



**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:** 9/28/2020    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:25 AM    **Departure:** 10:25 AM

**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@decals.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> |                  |               |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 09/28/2020                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |
| 02/05/2020                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |
| 10/10/2019                         | POI Follow Up    | Good Standing |

**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.

**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               | Six Year Olds and Over            | 1                           | 8        | C    | 9                           | C            | NA         | NA           | Homework        |  |
| Main                           | end left           | Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds | 1                           | 4        | C    | 12                          | C            | NA         | NA           | Homework        |  |
| Main                           | Middle front       | Three Year Olds                   | 1                           | 3        | C    | 5                           | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap             |  |
| Main                           | middle rear infant | One Year Olds                     | 1                           | 3        | C    | 5                           | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap, Floor Play |  |
| Main                           | Right toddler      | One Year Olds                     | 1                           | 6        | C    | 15                          | C            | NA         | NA           | Nap             |  |
| Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:    |                    |                                   | 46                          |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: |              |            | 0            |                 |  |
| Total # Children this Date: 24 |                    |                                   | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: |              |            |              |                 |  |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | Playground | 46                   | C                     |

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on September 28, 2020. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/28/2020

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:** 9/28/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:25 AM **Departure:** 10:25 AM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

Met

##### Comment

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional cleaning and sanitizing of toys and equipment due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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

N/A

##### Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 4**

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

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Child # 1 | Met |
| Child # 2 | Met |
| Child # 3 | Met |
| Child # 4 | Met |

#### 591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Technical Assistance

##### Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.08 - Ensure to document the addresses of all authorized release persons.

### Facility

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

**Correction Deadline: 2/5/2020**

**Corrected on 9/28/2020**

**.19(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected on this date. A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The center was observed to maintain room capacities during the virtual walk through on this date.**

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

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No hazards were observed accessible to the children during the virtual walk through on this date. The center will be mindful to keep items that may pose a hazard inaccessible to the children.

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26 - The center has recently added wooden borders around the playground equipment. Discussed with the director about extending the wooden borders out at least 6 feet in the fall zones of equipment such as slides, climbing equipment and merry-go rounds. Explained to the director the wooden borders are too close to the equipment and a child could possibly fall on to the wood. The consultant also emailed the center resources and a link to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) Public Playground Safety Handbook for additional information about fall zones and resilient surfacing.

**Food Service**

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

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.15 - Center menu meets USDA guidelines. Ensure the whole grain component is documented on the correct section of the menu.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through on this date, diapering areas were observed to be in good condition. Discussed diapering procedures with the staff.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)** **Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through on this date, handwashing supplies were observed at all sinks. Discussed hand washing requirements with the director.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.17(10) - During the virtual visit the consultant discussed the storage of potty chairs with the director. The bathroom in the toddler room is very small and the potty chairs cannot be stored in the bathroom. The potty chairs were observed to be stored near the diapering table. The consultant talked to the director about storing the clean and disinfected potty chairs in an area that is not accessible to the children in the room.

**Correction Deadline: 9/28/2020**

**Correction Deadline: 2/5/2020**

**Corrected on 9/28/2020**

**.17(7) - The previous citation was corrected. The director stated proper hand washing procedures and stated everyone washes their hands upon arrival to the center.**

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

N/A

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Safety**

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

Met

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. The center's discipline policy and practices were discussed with the director.

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**

Met

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Met

**Comment**

A current/completed inspection was observed for all vehicles used in transporting children this date.

**Comment**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Center is not providing routine transportation at this time.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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

Met

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through visit, the children were taking nap. Discussed the storage of bedding and cots with the director.

**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 8****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Staff # 1                              | Not Met |
| Date of Hire: 01/10/2012               |         |
| <u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u> |         |
| .33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training         |         |
| Staff # 2                              | Met     |
| Date of Hire: 03/05/2020               |         |
| Staff # 3                              | Met     |
| Date of Hire: 08/30/2019               |         |
| Staff # 4                              | Met     |
| Staff # 5                              | Met     |
| Date of Hire: 10/01/1996               |         |
| Staff # 6                              | Not Met |

Date of Hire: 02/24/2011

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(5)-10 Hrs. Annual Training

Staff # 7

Met

Date of Hire: 09/15/2005

Staff # 8

Not Met

Date of Hire: 03/04/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health &amp; Safety Certificate

**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****Met****Comment**

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

**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records and discussion with the director that staff #8 was hired on March 4, 2020 and did not complete the health and safety training as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The staff will complete the required Health and Safety training.

**Correction Deadline: 10/16/2020****Recited on 9/28/2020**

**Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on documentation submitted that Staff # 1 and Staff #6 did not complete the required ten hours of training for the year 2019.

**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. The staff will complete the ten hours of training for 2020 by December 31, 2020

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2020**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.33(6) requires that evidence of orientation and training shall be documented in the Personnel file of each Staff member and shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on a review of documents and discussion with the director that evidence of the cooks four food preparation training was not available for review.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement procedures to review staff records for documentation and to obtain and place missing documentation in staff records, and to file such documents in staff records on an ongoing basis.

**Correction Deadline: 10/8/2020**

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

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020.

**Defer**

591-1-1-.31(2)(b)2.-Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the CDA observation has not been completed. The Center will obtain written documentation from instructor detailing the staffs status in the program and expected completion date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The teachers have completed the required class work hours. The staff stated the previous instructor did not contact them to schedule the observation. The staff has had to contact a new instructor to complete the remaining requirements to obtain the credential. The staff will have place documentation that states the name of new instructor and date the credential is expected to be obtained

**Correction Deadline: 4/3/2020**

**Staffing and Supervision**

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

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Center was observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios during the virtual visit.

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Adequate supervision was observed during the virtual walk through on this date