Childcare:
The following daycares in Athens allow drop-ins:

Live Oak Morning School
http://www.liveoakmorningschool.com
Athens First Baptist Church
355 Pulaski Street Athens GA 30601
(706) 546-0669
Live Oak has a half-day program called "Mother's Morning Out" that runs from 9 AM - 1 PM, $50 registration fee, then $20/day. Live Oak has been an Athens institution for over 20 years and is highly regarded. Their facilities are top notch.

Arrow
http://www.explorearrow.org/about-arrow-athens/
393 North Finley Street, Studio D
Athens, Ga 30601
The drop-in class is a shared nanny style of class, with a maximum of 8 children allowed per session. It’s also only for ages 6 mos. to 2 years. To use it, you reserve 4 hour blocks for half a day; for example, you can go on Thursday morning from 9 AM – 1 PM, or 1 PM – 5 PM, but not both. It's complicated. And unfortunately, the shared sitter service for older kids is not open to drop-ins at this time. However, Arrow is highly regarded here in Athens and is enthusiastically recommended by those who have used it, so it’s worth considering.
More information is here: http://www.explorearrow.org/athens-toddler-daycare-organic-downtown/shared-nanny
Arrow also offers play sessions that include parents or other caregivers, and is close to downtown and the conference, so parents looking for a place to take their child for activities should look into this. It’s easily within walking distance of the Classic Center, and shares a building with a highly regarded local restaurant, Big City Bread.

Little Angels
http://www.littleangelsdaycarega.com/fees.asp
Little Angels is a standard daycare facility offering all-day care. Drop-in is limited to times when they have available space, so call ahead. The fee is $40/day. They are open 6 AM to 6 PM and offer breakfast, lunch, and snack during the course of the day. They have two locations:

895 Oglethorpe Avenue,
Athens, GA 30606
O: (706) 543-2001

205 Bray Street, Building 100
Athens, GA 30601
O: (706) 521-5517

Other options
We are also looking into offering access to shared sitting via The Middle Sister, a local sitting service. This will most likely involve a booking fee as well as an hourly rate for families who use this option; Watch this space for more details as we get them.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Cook Hale at jcook@uga.edu.