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: 7/28/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 9:05 AM **Departure:** 10:00 AM

FR-17264
Buckles, Vanessa T
133 Lake Park Drive Cordele, GA 31015 Crisp County
(229) 406-8313 Terrycavon@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant
Angela Williams-Jackson
Phone: (404) 710-3984
Fax: (678) 717-5765
angela.williams-jackson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/28/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
01/16/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing
09/17/2024	Monitoring Visit	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)	0	0	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	2	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	3	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				

Children Present: 0
Total Children: 3
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

Comments
Citations were left with the Provider on this date. Citations were left with the Provider on this date. The Provider gave the Consultant another email (Terrycavon@yahoo.com) to send the report to because the Provider's email (vanessabuckles4@icloud.com).

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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 techincal assistance is available!

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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a MV:

Activities and Equipment

290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.12(6) requires all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment shall be placed so as to permit the children's freedom of movement and to minimize danger of accident or collision. It was determined based on observation that in the licensed area the Provider had chairs stacked on top of a table and a playpen on top of a large brown storage container that posed a tipping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will rearrange any unsafe furniture and/or equipment and will place so as to permit children's freedom of movement without accidents or collisions.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2025

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR) **Not Evaluated**

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) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.11(2)(f) requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the Provider had an ash tray on the porch accessible to children that had a cigarette in it that posed a health and safety hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
To ensure the safe storage of hazardous items, the Home Provider will make these items inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2025

Comment
An operable and appropriately sized fire extinguisher was observed in the home on this date.

Comment
Operable smoke detectors were observed as required in the home on 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**

Finding
290-2-3-.13(2)(a) requires that outdoor play areas be kept clean and free of hazards such as exposed sharp corners of concrete or equipment, rust and splinters on equipment, broken glass, open drainage ditches, holes and stagnant water. It was determined based on observation that the Provider had two cooking grills and three shovels against the playground fence accessible to children that posed a hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will repair any and all identified outdoor hazards and will monitor playground daily or more often as needed to ensure that the Home's outdoor play area is kept clean and free of hazards.

Correction Deadline: 8/7/2025

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There are no diapered children currently enrolled in the program.

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

Comment
Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed.

Licensure

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

Comment
Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR) **Not Evaluated**

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

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 the last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since the last visit.

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 **Defer**

Defer
The evaluation of the previous citation was deferred on this date to the next regulatory visit.

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: 2/15/2025

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR) **Not Evaluated**

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

290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR) **Not Evaluated**

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