



**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:** 4/11/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 12:35 PM    **Departure:** 2:40 PM

**CCLC-28049**

**Ben Hill County Head Start**

410 E. Altamaha Street Fitzgerald, GA 31750 Ben Hill County  
(229) 423-3191 dcobb@cpheadstart.org

**Regional Consultant**

Jackqueline Frederick

Phone: (229) 386-3247

Fax: (229) 238-2435

jackqueline.frederick@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
04/11/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/25/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
05/08/2018	Monitoring Visit	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	A	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	18	C	20	C	NA	NA	Nap, Transitioning
Main	B	Four Year Olds	2	13	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	C	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	D	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Outside
Main	E	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	2	12	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning, Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 100						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 73			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 100			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground	103	C

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit is to conduct a licensing study.

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/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

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)

---

Donna Cobb, Program Official

Date

---

Jackqueline Frederick, Consultant

Date



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

### Findings Report

**Date:** 4/11/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 12:35 PM    **Departure:** 2:40 PM

**CCLC-28049**

**Ben Hill County Head Start**

410 E. Altamaha Street Fitzgerald, GA 31750 Ben Hill County  
(229) 423-3191 dcobb@cpheadstart.org

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Jackqueline Frederick

Phone: (229) 386-3247

Fax: (229) 238-2435

jackqueline.frederick@decals.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

#### 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)**

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

#### Health and Hygiene

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

**Met**

**Comment**

There were no children enrolled in the program on this date that require diapering.

---

**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.

---

**Policies and Procedures**

---

---

**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Not Met****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 consultant's observation that there is no documented evidence to confirm that a drill was conducted in March of 2019 as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will hold the drills as required and keep the documentation of the drills on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 4/16/2019**

---

**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**

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

---

**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**

---

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 08/23/1991

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 10/15/2007

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 05/09/2017

Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 08/18/2019	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 08/16/2015	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 03/06/2019	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 10/12/2002	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 02/12/1996	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 08/26/1996	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 01/29/2013	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 02/15/1988	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 08/01/2016	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 03/13/2018	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 07/24/2017	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 10/21/2010	Met
Staff # 16 Date of Hire: 08/28/2006	Met
Staff # 17 Date of Hire: 10/24/2017	Met
Staff # 18 Date of Hire: 08/25/2017	Met

**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**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

---

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.