have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions and shall include assurance that no Center Personnel will impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not have emergency plans that included the all the requirements items as stated in the rule.

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**Correction Deadline: 9/20/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center conduct drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that the center did not have documentation of fire drills for the months of January 2019 through August 2019. In addition the center did not conduct tornado and lock down drills as required.

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**Correction Deadline: 9/30/2019**

**Safety**

**591-1-1-.05 Animals** **N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)** **Not Met**

**Comment**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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**Comment**

The center uses two vehicles for transportation. Only one vehicle was on site during the visit. The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

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**Finding**

591-1-1-.36(3)(a-b) requires any Center that provides any type of transportation to obtain two (2) hours of state-approved or state-accepted transportation training, biannually, for the Director and for each person responsible for or who participates in the transportation of children. The training shall include, but is not limited to, a review of the transportation rules, a review of approved transportation forms and procedures, and instruction on the usage and completion of the forms and procedures. This training may be counted as part of the annual training requirements for Staff. It was determined based on a review of records that two employees that conduct transportation for the center did not have current transportation training.

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**Correction Deadline: 9/17/2019**

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Staff Records**

**Records Reviewed: 5 Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 1 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 2 Met

Date of Hire: 08/30/2019

Staff # 3 Not Met

Date of Hire: 10/01/1996

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 02/24/2011

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/15/2005

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

.36(3)(a-b)-2 hrs. Transportation Training missing,.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate,.14(2)-CPR missing,.14 (2)-First Aid Missing

**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 9**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Please replace face mask.

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**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of records that the director and 50% of the staff did not have current CPR and first aid training.

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**Correction Deadline: 10/13/2019**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires, in a Center that provides transportation, that either the driver or another Staff person present on the vehicle have current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. It was determined based on a review of records and discussion with the director that the the driver who is the only staff on the vehicle during transportation did not have current CPR and first aid training.

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**Correction Deadline: 9/13/2019**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Please ensure completed orientation checklists are documented and signed.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(3) - Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date. Please ensure the new driver who is the only employee on the vehicle during transportation has completed training.

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

Previously Cited: 591-1-1.31(2)(b) requires teachers/lead caregivers to meet minimum qualifications. It was determined based on review of records and discussion with the director that two lead teachers had not completed a program to meet the credential requirements.

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**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2019**

Recited on 9/13/2019

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.