



**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:** 5/6/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 12:30 PM

**FR-000009678**

**Woodard, Dahlia L.**

41 CREEKWOOD DRIVE Hawkinsville, GA 31036 Pulaski County  
(478) 286-0979 denise1967@live.com

Regional Consultant

Charlene Story

Phone: (770) 405-7942

Fax: (770) 408-0759

charlene.story@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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 05/06/2025                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/09/2024                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 04/11/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                             |                  |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

| Ratio Capacity                                            |                  |               |      |             |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------|-------------|-------------------|
| Age Ranges                                                | Children Present | Child For Pay | CAPS | Not for Pay | Provider Children |
| Infant (0-11 mos)                                         | 1                | 2             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 1 & 2 Years                                               | 3                | 2             | 0    | 1           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years                                               | 0                | 3             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| School Age(5+) Years                                      | 0                | 0             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 13 Years                                      | 4                | 7             | 0    | 1           | 0                 |
| Total Under 18 Years                                      | 4                |               |      |             |                   |
| Children Present: 4 Total Children: 8                     |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2 |                  |               |      |             |                   |

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to conduct a licensing study.

Children and provider records, first aid kit, emergency drills and other required items were available for the consultant to review.

An exit conference discussing the licensing study report was conducted with the provider on this date. An email with the licensing study report was sent to the provider for signature.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.

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#### 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.

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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:

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 CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

**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!**



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**(Findings Report)**

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Same

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)**

**N/A**

**Comment**

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**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

**290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure there are no hazards on the playground.

**Correction Deadline: 5/16/2025**

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

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.10(3)(g) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure that children do not have excessive amounts of food in their mouths while eating and are chewing their food appropriately to prevent instances of choking. Children shall always be seated when eating and shall not be allowed to lie down or be put to sleep while food is present in their mouths.

**Correction Deadline: 5/6/2025**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.10(8) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider that food shall be served according to manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes, and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the food is cut in such a way as to minimize choking. Food shall not be accessible or served to children until it has been chopped, diced, cut or mashed and is appropriate for each child's age and individual eating, chewing and swallowing ability.

**Correction Deadline: 5/6/2025**

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

Met

**Comment**

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

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

Met

**Comment**

The provider stated appropriate 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**

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|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Animals</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>N/A</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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

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|                                                                             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Correction Deadline: 12/9/2024**

**Corrected on 5/6/2025**

**.21(1)(a) - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Provider had a satisfactory comprehensive records check determination on file for the consultant to view.**

**Correction Deadline: 12/9/2024**

**Corrected on 5/6/2025**

**.21(1)(m)3. - This citation was observed to be corrected on this date. Provider had a satisfactory comprehensive records check determination on file for the consultant to view.**

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|                                        |            |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 First Aid &amp; CPR</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

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|                                                |            |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Independent Contractors(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The facility does not currently have any independent contractors employed.

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|                                                                 |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Other Staff Direct Contact with Children(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Support staff meets the rules.

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|                                          |            |
|------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Provisional Employees</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

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|                                             |            |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Staff Training</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Ten hours of annual training requirement and documentation was observed for the year 2024.

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|---------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.07 Students-in-Training(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

**Comment**

The facility does not currently have any volunteers employed.

**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision****Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.07(17) - ) The Consultant discussed with the Provider that children should be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The people supervising in the childcare area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.

Adequate supervision was observed on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 5/6/2025**