



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: 12/18/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 3:15 PM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

FR-22612

Wilhite, Pecolia A

605 VINCENT DRIVE Athens, GA 30607 Clarke County
(706) 351-1434 ANITA.WILHITE@YAHOO.COM

Lead Consultant

Dianne Clarke

Phone: (770) 357-4923

Fax: (770) 357-4922

dianne.clarke@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
12/18/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/12/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
07/06/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

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	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				
Children Present: 0 Total Children: 0 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

The purpose of the visit is to conduct a Licensing Study visit.

Reminders: Refer to the published communicable disease chart for guidance regarding communicable diseases. In most scenarios, only outbreaks/clusters should be reported to the local health districts. Please be sure you are using the most updated chart.

Please be sure to contact the Clarke County Department of Health, if there are any outbreaks/clusters of positive COVID-19 cases immediately and get their guidance. Please be sure to also complete a Required Report in DECAL KOALA for all individual cases of communicable diseases within 24 hours. Be sure to select "Notifiable Communicable Diseases" to report closures for COVID cases.

Be sure to enter all temporary closures by 8 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one day or more. Please be sure to SAVE the report prior to exiting.

All amendments are required to be electronically submitted in DECAL KOALA effective 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

**Beginning January 1, 2024, there is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI in Georgia PDS (GaPDS) as ProSolutions will no longer offer the class for free. Also, you will be able to find the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which will be 15 hours, for free as well (staff must complete all 15 hours for the course to be counted).

Indicator manual and utilizing it. FYI: As of October 1, 2024, for larger equipment please be sure to have the amount of equipment for the amount of children enrolled (this include cribs, chairs, etc.)

Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks at least 90 days before the five-year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's criminal records checks are not about to expire.

Discussed regarding mats using tape to repair, must replace.

Don't forget to post new license beginning January 1, 2025.

There are no children currently present or enrolled.

One Day letter left.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/18/2024

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), 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@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical 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: 12/18/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 3:15 PM **Departure:** 5:00 PM

FR-22612

Wilhite, Pecolia A

605 VINCENT DRIVE Athens, GA 30607 Clarke County
(706) 351-1434 ANITA.WILHITE@YAHOO.COM

Lead Consultant

Dianne Clarke

Phone: (770) 357-4923

Fax: (770) 357-4922

dianne.clarke@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

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) **Met**

Comment

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

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

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022

Corrected on 12/18/2024

.08(1) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that there were no children enrolled since 2022. Please ensure that each child has an enrollment file to include, physician, emergency contact name, address and phone numbers, relationship to the parent and other identifying information to whom the child may be released at all times.

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022

Corrected on 12/18/2024

.08(11) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that no children have been enrolled since 2022. Please ensure that parental notice of no liability is completed for all children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022

Corrected on 12/18/2024

.08(4) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that there were no children enrolled since 2022. Please ensure that all children have a file at all times.

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022

Corrected on 12/18/2024

.08(10) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the provider stated that she has not had children since 2022. Please ensure that when children are present again that authorized release forms are kept on file for all children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022

Corrected on 12/18/2024

.08(3) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the provider stated that they have not cared for children since 2022. Please ensure that when children are present again that authorization for emergency medical care is completed for all children.

Correction Deadline: 3/8/2022

Corrected on 12/18/2024

.08(7) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the provider stated that she has not had unrelated children since 2022. Please ensure that when children are present again that transportation agreements are completed for all children.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date. There were no children enrolled or present.

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

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Met

Comment

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

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

Met

Comment

No children currently enrolled or present in the program.

290-2-3-.11 Animals

Met

Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

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

Met

Comment

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Met

Comment

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

Staff Records

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

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.21(1)(b) requires every Provider to have a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before residing in the Home. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the license date; provided, however, if the Provider has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider did not have evidence of a current records check determination letter on file and it had expired on April 17, 2024.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will complete a records check application ensure that the Provider has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Home. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Director has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The provider must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Home will review the CRC modules to ensure the rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2024

Finding

290-2-3-.21(1)(m)3. requires that a new Comprehensive Records Check Determination be completed for the Provider and each Employee and Provisional Employee at least once every five years. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider's satisfactory records check had expired as of April 17, 2024 and a new records check was not completed.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will check regularly to ensure that each Director, Employee and Provisional Employee has a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file that has been issued within the past five years. The provider must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Home will review the CRC modules to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 12/18/2024

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 a review of records that the provider did not have current evidence of CPR and First Aid on file.

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: 1/17/2025

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) 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 a review of records that the provider did not have evidence of ten hours of annual training for 2023.

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: 1/17/2025

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

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)