



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: 12/13/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

FR-9900105273

Bessinger, Carol L.

1051 KATHWOOD DRIVE Elberton, GA 30635 Elbert County
(706) 283-9483 bcbessinger@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Amanda Schofield

Phone: (404) 463-3585

Fax:

amanda.schofield@decalfga.gov

Mailing Address

1051 KATHWOOD DRIVE
ELBERTON, GA 30635

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
12/13/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/08/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/27/2023	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	2	3	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	1	0	1	0
School Age(5+) Years	3	4	0	1	0
Total Under 13 Years	7	8	0	2	0
Total Under 18 Years	7				
Children Present: 7 Total Children: 11					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2					

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study. Staff files, children files, and criminal records were reviewed today.

Reminders:

- Incident Reports are to be submitted via DECAL KOALA with all signed staff statements for staff and the director. Consultant left a copy of Required Reporting Guidelines.
- Please be sure to enter all temporary closures in DECAL KOALA under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily

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.decgal.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 user id 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@decgal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 12/13/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM Departure: 12:00 PM

FR-9900105273
Bessinger, Carol L.
1051 KATHWOOD DRIVE Elberton, GA 30635 Elbert County
(706) 283-9483 bcbessinger@gmail.com

Regional Consultant
Amanda Schofield
Phone: (404) 463-3585
Fax:
amanda.schofield@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
1051 KATHWOOD DRIVE
ELBERTON, GA 30635

The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

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

Comment

Discussed with the provider to rotate and add toys and materials to enhance the learning environment.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Comment

Per provider the home is currently 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

Per provider the home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

290-2-3-.08 Children's Records Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

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

Comment

Home observed complete emergency drills

Comment

Please ensure that all hazardous items and/or equipment (i.e. diaper wipes, body wash, etc.) or any items labeled "Keep Out of Children" stored in a locked cabinet and/or container inaccessible to children at all times.

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 appears clean and free from hazards. Consultant also discussed to monitor the surrounding play area for chipping or peeling paint.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

Please monitor the playground area for the following hazardous items:

- Exposed tree roots.
- Normal wear and tear of playground equipment.
- Excessive leaves, fallen branches and/or tree limbs, etc.
- Ensure to monitor trees surrounding the playground area for weak or fallen tree branches.

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://dec.al.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx> USDA <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

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

Provider stated proper hand washing of children and staff on this date.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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**

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

Safety and Discipline**290-2-3-.11 Animals****N/A****Comment**

Per provide The Family Child Care Learning Home does not keep animals on premises.

290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)	Met
-----------------------------------	------------

Comment

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

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit	Met
----------------------------------	------------

Comment

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)	Met
---------------------------------------	------------

Comment

Per provider the home does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

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

Comment

Consultant observed three of three staff to have satisfactory comprehensive record check electronically on this date.

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 conducted on May 8, 2024

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.