



**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:** 5/7/2019     **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit     **Arrival:** 9:35 AM     **Departure:** 11:00 AM

**FR-0000440965**

**Howard, Cathrene**

3358 McAfee Rd Decatur, GA 30032 DeKalb County  
 (404) 284-3849 hcathren@bellsouth.net

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Regional Consultant**

Laurel Benta

Phone: (770) 357-3279  
 Fax: (770) 357-3281  
 carrie.spangler@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Brandon Cason

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
05/07/2019	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/18/2018	Licensing Study	Good Standing
02/09/2018	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**

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	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	5	4	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	1	1	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	7	6	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	7				

Children Present: 7	Total Children: 9
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 3

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 05/07/2019

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)

Cathrene Howard, Program Official \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Laurel Benta, Consultant \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Brandon Cason, Consultant \_\_\_\_\_ Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**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

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

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that an unlocked closet in the bathroom had cleaning products accessible to children. It was further determined that there was a bottle of Lysol Wipes on the provider's table accessible to children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

To ensure the safe storage of hazardous items, the Home Provider will make these items inaccessible to the children.

**Correction Deadline: 5/7/2019**

**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 the wooden barrier around the swings was broken with splintering wood. It was further determined that a green water hose and a shovel was accessible to children on the playground.

**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: 5/14/2019****Recited on 5/7/2019****Correction Deadline: 1/18/2019****Corrected on 5/7/2019**

.13(2)(d) - The previous citation was corrected. The consultant observed concrete blocks in the place of the gap.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of handwashing procedures.

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

There are no diapered children currently enrolled in the program.

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**290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)****N/A****Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

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**Licensure**

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

Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

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**Safety and Discipline**

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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**290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)****N/A****Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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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** **Met**

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2019**

**Corrected on 5/7/2019**

**.07(4) - The previous citation was corrected on this date. The consultant observed Health and Safety on file for the employee.**

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2019**

**Corrected on 5/7/2019**

**.07(6) - The previous citation was corrected on this date.**

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.