



**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:** 5/20/2020    **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:30 AM    **Departure:** 1:00 PM

**FR-52676**

**Williams, Sharmel Tykera**

1703 E. Moore Street Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County  
 (229) 712-9848 watchmegrow4@yahoo.com

**Regional Consultant**

Angela Byrd  
 Phone: (678) 920-3975  
 Fax:  
 angela.byrd@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/20/2020	Initial Licensing Study	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**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	0	0	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	1	0	0	0	1
3 & 4 Years	1	0	0	0	1
School Age(5+) Years	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	3	0	0	0	3
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	4				

Children Present: 4

Total Children: 4

Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1

Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

**Comments**

This was a VIRTUAL visit.

Congratulations! This home was granted permission to operate on this date.

This home does not carry liability insurance. A sign was posted on the posted notice board.

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.decal.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.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://decal.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.decal.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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

Sharmel Tykera Williams, Program Official

Date

Angela Byrd, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 5/20/2020 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:30 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

#### 290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR)

Met

**Comment**

This was a virtual visit. On this date, Consultant observed equipment, furniture and toys throughout the Home, to be non - hazardous, fully - secured, and not able to cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over.

**Correction Deadline: 5/20/2020**

#### 290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR)

Met

**Comment**

On this date, Consultant observed one (1) crib used for sleeping and resting, to meet Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards. Consultant also discussed all Infant Safe Sleeping and Resting requirements with Center Director, prior to the visit and on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 5/20/2020**

**Comment**

Consultant observed six (6) mats for sleeping and resting.

**Correction Deadline: 5/30/2020**

#### 290-2-3-.07 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

**Comment**

On this date, the Provider stated that the program will not participate in Swimming activities. The home did not have a pool on site. Consultant discussed Swimming requirements with Provider, prior to the visit and on this date. Consultant also stated to Provider that prior to participating in Swimming activities, in water two (2) feet in depth or greater, the Home is required to contact the assigned Bright from the Start: Regional Consultant, to discuss and review Swimming Rules.

**Facility**

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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

Provider stated she did not have firearms in the home.

**Correction Deadline: 5/20/2020****Comment**

An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

**Comment**

Operable smoke detector(s) were observed as required in the home this date.

**Comment**

Provider stated she did not have flammable liquids in the home on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 5/20/2020**

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**290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)****Met****Comment**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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**290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure the back area of the fence is free of potential hazards as required. Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure vegetation protruding through the back fence is removed prior to children being allowed to play outside.

**Correction Deadline: 5/30/2020****Technical Assistance**

Please ensure the fencing surrounding the outside play area is free of hazards, made of an appropriate barrier and approved by the Department as required. Consultant discussed with the provider to remove the current added on material "welded wire" and replace with an approved material from the Department prior to children utilizing the outside play area.

**Correction Deadline: 5/20/2020**

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<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

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**290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

No children were present or enrolled on this date. Consultant observed Diapering areas to meet requirements and discussed Diapering requirements with Center Director, prior to the visit and on this date.

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**290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures on this date and prior to the visit.

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<b>Licensure</b>
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**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date. Provider will care for six (6) occupants.

**Safety and Discipline**

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**290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. Proper discipline discussed with provider on this date and prior to the visit.

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**290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

The Provider stated that the Home will not provide routine Transportation and Field Trips at this time. Consultant discussed with Provider, all requirements needed in order to transport and conduct field trips with children, prior to the visit and on this date. Consultant also stated to Provider that prior to providing Transportation and/or Field Trips, the Home is required to maintain current documentation of CPR and First - Aid Training, complete two (2) clock hours of Transportation Training, regarding the Provider and any Home - Helper Staff participating in any aspect of Transportation, ensure all Transportation/Field Trip checklists/forms and vehicle requirements are met, and contact the assigned Bright from the Start: Regional Consultant, to discuss and review all Transportation and Field Trip requirements.

**Staff Records**

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**290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

On this date, Consultant observed a Satisfactory Gelmato COGENT Criminal Records Check Determination letter, regarding one (1) Provider. Consultant also discussed all Gelmato COGENT Criminal Records Check requirements with Provider, prior to the visit and on this date.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. Proper staff child ratios discussed with Provider on this date and prior to the visit.

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**290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. Proper supervision discussed with Provider on this date and prior to the visit.