



**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:** 5/29/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:50 AM    **Departure:** 1:15 PM

**FR-37628**

**Black, Brandi Y**

578 Rhodes Drive Elberton, GA 30635 Elbert County  
(706) 988-1892 brandib1176@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

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margarita.collier@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/29/2019	Licensing Study	Good Standing
01/04/2018	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
08/15/2017	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	2	2	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	4	3	0	0	1
School Age(5+) Years	3	2	0	0	1
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	9	7	0	0	2
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	9				

Children Present: 9

Total Children: 9

Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1

Total Caregivers/Helpers: 3

**More than 6 for pay**

6 for pay present & no-pay present does not have a notarized no-pay statement

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study visit and to follow-up on the previous visit conducted on January 4, 2018.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/29/2019

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

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)

Brandi Black, Program Official

Date

Margarita Collier, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 5/29/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 10:50 AM    **Departure:** 1:15 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

**Comment**

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

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Care is not provided for any infant required to be in a crib

**Comment**

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

### Children's Records

**290-2-3-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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**290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)****Met****Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

<b>Facility</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

Home observed complete emergency drills

**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.

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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)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) requires that outdoor play areas be kept clean and free of hazards such as exposed sharp corners of concrete or equipment, rust and splinters on equipment, broken glass, open drainage ditches, holes and stagnant water. It was determined based on observation that the following hazards were observed on the playground area:

- Exposed black tarp underneath the yellow and swing set attached to the wooden sliding structure located on the back left side of the playground.
  - Exposed black tarp in front of the green ladder attached to the sliding structure located on the back left side of the playground.
  - Exposed black tarp in the rock area located on the front right side of the playground area.
- The exposed black tarp was a potential tripping hazard.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will repair any and all identified outdoor hazards and will monitor playground daily or more often as needed to ensure that the Home's outdoor play area is kept clean and free of hazards.

**Correction Deadline: 6/8/2019****Technical Assistance**

Consultant discussed monitoring the playground area for the following:

- Monitor toys and equipment for normal wear and tear.
- Fluff and distribute resilient surface surrounding the fall zones of the swing set and yellow sliding structure.
- Monitor the playground area for stinging insects, spider webs, and ant mounds.
- Monitor the trees surrounding the playground area for weak and/or loose tree branches.

**Finding**

290-2-3-.13(2)(c) requires that climbing and swinging equipment that are not portable have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment, which is adequately maintained by the Home to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation the fall zones surrounding the yellow swing set attached to the wooden sliding structure contained approximately one inch of resilient surface. The consultant further observed the fall zone surrounding the yellow and wooden sliding structure to contain approximately one inch of resilient surface.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will ensure that there is an adequate resilient surface under and in the fall zone of climbing and swinging equipment. The Home will inspect equipment and resilient surfacing material regularly and repair or replenish as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 6/8/2019**

## Health and Hygiene

**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)**

Met

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

Please ensure to review proper diapering procedures with potential helpers.

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

Met

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

## Licensure

**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)**

Met

**Comment**

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date.

## Safety and Discipline

**290-2-3-.11 Animals**

Met

**Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Met

**Comment**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

Met

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

## Staff Records

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

Met

**Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit was conducted on January 4, 2018.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR** **Met**

**Comment**

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

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**290-2-3-.07 Independent Contractors(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

The facility does not currently have any independent contractors employed.

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**290-2-3-.07 Other Staff Direct Contact with Children(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

The facility does not currently have any additional staff employed.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Training** **Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

The provider will have two back-up helpers for emergency purposes and as needed. Per provider, the two helpers have not started working in the family child care learning home, but have obtained a satisfactory comprehensive criminal record check letter. Please ensure that all helpers complete the following upon providing assistance in the family childcare learning home:

- First aid and CPR training within 90-days of their date of hire.
- Health and safety orientation training within 90-days of their date of hire.
- Helper orientation documentation.

**Comment**

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

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

**Comment**

The facility does not currently have any volunteers employed.

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(12) requires the Home to ensure that the total number of Children unrelated to the Provider in the Family Child Care Learning Home, for pay or not for pay, cannot exceed six children, except during two designated hours approved by the Department. It was determined based on observation and a review of records the provider cared for approximately seven unrelated children (six for pay and one not for pay) on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will reduce the number of unrelated children, both for pay and not for pay, so that the total number of unrelated children in care does not exceed the number of children as specified in these rules.

**Correction Deadline: 6/8/2019**

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

**Comment**

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.