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: 10/28/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 1:50 PM **Departure:** 4:00 PM

FR-46573
Walters, Patsy A
113 Colonial Drive Blakely, GA 39823 Early County
(229) 723-6859 love_to_babysit@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		
10/28/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/21/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
10/12/2023	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	1
1 & 2 Years	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	1
Total Under 13 Years	0	0	0	0	2
Total Under 18 Years	0				

Children Present: 0
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2
Total Children: 2
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 0

Comments
The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/28/2024

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techical 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) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.12(1) requires the Home to provide a variety of age-appropriate toys, books and play equipment and materials. It was determined based on observation that the home does not have the following areas defined:
• Blocks Center.
• Dramatic Play Center.
• Sensory Center.
• Art Center.
• Library Center.
• Writing Center.
• Literacy Center.
• Math Center.
• Science Center

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will secure a variety of appropriate equipment.

Correction Deadline: 11/25/2024

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: 3/21/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2024
The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2024
The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2024

Corrected on 10/28/2024
The citation was observed to be corrected on this date.

290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

Facility

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

Finding
290-2-3-.11(2)(a) requires the Home to have a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to fire, severe weather, loss of electrical power or water, and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the Home. The Home will have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, continuity of operations, accommodation of infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions. No Home personnel shall impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals. It was determined based on observation that the home did not have evidence of a written plan for handling emergencies.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will complete a written plan for emergencies.

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024

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 observation that the provider did not have evidence of the fire drill conducted between January-March and May-September of 2024. Additionally, the smoke detector check, tornado drill, fire extinguisher check, lockdown drill, and emergency plans procedures were not conducted for the year 2024.

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: 11/27/2024

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 following items found near the changing table posed a hazard and were accessible to children:
- Diaper rash cream.
- Baby oil.
- Baby lotion.
- Baby wash.

On the kitchen countertop:
- Knives.
- Adult medication.

Additionally, there was a cob web at the top of the doorway that leads into to license child care area.

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: 10/28/2024

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.13(1) requires that the Home be clean and free from hazards. It was determined based on observation that in the licensed child care area the following posed a hazard:
- Next to the green shelf on the left side the wall had cracked drywall.
- There was a broken blind in the window facing straight ahead.
- In the bathroom the back of the toilet was without a toilet cover and the handle was not working.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
To ensure the cleanliness and safety of the environment, the Home Provider will make hazardous items inaccessible to the children.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024

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 following hazard posed a risk to children:
- On the patio the children have to walk out on to the playground had animal food on top of a table, a broom, and a yellow electric cord hanging over the patio.
- Leaves and limbs throughout.
- A leaf blower on the ground near the stairs.
- Standing water inside an inflatable pool.
- A yellow electric cord wrapped around the base of the large tree.

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: 11/7/2024

Food Service

290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition **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://decal.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx USDA http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks

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290-2-3-.10 Kitchen Operations **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.10(12) requires the Home to have a designated space for food preparation and in an area not used for diaper changing. The area shall be kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles and grease deposits. Food preparation surface areas shall be nonporous with no unsealed cracks or seams. It was determined based on observation that the food preparation area had food particles and open food boxes on the countertops.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will ensure that safety and sanitation standards for food preparation areas are met.

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

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

Comment
Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Comment
Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed at this time.

Licensure

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

Comment
There were no children enrolled on this date.

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Animals **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.11(1)(n) requires pets in the Home be properly vaccinated in accordance with the requirements of the local county Boards of Health. Unconfined pets shall not be permitted in child care areas when any Child is present except for supervised learning experiences. It was determined based on observation that there was a black dog unconfined walking around in the yard barking.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will ensure that all animals are properly vaccinated and that unconfined animals are not allowed in child care areas.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024

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

Comment
Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit **Not Met**

Finding
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. It was determined based on observation that the first aid kit had expired anti-bacterial cream, and it was missing tweezers.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will replace any missing items in the first aid kit, keep the instruction manual and written universal precautions with the kit and will check the kit regularly. The Home will store the kit where children will not have access to it.

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2024

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 First Aid & CPR **Met**

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

290-2-3-.11 Prohibited Substances **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
The consultant discussed with the provider to please ensure that a no smoking, no liability, and communicable disease chart are posted.

Correction Deadline: 10/28/2024

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) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

Comment
Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)