



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: 9/17/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:10 AM **Departure:** 12:35 PM

FR-48828

Smith, Shalinda A

717 North Coleman Street Swainsboro, GA 30401 Emanuel
County
(478) 494-2511 srountree478@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Kristy Turner

Phone: (470) 373-3232

Fax:

kristy.turner@decal.ga.gov

Joint with: Kesha McNeal

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<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.
09/17/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/12/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/28/2023	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	3	4	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	2	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	1	0	0	2
Total Under 13 Years	5	7	0	0	1
Total Under 18 Years	5				
Children Present: 5 Total Children: 10					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2					

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/17/2024

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.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!



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(Findings Report)

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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) **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) **N/A**

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2024

Corrected on 9/17/2024

.11(2)(c) - This citation was corrected on this date. The Consultant reviewed the records that the fire drills were conducted and up to date.

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

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.13(1)(d) - The Consultant with the Provider to ensure that the portable heating/cooling equipment is inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2024

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that the fence for the playground is four feet as required by the Department.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2024

290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(1)(i) requires that personnel shall wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water: immediately before and after each diaper change; immediately upon the first Child's arrival in the Home for care and upon re-entering the Home after outside play; before and after dispensing oral medications and applying topical medications, ointments, creams or lotions, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding or assisting children with eating and drinking; after toileting or helping children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids such as, but not limited to, mucus, saliva, vomit or blood, and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that staff member #1 entered the home and did not wash hands while prepping the food in the kitchen area as required by the Department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

To ensure proper hygiene, all Staff shall wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water as required.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2024**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****Correction Deadline: 2/12/2024****Corrected on 9/17/2024**

.04(1)(d) - The citation was corrected on this date. The Consultant observed six children unrelated for pay and two related children not for pay with comp forms on file that meet the requirements of the Department.

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.08 Staff Training**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(14) requires that documentation of training be maintained in the Home and include the following: 1) title of training, 2) date of training, 3) number of clock hours obtained and 4) name(s) of trainers/sponsoring organizations. It was determined based review of records that staff member #1 did not have ten hours of annual training which is required by the Department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will ensure that complete training information is on file.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2024

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Correction Deadline: 2/22/2024

Corrected on 9/17/2024

.07(15) - This citation was corrected on this date. The Consultant observed six children unrelated for pay and two related non pay children in care.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.