



**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:** 7/24/2024 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**FR-63592**

**Ervin, Shamara A**

147 Murchison Rd Ellabell, GA 31308 Bryan County  
(912) 660-7087 saervin1@yahoo.com

Application Services Unit Consultant

Toni Williams

Phone: (770) 302-7628

Fax: (770) 302-8357

toni.williams@decals.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

| Compliance Zone Designation |                         |               | 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. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07/24/2024                  | Initial Licensing Study | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                             |                         |               | <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                |
|                             |                         |               | <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.                                                                                                                          |
|                             |                         |               | <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                |

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

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on June 18, 2024. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. An in person Initial Licensing Study was conducted on July 24, 2024. The exit conference was conducted on July 24, 2024 at 11:30 am with the Owner. Permission to Operate was issued on this date. Facility does not carry Liability Insurance. Total Capacity is 6.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/24/2024

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.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.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

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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:

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@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) 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 Initial 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.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured.

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

Met

Comment

Center does not plan to serve infants and no cribs were evaluated on this date. Consultant observed the correct number of cots/mats, sheets and covers on this date.

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

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. Provider does not have fire arms in the home.

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)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

Consultant discussed with the Provider that all door frames, ceiling tiles and other areas of the home must be free of chipped paint, rough sides or edges accessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 7/24/2024

**Technical Assistance**

The consultant advised the provider to completed a playground checklist to ensure that all concrete pieces, tree branches, shrub in fence ,stagnated water and ant beds are treated and removed from the playground prior to the children going outside.

**Correction Deadline: 8/3/2024**

**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 on observation that the last two panels of the fence closest to the front yard on the far end were not connected to the pole and was missing holders on the top and middle of the fence. Also the wooden fence on the inside of the playground had gaps and holes along the panels of the fence that needed repairing or replacing.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will add and replace panels to the back of the fence where there are gaps and holes for the wooden fence and will provide ties to secure the two panels on the front fence.

**Correction Deadline: 8/24/2024**

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Health and Hygiene</b> |
|---------------------------|

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

Met

**Comment**

Proper handwashing of children and staff was discussed with the provider during the inspection visit.

## 290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas &amp; Practices(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date.

## 290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures.

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

## 290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Permission to Operate issued on this date. The overall licensed capacity is six (6) children at any given time. Consultant discussed Business License requirement with the Provider. The Provider has until August to submit the Business License to the Consultant

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

## 290-2-3-.11 Animals

Met

**Comment**

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

## 290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

**Comment**

Consultant discussed appropriate discipline and guidance techniques with the provider.

**Comment**

A completed First Aid Kit was observed on this date.

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hour transportation training prior to transporting children.

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

**Comment**

Two (2) criminal records checks were observed to be complete. Two (2) record were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file for the provider and all staff.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|

**Comment**

Currently there are no children present in the program. Consultant discussed ratios with the Provider on this date.

**Comment**

Currently there are no children present in the program. Consultant discussed direct supervision with the Provider on this date.