



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: 11/14/2023 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 1:25 PM

Departure: 2:30 PM

FR-000005849

Roberson, Bernice H.

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Regional Consultant

Laura Johnson

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**Mailing Address**

401 EVANS STREET  
SANDERSVILLE, GA 31082

Quality Rated: ★ ★

| 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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11/14/2023                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 06/22/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12/29/2022                  | 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                                               | 1                | 1             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| 3 & 4 Years                                               | 0                | 0             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| School Age(5+) Years                                      | 0                | 7             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 13 Years                                      | 1                | 5             | 0    | 0           | 0                 |
| Total Under 18 Years                                      | 1                |               |      |             |                   |
| Children Present: 1 Total Children: 8                     |                  |               |      |             |                   |
| Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2 |                  |               |      |             |                   |

**Comments**

The purpose of this visit was to complete a Licensing Study. Criminal Record Checks were observed complete.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/14/2023

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!**

Bernice Roberson, Program Official

Date

Laura Johnson, Regional 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

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR)

Not Evaluated

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)

Not Evaluated

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 8

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 3

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 7

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 8

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

**290-2-3-.08 Children's Records****Not Met****Correction Deadline: 6/30/2023****Corrected on 11/14/2023****.08(1) - This citation was corrected on this date.****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(2) requires the Home to maintain a file for each Child that includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations; enrollment in the Home may not continue for more than 30 days without such evidence. It was determined based on a review of records that the Provider did not provide a current immunization record or a signed affidavit against such immunizations for children #6, #7, and #8 on this date as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will ensure that an immunization record/signed affidavit is on file for each enrolled Child.

**Correction Deadline: 11/30/2023****Recited on 11/14/2023****Facility****290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

Home observed complete emergency drills

**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)(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 on observation that the playground fencing on the right did not measure at least four-foot in height as required.

**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: 12/31/2023****Health and Hygiene**

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|                                                      |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures.

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|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)</b> | <b>Not Evaluated</b> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

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|------------------|
| <b>Licensure</b> |
|------------------|

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|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

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

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| <b>Safety and Discipline</b> |
|------------------------------|

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|----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Animals</b> | <b>Not Evaluated</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**

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

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

**Comment**

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

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|                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Not Evaluated</b> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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

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

**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**

Provider provided [ ] file(s) for employees hired since last visit.

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(8) requires the Home to maintain for the Provider and any Provisional Employee or Employee with direct care responsibilities current evidence of successful completion of a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid which have been offered by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and which dealt with emergency care for infants and children. Such training must be completed prior to initial licensure for the Provider and within 90 days from date of hire for Provisional Employees and Employees. The Provider, a Provisional Employee or Employee with current CPR and first aid training must always be on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present. It was determined based on observation that the Provider did not have evidence of current certification in CPR and First Aid for herself or for her helper. The CPR and First Aid had expired in September 2023.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required CPR and first aid training and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested. The Home will ensure that there is always a Staff person on the Home's premises and on any field trip whenever any Child is present.

**Correction Deadline: 12/14/2023**

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290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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290-2-3-.07 Staff Training

Not Met

**Finding**

Previously Cited: 290-2-3-.07(4) requires the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety training at the time of employment. Staff employed prior to September 30, 2016 will complete the training by December 29, 2016 and Staff employed after September 30, 2016 will complete the training within the first 90 days of employment. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases; prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or threatening event such as violence at the facility; handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; and precautions in transporting children (if applicable).

It was determined based on an observation that the providers spouse was without Health and Safety Training on this date.

290-2-3-.07(7) requires that the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees with direct care responsibilities shall complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records that one helper did not have evidence of completing ten hours of Health & Safety training as required for all staff members that provide direct care to children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Previously Cited: The Provider will complete the required training and will ensure any Employees complete the training. The Provider will develop a plan to ensure that any new Employees complete the training as required.

The Provider will complete the required training and will ensure any Employees or Provisional Employees complete the training. The Provider will develop a plan to ensure that any new Staff hired complete the training as required. The consultant shared with the provider how to register for the ten hours of health and safety training.

The Provider stated that her helper was still working on completing the training and had not finished due to recent health issues. The Provider will ensure that all helpers complete the 10-hour Health and Safety Training within their first 90 days of employment.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2023**

**Recited on 11/14/2023**

**Defer**

290-2-3-.07(9)- This citation was deferred on this date. Annual training will be reviewed at the first regulatory visit in 2024.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will obtain the required annual training for Staff and will keep certificates, cards, or other proof of training on file. The Home will submit proof of training to the Department, if requested.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2023**

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|-------------------------------------------|
| <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.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.