



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: 2/16/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:15 AM

Departure: 1:45 PM

FR-52473

Simmons, Sandra D

3094 Hwy 80 East Twin City, GA 30471 Emanuel County
(478) 299-3041 sweett@pineland.net

Regional Consultant

Rena Keene

Phone: (706) 855-3458
Fax: (706) 434-7639
rena.keene@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
02/16/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/02/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/15/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

Ratio Capacity					
Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	1	1	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	3	4	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	2	1	0	0	1
Total Under 13 Years	5	7	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	6				
Children Present: 7 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2					
Total Children: 8 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

February 28, 2024: The Licensing Study Report was revised to remove the Provider's seventeen-year-old son from the Children's Worksheet, since he is now shown on the Staff Worksheet.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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 technical assistance is available!

Sandra Simmons, Program Official

Date

Rena Keene, Regional 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: 2/16/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:15 AM

Departure: 1:45 PM

FR-52473

Simmons, Sandra D

3094 Hwy 80 East Twin City, GA 30471 Emanuel County
(478) 299-3041 sweett@pineland.net

Regional Consultant

Rena Keene

Phone: (706) 855-3458

Fax: (706) 434-7639

rena.keene@dec.al.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

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

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

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

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 8/31/2023

Corrected on 2/16/2024

.08(2) - Immunization records were observed to be current and in each child's record, except for the infant who was enrolled on February 5, 2024.

.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.08(2) - Please ensure that the immunization record for the child who was enrolled on February 5, 2024, is obtained and on file by March 6, 2024.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2024

290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)

Met

Comment

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

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.

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.

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Food Service

290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition

Not Met

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://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

Lunch observed to be served during visit included peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, green beans, fruit cups and milk.

Finding

290-2-3-.10(6) requires the Home to provide a menu listing all meals and snacks to be served during the current week. Substitutions shall be recorded on the posted menu. Menus shall be retained at the Home for six (6) months. It was determined based on a review of records and statements from the Provider that a current menu was not available for the current week of February 12 through February 16, 2024, as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will list all of the current week's meals and snacks and all substitutions on the menu and keep past menus on file for six months and will implement a system to monitor this.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Proper diapering procedures observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.11(1)(j) requires children's hands to be washed with liquid soap and warm running water: immediately upon arrival for the day and re-entering the child care area after outside play; before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, and playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, contact with bodily fluids such as, but not limited to, mucus, saliva, vomit or blood, and after contamination by any other means. The bathroom where children were observed to wash hands during visit was not equipped with a water heater. Please use other bathroom in the home for handwashing until warm water can be provided.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2024**290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

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**

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

Safety and Discipline

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(n) - Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date for both of the pet dogs in the home.

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

Technical Assistance

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 eyewear, facemask, 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. Please replace/add missing/expired items in first aid kit - goggles, scissors and tweezers.

Correction Deadline: 2/26/2024

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

290-2-3-.21(1)(a) requires the Home to ensure that the Provider, every actual and potential Employee(including residents age 17 and older) and Provisional Employee of the Family Child Care Learning Home has submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on staff statements and Consultant's observation that a seventeen-year-old child resides in the home who turned age seventeen on February 1, 2024, and has not submitted to a fingerprint background check.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will ensure that every actual and potential Provider, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Family Child Care Learning Home submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as 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 ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2024

Finding

290-2-3-.21(1)(c) requires every Employee 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 if age 17 or older. 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 Employee 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 staff statements and Consultant's observation that a seventeen-year-old child resides in the home who turned age seventeen on February 1, 2024, and has not obtained a satisfactory background check.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will ensure that every Employee 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 Employee 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 ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 2/16/2024

290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR	Met
--	------------

Comment

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

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	Met
-----------------------------------	------------

Comment

Annual training requirement and documentation observed.

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.