



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: 8/16/2021 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:15 PM

Departure: 1:45 PM

FR-53067

Mathis, Ruthie M

228 S. Hampton Street Americus, GA 31709 Sumter County
(229) 942-4954 sweetpearuth5@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Charlene Story

Phone: (770) 405-7942

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charlene.story@dec.al.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>		
08/16/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/04/2021	Initial 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.

Ratios/License Capacity

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	1	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	2
Total Under 13 Years	1	0	0	0	3
Total Under 18 Years	1				
Children Present: 1 Total Children: 3 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a Licensing Study. This visit was conducted virtually with the Provider and Consultant. An Administrative Review was also completed on this date.

At this time, the Provider has no enrolled children in her care.

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://decal.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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 New Deadlines:

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov

Ruthie Mathis, Program Official

Date

Charlene Story, Consultant

Date



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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)

Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

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)

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 1

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Child # 1

Met

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

No children enrolled at this time. This rule was not evaluated.

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)

Met

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 appears clean and free from hazards.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)

Met

Comment

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

Food Service

290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition

Not Evaluated

Comment

No children enrolled at this time. This rule was not evaluated.

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

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures.

290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)

Met

Comment

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

Licensure

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

Not Evaluated

Comment

No Children were enrolled at this time.

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)**Not Evaluated****Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)
Age appropriate discipline was discussed with the provider on this date.

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

Please replace or add missing or expired items in first aid kits.

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**Met****Comment**

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

290-2-3-.07 Independent Contractors(CR)**Met****Comment**

The facility does not currently have any independent contractors employed.

290-2-3-.07 Other Staff Direct Contact with Children(CR)**Met****Comment**

The facility does not currently have any additional staff employed.

290-2-3-.07 Provisional Employees**Met****Comment**

Observed compliance with the local zoning authorities, fire safety agencies and local building authorities on this date.

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**

This is a newly licensed provider. Annual training was not required for 2020.

290-2-3-.07 Students-in-Training(CR)**Met****Comment**

The facility does not currently have any students-in-training employed.

290-2-3-.07 Volunteers(CR)**Met****Comment**

The facility does not currently have any volunteers employed.

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)**Met****Comment**

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