



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: 12/21/2023 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 3:15 PM

Departure: 4:40 PM

FR-48735

Covington, Cynthia G

540 Chapel Walk Lane Lawrenceville, GA 30045 Gwinnett County  
(404) 914-0119 cinderella8665@gmail.com

Regional Consultant

Beth Holland

Phone: (404) 478-8075

Fax: (404) 478-8076

beth.holland@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address  
Same

Quality Rated: No

| Compliance Zone Designation |                  |               | <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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12/21/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/09/2022                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 01/19/2022                  | Licensing Study  | 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                                                                                        | 0                | 0             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years                                                                                        | 0                | 0             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| School Age(5+) Years                                                                               | 1                | 6             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 13 Years                                                                               | 1                | 6             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 18 Years                                                                               | 1                |               |      |             |                   |
| Children Present: 1 Total Children: 6<br>Caregivers/Helpers Present: 6 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 3 |                  |               |      |             |                   |

**Comments**

A monitoring visit was conducted on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 12/21/2023

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!**

Cynthia Covington, Program Official

Date

Beth Holland, Regional Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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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**

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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**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**

Trees located on the site or that encroach onto the site from adjacent properties may have structural issues that present an elevated level of risk. Consider having these trees inspected by a certified arborist to determine their structural integrity and associated levels of risk.

## Health and Hygiene

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

Met

#### Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

### 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)

Met

#### Comment

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

## Safety and Discipline

### 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 Transportation(CR)

Met

#### Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

## Staff Records

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

Not Met

#### Finding

290-2-3-.21(1)(c) requires every Employee to have a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before residing in the Home if age 17 or older. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on review of records that three of three staff/residents had background checks that expired on November 7, 2023. Two of three staff member/residents were not present on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will review all staff and resident files to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Home. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The provider must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Home will review policies and procedures to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 12/21/2023**

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**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> |
|-------------------------------------------|

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)****Met****Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date. The provider was observed to care for one child for pay on this date.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.