



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: 6/18/2025 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

Arrival: 12:30 PM **Departure:** 2:45 PM

FR-000002996

Cruse, Valeri B

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(706) 280-5190 kvjb1819@hotmail.com

Lead Consultant

Dianne Clarke

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Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: No

<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.
06/18/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/24/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
06/26/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

Ratio Capacity					
Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	1	1	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	3	4	0	1	0
3 & 4 Years	2	2	0	1	0
School Age(5+) Years	1	2	0	1	0
Total Under 13 Years	7	9	0	3	0
Total Under 18 Years	7				
Children Present: 7 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1					
Total Children: 12 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

Be sure to enter all temporary closures by 7 a.m. (vacation, emergencies, school closures, inclement weather, holidays etc...) in DECAL KOALA at all times under the Required Report tab whenever your facility is closed temporarily because you are not caring for children for one or more days. SAVE the report before exiting.

All amendments are required to be electronically submitted in DECAL KOALA effective 2021.

Please be sure to hide staff who are no longer employed in your DECAL KOALA account. Please reach out for help with this, if needed.

Please remember that the transportation training certificates must be completed prior to participating in transportation and renewed every two years for anyone checking the vehicle, chaperoning on a trip, and signing the checklist, including the director. Please ensure that directors ensure that they complete the transportation training upon being hired at the center. Please ensure to contact your consultant for guidance if you have not been conducting transportation and plan on conducting transportation.

**As of January 1, 2024, there is a free Transportation Training available on OLLI in Georgia PDS (GaPDS) as ProSolutions will no longer offer the class for free. Also, you will be able to find the Health and Safety Orientation Training, which will be 15 hours, for free as well (staff must complete all 15 hours for the course to be counted). PLEASE NOTE: If the Health & Safety Orientation Training date is outside of the previous 12 months, the training was not approved for 10 credit hours, or the training certificate is not documented in the employee's GaPDS account, the Staff person will be required to take this training again, within their first 90 days of employment at a new facility. Reminder: Health and Safety Orientation Training can only be taken once every five years.

Talk about updated orientation checklist.

Indicator manual and utilizing it. FYI: As of October 1, 2024, for larger equipment please be sure to have the amount of equipment for the number of children enrolled (this include cribs, chairs, etc.)

Discussed regarding ensuring to complete rechecks for Criminal Records checks at least 90 days before the five-year expiration. Suggestion: Check monthly or sooner to ensure that staff's criminal records checks are not about to expire.

Don't forget to post new license annually.

Discussed regarding mats using tape to repair; must replace (if applicable).

Coming soon: Core Rule: CPR and First Aid will be due within 45 days and 2 hours annually of required Literacy training rule changes beginning July 1, 2025. Also, SUIDS (Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome no longer SIDS) must be included on the orientation checklist along with abusive head trauma.

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.dec.al.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:

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@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 1

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9), CPR/First Aid -.07(8), Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

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 Met

Finding

290-2-3-.19(2)(c) requires that infants shall only sleep in a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep as described in 290-2-3-.19(1)(a) and shall not sleep in any other equipment, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the facility asleep or fall asleep in such equipment or on the floor shall be transferred to a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep. It was determined that there were two children asleep in other equipment. One child was asleep in a car seat and the other in a swing during the visit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will move infants who fall asleep in equipment other than a safety-approved crib such as a car safety seat, highchair or swing, or on the floor, to a safety-approved crib.

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 1

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9), CPR/First Aid -.07(8), Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

Records Reviewed: 12**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 6**

Child # 1

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1), Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

Child # 2

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 3

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1), Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

Child # 6

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1), Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

Child # 9

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Immunization Form - (.08)(2)

Child # 11

Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Physician & Emergency Contact Information - (.08)(1), Release Person Information - (.08)(10)

290-2-3-.08 Children's Records**Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.08(1) requires the Home to have a current and updated record for each Child in care and for a period of one (1) year after each Child leaves. Such records shall include: identifying information (Child's name, birth date, Parent's name, home and business addresses, telephone numbers); name, address and telephone number of persons, including Child's physician, to contact in emergencies; and name, address, telephone numbers, relationship to Child and to Parent(s) and other identifying information of person(s) to whom the Child may be released. It was determined based on a review of records that child #1, #3, #5, and #9, did not have current evidence of emergency contact and physician information.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home Provider will obtain the missing information and maintain the Children's records as required.

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025**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 child #2 and #8 did not have current evidence of immunization.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

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

Correction Deadline: 7/18/2025

Finding

290-2-3-.08(9) requires that the Parent or person(s) authorized by the Parent or guardian to drop off and pick up the Child document each time the Parent or authorized person drops off and picks up the Child. The documentation shall include at least the following information: the date , the Child's name, the arrival and departure times, and the signature or initials of the Parent or authorized person and shall be made available to the Department in printed or written form upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that the provider did not have evidence of documentation of daily drop off and pick up.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will develop, if needed, and implement sign-in and out procedures that include all required information, will inform Parents of the procedures and will monitor to ensure Children are signed in and out as required.

Correction Deadline: 6/18/2025

Facility	
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Records Reviewed: 1

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9),CPR/First Aid -.07(8),Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

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

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on 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.

Health and Hygiene	
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Records Reviewed: 1

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9),CPR/First Aid -.07(8),Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

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

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure**Records Reviewed: 1****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9),CPR/First Aid -.07(8),Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

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**Records Reviewed: 1****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9),CPR/First Aid -.07(8),Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 1****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9),CPR/First Aid -.07(8),Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Met****Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024****Corrected on 6/18/2025****.21(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the records check was observed to be completed. Please ensure that all individuals that are present have completed a records check before being present.****Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024**

Corrected on 6/18/2025

.21(1)(m)3. - The previous citation was observed to be corrected in that the records check was observed to be completed. Please ensure that all individuals that are present have completed a records check before being present.

290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR

Not Met

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 a review of records the provider has an expired CPR/First Aid card on file. The card expired January 15, 2022.

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: 7/18/2025

Recited on 6/18/2025

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

Met

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.07(9) requires that every calendar year, after the first year of employment the Provider, and any Provisional Employees or and Employees, shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department- approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained in the Home by the Provider, as required by these rules. It was determined based on a review of the provider files, that the provider did not have evidence of the 2024 annual ten hours training.

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: 7/18/2025

Recited on 6/18/2025

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 1

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 1

Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/1997

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Annual Training 10 Hours -.07(9),CPR/First Aid -.07(8),Health & Safety Certificate .07(7)

Comment

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

Comment

Adequate supervision observed on this date. Discussed the supervision rule during mealtimes which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.