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: 7/22/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 2:50 PM **Departure:** 4:45 PM

FR-000015031
Lawrence, Bertha B
2067 CLOVERDALE DRIVE, S.E. Atlanta, GA 30316 DeKalb County
(404) 455-1593

Regional Consultant
Jessica Johnson
Phone: (470) 618-9283
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jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
2067 CLOVERDALE DRIVE, S.E.
ATLANTA, GA 30316

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/22/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
02/24/2026	Monitoring Visit	Support
09/09/2025	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.

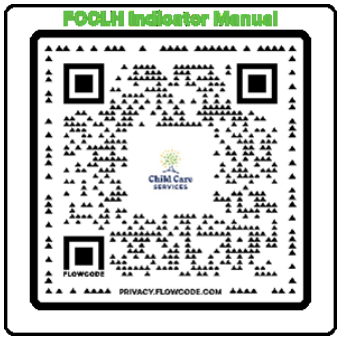
Ratio Capacity

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	2	2	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	1	1	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	2	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	3	5	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	3				

Children Present: 3
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1
Total Children: 5
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

Comments
On this date, Jessica Johnson (JJ), Consultant, reviewed the visit report with Provider Bertha Lawrence.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx.

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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Summary 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) **Not Met**

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.19(2) - Please ensure adding the safe sleep practices acknowledgement form to the infant files.

Correction Deadline: 7/22/2026

Finding
290-2-3-.19(2) requires that a Family Child Care Learning Home shall provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants and one-year-old children when placed for sleep in a safety approved crib or in any other type of equipment approved for infant sleep. Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant's back unless the Parent has provided a physician's written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant's back, but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred positions and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant, however swaddling shall not be used unless the Home has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant such as but not limited to crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that both playyards were observed with the mobile and the diapering pad attached on this date.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will ensure that safe sleep requirements for infants are followed as required.

Correction Deadline: 7/22/2026

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 **Met**

Correction Deadline: 3/24/2026

Corrected on 7/22/2026
.08(2) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the Consultant observed complete immunization records for all enrolled children.

Facility

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

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.11(2)(a) - Please ensure updating the emergency preparedness plan and updated the program license on the posted items board to 2026.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2026

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 record that the emergency drill forms was not completed for the months of January through June 0f 2026.

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: 7/31/2026

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2026

Corrected on 7/22/2026
.11(2)(f) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as no hazards were observed accessible to children.

Comment
No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Correction Deadline: 2/27/2026

Corrected on 7/22/2026
.11(2)(h) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the smoke detector was observed in working order.

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 appeared clean and free from hazards.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2026

Corrected on 7/22/2026
.13(2)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date as the Provider stated they use cones to block children from certain area on the playground.

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - Please ensure cutting back the weed growing through the fencing on the playground area.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2026

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 on observation that the fence in the back left corner measured at 3 feet and 7 inches. It was further determined that there was a 8 inch gap that posed a potential entrapment hazard at the bottom of the fence entrance gate.

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: 8/5/2026

Recited on 7/22/2026

Food Service

290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.10(3) - Please ensure adding the safe sleep practices to Child # file.

Correction Deadline: 7/22/2026

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Please ensure that pacifier clips are not attached to children's clothing to prevent a potential choking hazard.

Comment
Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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
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 **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.11(1)(e) - Please ensure adding the antiseptic cleaning solution and antibacterial ointment to the first aid kit.

Correction Deadline: 8/1/2026

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 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2026

Corrected on 7/22/2026
.07(8)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected as the Provider was observed with a current and valid CPR certification on file.

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

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

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.