



**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:** 8/8/2024 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 8:20 AM **Departure:** 9:45 AM

**FR-000003815**

**Thomas, Vera M**

2480 VANN ROAD Waycross, GA 31503 Ware County  
(912) 288-3315 verasdaycare@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| <u>Compliance Zone Designation</u> |                  |               | <b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.<br><br><b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.<br><b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.<br><b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 08/08/2024                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/04/2024                         | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 07/18/2023                         | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                    |                  |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

| Ratio Capacity                                                                |                  |               |      |             |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------|-------------|-------------------|
| Age Ranges                                                                    | Children Present | Child For Pay | CAPS | Not for Pay | Provider Children |
| Infant (0-11 mos)                                                             | 3                | 3             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 1 & 2 Years                                                                   | 2                | 2             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years                                                                   | 2                | 2             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| School Age(5+) Years                                                          | 0                | 0             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 13 Years                                                          | 7                | 7             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 18 Years                                                          | 7                |               |      |             |                   |
| Children Present: 7 Total Children: 7                                         |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1                     |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| <b>More than 6 for pay</b>                                                    |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| 6 for pay present & no-pay present does not have a notarized no-pay statement |                  |               |      |             |                   |

**Comments**

An in person Monitoring Visit was conducted on this day. The provider stated no medication is administered, no field trips, routine transportation, or swimming activities are provided.

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA [www.decalkoala.com](http://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](mailto:qualityrated@decal.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:** 8/8/2024

**VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 8:20 AM

**Departure:** 9:45 AM

**FR-000003815**

**Thomas, Vera M**

2480 VANN ROAD Waycross, GA 31503 Ware County  
(912) 288-3315 verasdaycare@hotmail.com

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

Phone: (912) 544-9701

Fax: (912) 544-9700

connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**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**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

**290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**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.

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

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

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

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

The provider stated appropriate 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)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.04(1)(d) requires a person that provides care for more than six children for pay, related or unrelated, as defined in these rules, shall make application to the Department for a license to operate a Child Care Learning Center, except as provided in 290-2-3-.07(15). It was determined based on observation, child head count and the providers statement that seven children were present for pay. Two children, who are normally after school children were present full time on this day due to the delay of school opening.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Family Child Care Learning Home caring for more than six children shall reduce the number of children in care to six. The Family Child Care Learning Home will submit an application for a Child Care Learning Center and receive a license to operate from the Department before caring for more than six children, related or unrelated, for pay.

**Correction Deadline: 8/8/2024**

**Safety and Discipline**

---

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

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

---

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

---

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

---

---

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

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

---

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

---

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|

---

---

**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.07(15) - The provider will ensure that the total number of Children not Related to the Provider in the Family Child Care Learning Home, for pay or not for pay, cannot exceed six Children, except that a Provider may care for two additional children who are three years of age or older for two designated one hour periods daily upon approval approved by the Department. It was determined based on observation, child head count, and the providers statement that seven children were present for pay on this day.

**Correction Deadline: 8/18/2024**

---

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.