



**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:** 3/16/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 2:00 PM    **Departure:** 3:15 PM

**FR-32566**

**Barrett, Anitren E**

2913 PENNBROOKE DRIVE Valdosta, GA 31602 Lowndes County  
 (229) 269-1429 abar\_1@outlook.com

**Mailing Address**

2913 PENNBROOKE DRIVE  
 VALDOSTA, GA 31605

**Regional Consultant**

Neli Todorova

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Joint with: Kelly Wilson

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
03/16/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/25/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/25/2020	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**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	5	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	1	0	1	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	6	8	0	1	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	6				
Children Present: 6		Total Children: 9			
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2		Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1			

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on March 16, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on March 16, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on February 15, 2021 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Additionally, Consultant discussed Rule changes that took effect on October 1, 2020 and emailed the Provider handouts with Frequently Asked Questions and related resources.

Consultant e-mailed the provider a copy of the COVID-19 Guidance for Georgia Childcare Facilities, Interim Guidance as of December 14, 2020.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/16/2021

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

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Anitren Barrett, Program Official

Date

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Neli Todorova, Consultant

Date

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Kelly Wilson, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 3/16/2021    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 2:00 PM    **Departure:** 3:15 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**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

**Comment**

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

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

There were no infants present or enrolled on the day of the visit, however there was an 18 month old child in a crib. Consultant discussed with provider that in order to promote developmentally appropriate practices, any child older than 12 months should be napping on a cot and not in a crib unless there is a doctor's recommendation on file.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**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

**Records Reviewed: 6**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met
Child # 6	Met

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Please ensure that the Family Child Care Learning Home have policies and procedures which shall include written procedures for the following:

1. Guidance and discipline techniques;
2. Handling emergency medical care, including where the Children will be taken for emergency medical care;
3. Administering medication and recording noticeable adverse reactions to medication;
4. Notifying Parents of their Child's illness, injury, and exposure to a notifiable disease;
5. Noticeable adverse reaction to medication(s);
6. Exclusion of sick children;
7. Exclusion of children with communicable diseases, as defined on the chart of communicable diseases which contains recommendations for the exclusion of sick children and their readmission, and is provided by the Department;
8. Protection of children in the event of severe weather, fire, and physical plant problems, such as power failure, that affect climate control, loss of water, or structural damages;
9. The transportation of Children to and from school or Home, if provided, to include the procedure to be followed if no one is home to receive the transported Child;
10. Identification of others providing care. The Provider must inform the Parents of Children in care of the names of any caregiver and their responsibilities, and the names of the persons who would be called upon in an emergency;
11. Parents' ability to visit the Family Child Care Learning Home unannounced and at any time that their Child is in care;
12. Any information requested by the Parent concerning the operation of the Family Child Care Learning Home or the care of the Child, including but not limited to a description of any special procedures to be followed in caring for the Child, such as any special services which the Home agrees to provide to a Child with special needs . The Parent(s) will be provided daily communication (verbal/written) regarding the care of the Child, especially with infants, toddlers and nonverbal Children. Additionally, the Provider must bring special problems or significant developments to the Parent's attention as soon as they arise;
13. Notification of the existence of a firearm in the Family Child Care Learning Home;
14. Notification of any changes in the regular composition of the household. The Provider must notify the Parent(s) of anyone regularly on the premises, including but not limited to spouse, friend(s), relative(s), or significant other(s);
15. Notification of the existence of any pets or other animals residing in the Home or on the property of the Family Child Care Learning Home; and
16. Notification of infant sleep position practices. The Provider must notify Parent(s) of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) risk reduction practices, sleep positioning policies, and arrangements for placing all infants on their backs for sleep.

Consultant provided a copy of the template from the agency website and discussed that the Policies and Procedures need to be made available to the parents.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete.

**Facility**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(a) - Discussed with the provider to ensure that all required topics are included in the emergency plan. Consultant emailed provider a template on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 3/26/2021**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) - Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that the most current drills form is used. A copy was emailed to the provider on March 16, 2021.

**Technical Assistance**

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

**Comment**

The provider reported there were firearms in the home and they are kept locked and inaccessible to the children.

**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. The children were napping during the time of the visit so the smoke detectors were not tested.

**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)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

591-1-1-.26 – Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards: - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys. Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area. Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.). Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area. Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather

**Comment**

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.13(2)(c) - Consultant observed that a three slide play structure was recently installed. It appeared to be approximately between three and five feet tall. The provider is in the process of adding resilient surface in the fall zones and has the structure fenced in and inaccessible to the children. The provider will have the play structure ready for review by April 15, 2021 and will reach out to the regional coordinator, who will visit and evaluate. Until then the children will not have access to the structure.

**Correction Deadline: 3/26/2021**

**Food Service**

**Comment**

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk 5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk 2 of 5 Components for snack Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers. The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA’s website: DECAL <http://decalf.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

**Comment**

Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children’s choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child’s primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were also discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

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

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication was dispensed since the last visit and on this date.

**Licensure**

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

**Comment**

Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

**Comment**

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

**Safety and Discipline**



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

**Comment**

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

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

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

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**290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit** **Met**

**Comment**

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

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

**Comment**

The provider does not provide transportation.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**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

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete for the provider and two residents of the home.

**Comment**

Please ensure that applicants/staff are listing exact dates (including month/day/year) on 10 year work history form in order to determine any breaks in service from the child care industry.

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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 Provider Qualifications** **Met**

**Comment**

Discussed with the provider that if family members step in to help with the children, they will have to have a completed Helper Orientation Form, First Aid/CPR training, Health and Safety Orientation Training and ten hours of Annual training on file.

**Correction Deadline: 3/17/2021**

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

**Comment**

Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on February 15, 2021

**Comment**

Discussed: Health and Safety Training is required for each Staff member with direct care responsibilities within 90 calendar days of their hire date.

Please ensure that the 10 hour Health and Safety Orientation training is taken no more frequently than every five years.

**Comment**

Annual training requirement and documentation for 2020 observed.

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
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**Technical Assistance**

The provider had been previously approved to care for additional children at her old address. Since prior approvals do not transfer with a change of location, Consultant provided a new Application for Care for Additional children on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 3/26/2021**

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.