





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)

Gussie Bowman, Program Official

Date

Octavia Humphrey, Consultant

Date



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
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Atlanta, GA 30334  
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

### Findings Report

**Date:** 4/11/2019    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:50 AM    **Departure:** 1:00 PM

**FR-37766**

**Bowman, Gussie**

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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.

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.19(2)(c) requires that infants shall only sleep in a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep as described in 290-2-3-.19(1)(a) and shall not sleep in any other equipment, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the facility asleep or fall asleep in such equipment or on the floor shall be transferred to a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep. It was determined based on observation that one infant was asleep in a bouncy seat.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will move infants who fall asleep in equipment other than a safety-approved crib such as a car safety seat, highchair or swing, or on the floor, to a safety-approved crib.

**Correction Deadline: 4/11/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

### Children's Records

**Records Reviewed: 7**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Name Missing-.08(13),Date of Birth Missing-.08(13),Phone Numbers-.08(13),Parents Address-.08(13)

Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met
Child # 6	Met
Child # 7	Met

**290-2-3-.08 Children's Records****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(1) requires the Home to have a current and updated record for each Child in care and for a period of one (1) year after each Child leaves. Such records shall include: identifying information (Child's name, birth date, Parent's name, home and business addresses, telephone numbers); name, address and telephone number of persons, including Child's physician, to contact in emergencies; and name, address, telephone numbers, relationship to Child and to Parent(s) and other identifying information of person(s) to whom the Child may be released. It was determined based on review of records that one child present did not have valid evidence of a completed enrollment form.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain the missing information and maintain the Children's records as required.

**Correction Deadline: 4/11/2019****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(11) requires that if the Home is not covered by liability insurance sufficient to protect its clients, the Home must notify the Parent of each Child under the care of the program in writing. Each Parent must acknowledge receipt of such notice, and a copy of the acknowledgement shall be kept in the Child's file. It was determined based on a review of records that one child enrolled did not have a no liability acknowledgement form on file. (Helper's Child)

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain and maintain documentation.

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2019****Recited on 4/11/2019****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(13) requires documentation for the care of children, related and unrelated, for whom no pay is received to include a notarized statement from the Parent(s) attesting to the non-pay status. It was determined based on review of records that there were no valid evidence of a notarized statement form from the Parent of an unrelated child attesting to the non-pay status.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain and maintain documentation.

**Correction Deadline: 4/11/2019**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.08(2) requires the Home to maintain a file for each Child that includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations; enrollment in the Home may not continue for more than 30 days without such evidence. It was determined based on review of records that immunization records were missing for one child enrolled. (Helper's child)

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2019**

**Recited on 4/11/2019**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on review of records that a monthly smoke detector check was not conducted for the months of February and March.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 5/11/2019**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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.

**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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing procedures.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

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**Licensure**

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**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.04(1)(d) requires a person that provides care for more than six children for pay, related or unrelated, as defined in the rules, to make application to the Department for a license to operate as a Child Care Learning Center. It was determined based on observation that there were seven children present for pay in the home.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Family Child Care Learning Home caring for more than six children shall reduce the number of children in care to six. The Family Child Care Learning Home will submit an application for a Child Care Learning Center and receive a license to operate from the Department before caring for more than six children, related or unrelated, for pay.

**Correction Deadline: 4/11/2019**

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**Safety and Discipline**

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

The provider and/or the home's employee were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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

Please replace missing insect-sting preparation in first aid kit.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

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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 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 Staff Qualifications(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Finding**

"290-2-3-.07(4) requires the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment. Staff members must complete the training within the first 90 days of employment. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases; 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 and abusive head trauma; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or threatening event such as violence at the facility; handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; and precautions in transporting children (if applicable).

It was determined based on review of records that two staff members did not have valid evidence of Health and Safety training as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

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

**Correction Deadline: 5/11/2019**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(6) requires the Home to maintain for the Provider and any Provisional Employee or Employee, current evidence of successful completion of ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is related to the care of children and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department approved source annually. 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 programs shall be maintained in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records that two staff members did not have valid evidence of ten (10) clock hours of annual training for the 2018 year.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required annual 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.

**Correction Deadline: 5/11/2019**

**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

**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 that seven unrelated children was present for care in the family child care learning home.

**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: 4/21/2019**

**Comment**

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