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: 11/6/2024 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:00 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

FR-000012708
Geter, Tracy J
4004 FOREMAN CT Hephzibah, GA 30815 Richmond County
(706) 592-4412 tgeter05@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant
Christina Jennings
Phone: (404) 463-0970
Fax: (770) 342-3177
christina.jennings@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
11/06/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/07/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
12/02/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing

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.

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	2	2	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	6	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	4	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	5	14	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	5				

Children Present: 5
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 6
Total Children: 14
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

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

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/06/2024

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)

QUALITY RATED CHILD CARE

CAPS CHILDCARE AND PARENT SERVICES

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 a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal 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

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) **N/A**

Comment
There is no pool on the property

Children's Records

290-2-3-.08 Parental Authorization(CR) **Met**

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
.08(3) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed children's records to be complete as required on this date.

Facility

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

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 following playground hazards were observed on this date:

• Weeds were protruding through the mulch and moisture barrier around the wooden stationary equipment.
• Wood rot and splintered wood were present on the tops and sides of the wooden ladder located on the wooden stationary equipment.
• Exposed concrete attached to the fencing and ground were located on the front right fencing and on the legs of the metal swing set.
• Two metal tie plates with four sharp corners were present on the right and back middle sides of the wooden barrier surrounding the wooden stationary equipment.
• Rust was present on all chains of the swings located on the wooden stationary equipment.
• A metal hook that was protruding from the ground approximately six inches between the outdoor sheds.
• There was a five inch gap along the bottom right and left side of the white and green outdoor shed causing a potential entrapment hazard.
• There was a nine inch gap along the bottom of the front of the white and green outdoor shed causing a potential entrapment hazard.
• A metal ladder propped against the left side of the blue and white outdoor shed

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: 12/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

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 playground fencing hazards were observed on this date:

• The gate on the front right side of the playground had a gap that measured four inches which caused a potential entrapment hazard.
• The fencing to the right of the gate on the front right side of the playground had a gap that measured four and a half inches which caused a potential entrapment hazard.

• The fencing on the front right side of the playground had five protruding and exposed bolts facing the inside of the playground.
• The fencing on the front left side of the playground had four protruding and exposed bolts facing the inside 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: 12/6/2024

Recited on 11/6/2024

Health and Hygiene

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

Correction Deadline: 11/7/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
.11(1)(j) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed proper hand washing on this date.

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

Comment
Staff state proper knowledge of 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

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
Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training **Met**

Correction Deadline: 12/7/2023

Corrected on 11/6/2024
.07(9) - Previous citation observed to be corrected in that the Consultant observed the Provider to have completed ten hours of annual training for the 2023 year.

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.