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: 7/28/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

FR-000012708
Geter, Tracy J
4004 FOREMAN CT Hephzibah, GA 30815 Richmond County
(706) 592-4412 tgeter05@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant
April Christian
Phone: ()
Fax:
april.christian@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Kaycee Purvis

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/28/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/06/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/07/2023	Licensing Study	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.

Ratio 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	5	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	4	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	3	6	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	7	15	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	7				

Children Present: 7
Total Children: 15
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 6
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

More than 6 for pay
6 for pay present & no-pay present does not have a notorized no-pay statement

Comments
The findings of this report were reviewed with the Provider on this date. All Core and Non-Core or follow up to previous rule violations were observed on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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), do the following:

1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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 Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!**

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: 7/28/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:30 AM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

FR-000012708
Geter, Tracy J
4004 FOREMAN CT Hephzibah, GA 30815 Richmond County
(706) 592-4412 tgeter05@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant
April Christian
Phone: ()
Fax:
april.christian@decal.ga.gov
Joint with: Kaycee Purvis

Mailing Address
Same

The following information is associated with a LS:

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
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

Comment
Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

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 record child #5 did not have a current immunization record on file.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2025

Facility

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

Comment
An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home this date.

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

Comment
The Home appeared clean and free from hazards.

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 upon observation that the following playground hazards were observed on this date:

• Wood rot and splintered wood were present on the tops and sides of the wooden ladder located on the wooden stationary equipment.
• Exposed concrete was attached to the fencing and ground located on the front right fencing and on the legs of the metal swing set.
• Two metal tie plates with four sharp corners were present on the right and back middle sides of the wooden barrier surrounding the wooden stationary equipment.
• Rust was present on all chains of the swings located on the wooden stationary equipment.
• A metal hook that was protruding from the ground approximately six inches between the outdoor sheds.
* There were two active ant beds in the front middle part of the playground.
• There was a five inch gap along the bottom right and left side of the white and green outdoor shed causing a potential entrapment hazard.
• There was a nine inch gap along the bottom of the front of the white and green outdoor shed causing a potential entrapment hazard.
• A metal ladder propped against the left side of the blue and white outdoor shed
* There were large exposed roots under the two large trees from the front to the back of the left side playground causing a potential tripping hazard.
* There was an unlocked portable bathroom located on the left back side of 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: 8/28/2025 **Prior Visits: 11/07/2023**

Recited on 7/28/2025

Finding
290-2-3-.13(2)(d) requires that outside play areas be protected from traffic or other hazards by fencing or other barriers at least four feet in height and approved by the Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children. A fence shall be provided around swimming pools to make them inaccessible when not in use. It was determined based upon observation that the following playground fencing hazards were observed on this date:

• The gate on the front right side of the playground had a gap that measured four inches which caused a potential entrapment hazard.
• The fencing to the right of the gate on the front right side of the playground had a gap that measured four and a half inches which caused a potential entrapment hazard.
• The fencing on the front right side of the playground had five protruding and exposed bolts facing the inside of the playground.
• The fencing on the front left side of the playground had four protruding and exposed bolts facing the inside of the playground.
* The fencing on the front right side is broken and unable to close.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will enclose the outside play area(s) with a four-foot high fence or other Department-approved barrier and inspect regularly to ensure fencing material is safe and any hazards identified are repaired or replaced. The Home will install or repair a fence around swimming pools that makes them inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 9/27/2025 **Prior Visits: 11/07/2023**

Recited on 7/28/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Comment
Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

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 these rules, shall make application to the Department for a license to operate a Child Care Learning Center, except as provided in 290-2-3-.07(15). It was determined based on observation that the provider care for seven unrelated children for pay on this day.

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: 8/4/2025

Safety and Discipline

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

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

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

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

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

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

Comment
The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

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

Comment
Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

290-2-3-.07 Other Staff Direct Contact with Children(CR) **Met**

Comment
The facility does not currently have any additional staff employed.

290-2-3-.07 Provider Qualifications **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.07(4) requires a Home to maintain a personnel file on the Provider, all Employees, Provisional Employees, Personnel, Staff, Students-in-Training, Volunteers, Clerical, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other Support Staff for the duration of the term of employment plus one (1) calendar year, and it shall contain the following: identifying information to include: name, date of birth, social security number, current address and current telephone number; employment history for the past ten years; as applicable to the position held: evidence of education and qualifying work experience, evidence of required program orientation including date and signature of person providing the orientation; evidence of all training required by these rules which shall include: title of training, date of training, trainer's signature, location of training and number of clock hours obtained; a statement completed by the staff member that the information provided is true and accurate; and any other records required by these rules. It was determined based on review of records that volunteer #2 did not have the required personnel file as required on this day.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Provider will create and maintain a complete personnel file for all Staff in the Home.

Correction Deadline: 8/29/2025

Finding
290-2-3-.07(5) requires that prior to assignment to children or task, the Provider and all Employees (i.e., Volunteers, Students-in-Training, Independent Contractors, etc.) and Provisional Employees must receive initial program orientation. It was determined based on review of records that volunteer #2 did not complete initial program orientation as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will ensure that all Staff have completed the required orientation training and will ensure any new Staff hired complete orientation training as required.

Correction Deadline: 8/15/2025

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

Comment
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.07(9)(a) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department- approved source. It was determined based upon a review of records that the Provider completed zero out of ten hours of annual training for the year 2024 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 or within the Georgia Professional Development System (GaPDS). The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

Correction Deadline: 8/27/2025

290-2-3-.07 Students-in-Training(CR) **Met**

Comment
The facility does not currently have any students-in-training employed.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR) **Met**

Comment
Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.