



**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:** 1/15/2020 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 8:30 AM

**Departure:** 10:20 AM

**FR-24536**

**Neal, Sherlynn T**

5002 HAMDEN COURT Evans, GA 30809 Columbia County  
(706) 339-0127 sherry.neal47@comcast.net

**Mailing Address**

5002 HAMDEN COURT  
EVANS, GA 30809

**Regional Consultant**

Melyn Smith

Phone: (706) 855-3455

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melyn.smith@decal.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** No

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 01/15/2020                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |  |
| 08/08/2019                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |  |
| 01/22/2019                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |  |

**Ratios/License Capacity**

| Age Ranges  | Children Present | Child For Pay | CAPS | Not for Pay | Provider Children |
|---|------------------|---------------|------|-------------|-------------------|
| Infant (0-11 mos)                                     | 1                | 0             | 0    | 1           | 0                 |
| 1 & 2 Years   | 7                | 6             | 0    | 3           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years   | 2                | 0             | 0    | 2           | 0                 |
| School Age(5+) Years                                  | 0                | 0             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| <b>Total Under 13 Years</b>                           | 10               | 6             | 0    | 6           | 0                 |
| <b>Total Under 18 Years</b>                           | 10               |               |      |             |                   |
| Children Present: 10<br>Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| Total Children: 12<br>Total Caregivers/Helpers: 3     |                  |               |      |             |                   |

**Comments**

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/15/2020

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.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.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.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 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.state.ga.us/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.state.ga.us/>  
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.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

Sherlynn Neal, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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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**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

### Health and Hygiene

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

**Comment**

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--|------------|

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

|                  |
|------------------|
| <b>Licensure</b> |
|------------------|

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

**Comment**

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date. The provider and two helpers were observed to provide care for five unrelated children for pay and five related children for no pay on this date.

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| <b>Safety and Discipline</b> |
|------------------------------|

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|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Animals</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The Family Child Care Learning Home does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---|------------|

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(8) requires the Home to maintain for the Provider and any Provisional Employee or Employee with direct care responsibilities current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid which have been offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with emergency care for infants and children. Such training must be completed prior to initial licensure for the Provider and within 90 days from date of hire for Provisional Employees and Employees. The Provider, a Provisional Employee or Employee with current CPR and first aid training must always be on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present. It was determined, based on review of records, that Staff #1, hired January 7, 2019, was lacking evidence of completing First Aid and CPR training within 90 days of hire, as required, on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required CPR and first aid training and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested. The Home will ensure that there is always a Staff person on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present.

**Correction Deadline: 2/14/2020**

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

Met

**Comment**

Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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290-2-3-.07 Staff Training

Not Met

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(7) requires that the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees with direct care responsibilities shall 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 review of records, that Staff #1, hired January 7, 2019, was lacking evidence of completing the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which was required within 90 days of hire.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will complete the required training and will ensure any Employees or Provisional Employees complete the training. The Provider will develop a plan to ensure that any new Staff hired complete the training as required.

**Correction Deadline: 2/14/2020**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(9) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, and any Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department- approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined, based on review of records, that Staff #1, hired January 7, 2019, was lacking evidence of completing 10 hours of annual training in 2019, as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required annual training for Staff and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

**Correction Deadline: 2/14/2020**

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|---|
| <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**

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