



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: 11/28/2023 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 10:45 AM

Departure: 12:45 PM

FR-50332

Whitfield, Shaquitha L

5705 Railroad Avenue Valdosta, GA 31601 Lowndes County  
(229) 356-8044 tendermoments1@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Lindsey Ray

Phone: (404) 478-4441

Fax:

lindsey.ray@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11/28/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 03/15/2023                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/05/2022                  | Monitoring Visit | 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    | 2           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years                                               | 2                | 4             | 0    | 0           | 1                 |
| School Age(5+) Years                                      | 0                | 3             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 13 Years                                      | 3                | 9             | 0    | 2           | 1                 |
| Total Under 18 Years                                      | 3                |               |      |             |                   |
| Children Present: 3 Total Children: 12                    |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2 |                  |               |      |             |                   |

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a licensing study. The provider does not provide routine transportation nor dispense medication. No field trips have been taken and swimming activities are not provided.

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](http://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](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Shaquitha Whitfield, Program Official

Date

Lindsey Ray, Regional Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**Activities and Equipment**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

**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**

**Met**

**Correction Deadline: 3/15/2023**

**Corrected on 11/28/2023**

.08(9) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Consultant observed complete arrival and departure records.

**Facility**

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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records and statements from the Provider that she did not have an emergency drills log available for review for the calendar years 2022 and 2023 on this date. The provider stated again today that she does not have documentation of emergency drills available for the calendar year of 2023 on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 11/28/2023****Recited on 11/28/2023****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) - requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. The consultant and the provider discussed safe storage of potentially hazardous materials.

**Correction Deadline: 11/28/2023**

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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)****Met****Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023****Corrected on 11/28/2023**

.13(2)(d) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The gap in the fence to the right of the gate measured 2 and 1/2 inches.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

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

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

|                  |
|------------------|
| <b>Licensure</b> |
|------------------|

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|                                                 |            |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| <b>Safety and Discipline</b> |
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|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The provider and/or the home's employee were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**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

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|                                        |            |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 First Aid &amp; CPR</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------|------------|

**Correction Deadline: 4/30/2023**

**Corrected on 11/28/2023**

**.07(8) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. The provider and employee had complete documentation of a hands-on skills assessment to obtain first aid and CPR training.**

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|---------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Training</b> | <b>Defer</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|

**Defer**

290-2-3-.07(9)-This citation is deferred due to the new calendar year.

**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: 12/31/2023**

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|

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|                                           |            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.

