



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

Cover Sheet

Date: 11/2/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 1:30 PM

Departure: 3:00 PM

FR-000002996

Cruse, Valeri B

4036 VILLAGE DRIVE Cohutta, GA 30710 Whitfield County
(706) 280-5190 kvjb1819@hotmail.com

Mailing Address

4036 VILLAGE DRIVE
COHUTTA, GA 30710

Regional Consultant

Stephanie Clark

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stephanie.clark@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Neli Todorova

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. 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.
11/02/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
05/12/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
12/10/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

Ratios/License Capacity

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	2	2	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	4	4	0	1	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	1	0
Total Under 13 Years	6	6	0	2	0
Total Under 18 Years	6				
Children Present: 6 Total Children: 8 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

Comments

Background checks were all reviewed on November 1, 2021. A virtual inspection was conducted on November 1, 2021 with the provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 11/05/2021

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



Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us

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), e-mail the following information to CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us.

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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)

Valeri Cruse, Program Official

Date

Stephanie Clark, Consultant

Date

Neli Todorova, Consultant

Date



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Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR)

Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.12(7) requires all indoor and outdoor furniture and equipment shall be secured if equipment and furniture is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. Potentially unstable equipment and furniture that might injure a child if not secured include, but are not limited to, televisions, chests of drawers, bookcases, shelving, cabinets and fish tanks. Examples of items not required to be secured include, but are not limited to, child-sized tables and chairs, rocking chairs, and cribs. It was determined based on observation that a large flat screen television was placed on top of a low cabinet stand in the living room. The television was not secured to the wall or the stand and was accessible to the children.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The provider will secure the television to the wall or install safety strips. The Home Provider will ensure that all potentially dangerous equipment is maintained secure.

Correction Deadline: 11/5/2021

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

Met

Comment

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Comment

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming activities.

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

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

Comment

Provider stated there were no firearms 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**

290-2-3-.13(1) - Provider was reminded to cover outlets when not in use.

Comment

Consultant reminded provider to be mindful of what is kept in the shower area of the bathroom.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)**Met****Comment**

591-1-1-.26 – Please ensure to monitor the playground areas for the following hazards: - Normal wear and tear of playground equipment and toys. Potential entrapment hazards in the fence surrounding the playground area. Biting and/or stinging insects (i.e. ants, bees, etc.). Loose and/or weak tree branches surrounding the playground area. Standing water in and around playground equipment after inclement weather. Fall zones and resilient surface.

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Playground (s) were not directly observed during the virtual walk through due to children sleeping. Regulations regarding the associated rules with fencing, playground equipment, resilient surfacing and keeping playground area free of hazards were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(k) - Consultant discussed with the provider to use disposable or individual towels for drying hands after hand washing.

Correction Deadline: 11/2/2021

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

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures.

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

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)	Met
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Comment

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

Safety and Discipline

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)	Met
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Comment

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Training	Defer
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Defer

290-2-3-.07(9)- Previous citation deferred on this date as .the provider has until December 31, 2021 to receive the required ten hours of 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: 12/31/2021

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)	Met
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Comment

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)	Met
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Comment

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.