



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: 12/17/2019 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 2:05 PM

Departure: 5:00 PM

CCLC-448

Stepping Stones Child Care - Free Home

11930 Cumming Highway Canton, GA 30115 Cherokee County
 (770) 844-7795 steppingstones@etcmil.com

Regional Consultant

Lajuana Williams

Phone: (770) 357-7074

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lajuana.williams@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

201 Little River Farms Trail
 Canton, GA 30115

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
12/17/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/30/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
11/19/2018	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	A1- Left Hallway Left	Infants	1	5	C	16	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	B- Left Hallway 3rd right room	One Year Olds	2	10	C	13	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C- Left Hallway 2nd right	Two Year Olds	2	14	C	14	C	NA	NA	Snack, Transitioning
Main	D-Left side 1st Rt. Pre-k	PreK	2	8	C	21	C	29	C	Transitioning
Main	E- 2 R Right Side Back Three's	Three Year Olds and Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over	4	23	C	32	C	NA	NA	Story
Main	F- Front Right 1R Pre-k	Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over and PreK	2	22	C	26	C	37	C	Transitioning

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 141

Total # Children this Date: 82

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 122

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 141

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A Infant	46	C
Main	Playground B Middle	64	C
Main	Playground C Right	83	C

Comments

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.al.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

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.al.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://dec.al.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)



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.al.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@dec.al.ga.gov

Tonya Barrett, Program Official

Date

Lajuana Williams, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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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

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

N/A

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)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

591-1-1-.17(7) - Please ensure children's hands are washed immediately prior to eating.

Correction Deadline: 12/17/2019

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.20(1) requires Personnel to obtain specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent in order to dispense prescription or non-prescription medications, except for first aid. Such authorization will include when applicable, date; full name of the child; name of the medication; prescription number, if any; dosage; the dates to be given; the time of day to be dispensed; and signature of parent. It was determined based on observation that parental authorization was not on file for an Epi-pen injector and Benadryl .The medication had not been dispensed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff to obtain and review parental authorizations to ensure the authorization contains complete information. The designated person(s) will monitor daily. The center will ensure authorization is obtained every two weeks unless a valid in date physician note or allergy action plan is on file (dated within one year of the authorization).

Correction Deadline: 12/17/2019

Safety

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Met****Comment**Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**Field trip documentation observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**Center does not provide routine transportation. A complete field trip was observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Met****Comment**Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 15**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 05/01/2000

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 05/09/2011

Records Reviewed: 15

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 3 Date of Hire: 07/25/2018	Met
Staff # 4 Date of Hire: 09/19/2018	Met
Staff # 5 Date of Hire: 03/27/2001	Met
Staff # 6 Date of Hire: 01/28/2013	Met
Staff # 7 Date of Hire: 10/08/2019	Met
Staff # 8 Date of Hire: 10/25/2018	Met
Staff # 9 Date of Hire: 03/13/2019	Met
Staff # 10 Date of Hire: 06/08/2016	Met
Staff # 11 Date of Hire: 09/19/2018	Met
Staff # 12 Date of Hire: 10/22/2018	Met
Staff # 13 Date of Hire: 08/29/2017	Met
Staff # 14 Date of Hire: 05/22/2018	Met
Staff # 15 Date of Hire: 06/24/2019	Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(3)-Health & Safety Certificate

Staff Credentials Reviewed: 6

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

Met

Comment

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

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 observation of staff records that the required training was not on file for two staff.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

Correction Deadline: 1/16/2020

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)**Met****Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.