





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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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.

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#### 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.

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**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)

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Anna Kowalsky, Program Official

Date

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Jennifer Salies, Consultant

Date



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

### Findings Report

**Date:** 11/13/2019 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:10 AM **Departure:** 12:50 PM

**FR-51972**

**Kowalsky, Anna K**

7626 Knollview Dr Columbus, GA 31904 Muscogee County  
(706) 315-2257 artssmartscaringhearts@gmail.com

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Regional Consultant**

Jennifer Salies

Phone: (770) 357-7052  
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jennifer.salies@dec.al.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Two (2) of two (2) cribs were present meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards as they were manufactured in 2018.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property. Consultant discussed if/when the provider takes the children to an off-site swimming pool, ratios and lifeguard requirements are to be met.

### Facility

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Home observed complete emergency drills

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date. Provider does not possess any fire arms.

**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 there were exposed tree roots posing a tripping hazard located along the back of the fence.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will spray paint the tree roots so that they are visible.

**Correction Deadline: 11/23/2019**

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

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

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<b>Licensure</b>
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**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

Permission to Operate not issued on this date due to missing component of face-to-face cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.04(2)(f) - Consultant discussed Business License requirement with the Provider. The Provider has until December 18, 2019 to submit the Business License to the Consultant.

**Correction Deadline: 11/13/2019**

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<b>Safety and Discipline</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Animals****Met****Comment**

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date for one (1) cat and two (2) dogs.

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(e) requires the Home and any vehicle used for transportation Children to have a first aid kit which at least contains: scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, thermometer, adhesive tape, band-aids, insect - sting preparation, antiseptic cleaning solution, antibacterial ointment, bandages, disposable rubber gloves, protective eye wear, face mask, and cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored in a central location so that it is not accessible to Children but is easily accessible to the Provider and Staff. The Home must also maintain written directions for the use of universal precautions for handling blood and bodily fluids. The directions on the use of universal precautions must be kept with the first aid kit at all times. It was determined based on observation that the First Aid kit was missing the following items:

- thermometer
- face mask
- protective eye wear

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will replace any missing items in the first aid kit.

**Correction Deadline: 11/23/2019**

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the Provider decides to incorporate transportation. The Provider will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hours of transportation training prior to transporting children.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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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. Three (3) of three (3) records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file for the provider, helpers and all residents living in the home seventeen (17) years and older.

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**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR****Not Met****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 observation that the Provider did not complete the face-to-face portion of cardiopulmonary resuscitation training as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home has scheduled the face-to-face portion of the training for Saturday November 16, 2019.

**Correction Deadline: 11/16/2019**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<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.