



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: 4/22/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 11:00 AM Departure: 12:45 PM

FR-000003973

Pledger, Hortense G

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(678) 580-5619 hortensep1@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Christina Jennings

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christina.jennings@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
04/22/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
10/05/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
03/29/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

Ratio Capacity					
Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	1	1	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	3	4	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	2	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	4	7	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	4				
Children Present: 4 Total Children: 7					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 0					

Comments

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Licensing Study.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 04/22/2024

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 at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Hortense Pledger, Program Official

Date

Christina Jennings, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

Date: 4/22/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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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

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.

290-2-3-.07 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

Met

Comment

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

Facility

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

Not Met

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 upon observation that the following hazards were accessible to children in an unlocked closet in the children's activity room downstairs:

- A hand saw on top of an unopened tool box.
- A container of Downy Calm fabric softener.
- A spray bottle of CLR Brilliant Bath cleaner.
- Two bottles of Soft Scrub bath tub cleaner.
- Two cans of Lysol Disinfectant spray.
- One bottle of Clorox Disinfecting cleaner.
- One can of Resolve carpet cleaner.
- One spray bottle of Lysol cleaner.

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: 4/22/2024

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)

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 upon observation that the wooden steps that the children use leading to the playground were weathered causing a potential slipping hazard. It was further determined that the grass on the right side of the playground was overgrown. It was also determined that there was a large thorny bush on the front corner on the right side of the playground.

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: 5/2/2024

Finding

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) requires that outside play areas be protected from traffic or other hazards by fencing or other barriers at least four feet in height and approved by the Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children. A fence shall be provided around swimming pools to make them inaccessible when not in use. It was determined based upon observation that the following fencing hazards were accessible to children:

- There were 21 out of 21 bolts protruding over two threads on the fence gate and through out the fencing on the left side of the playground.
- There was an eight inch gap in back corner on the left side of the playground causing a potential entrapment hazard.
- There was a galvanized pipe protruding from the bottom of the fence on the back left side of the playground causing a potential impalement hazard.
- The top of the gate door was bent causing the fencing to be three feet in height when at least four feet in height is required on the front right side of the playground.
- There were five out of five bolts protruding over two threads on the gate fencing on the front right side of the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will enclose the outside play area(s) with a four-foot high fence or other Department-approved barrier and inspect regularly to ensure fencing material is safe and any hazards identified are repaired or replaced. The Home will install or repair a fence around swimming pools that makes them inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 5/31/2024

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

Staff state proper knowledge of 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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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

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.

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

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.