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: 5/19/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 7:15 AM **Departure:** 9:30 AM

FR-000007224
Sams, Elsie M.
413 LINWOOD RD. Savannah, GA 31419 Chatham County
(912) 224-2503 emswithlove@comcast.net

Regional Consultant
Rebecca Owsley
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Fax:
rebecca.owsley@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
05/19/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/24/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing
07/27/2023	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)	0	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	5	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	5	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				

Children Present: 0
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2
Total Children: 5
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

Comments
There were no children present on this date as the Provider stated the mom did not bring the one child in the morning since he wasn't going to school today.

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.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)

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@decal.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 Monitoring Visit:

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) **N/A**

Comment
Currently the provider is not caring for infants.

290-2-3-.07 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
The Provider stated the Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 5**

Child # 1 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
Proof of No Liability Insurance Form

Child # 2 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
Proof of No Liability Insurance Form

Child # 3 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
Proof of No Liability Insurance Form

Child # 4 Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components"
Proof of No Liability Insurance Form

Child # 5 Not Met

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

Proof of No Liability Insurance Form

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

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.08(1) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review of records showed that the Provider had a current completed record on file for each child enrolled.

Finding
290-2-3-.08(11) requires that if the Home is not covered by liability insurance sufficient to protect its clients, the Home must notify the Parent of each Child under the care of the program in writing. Each Parent must acknowledge receipt of such notice, and a copy of the acknowledgement shall be kept in the Child's file. It was determined based on a review of records five out of the five children enrolled did not have a copy of the receipt of notice of No Liability Insurance.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home Provider will obtain and maintain documentation.

Correction Deadline: 5/30/2025

Recited on 5/19/2025

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.08(2) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review of records showed that the Provider had current immunizations on file for each child enrolled.

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.08(4) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review of records showed that allergies and or developmental abilities were documented in the records for each child enrolled.

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

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.08(7) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review or records showed that the Provider had a parental agreement on file for the child transported to and from Pulaski Elementary.

Facility

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

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.11(2)(f) - This citation was corrected on this date. There were no hazardous materials 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) **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 on observation that there were three metal rods from old construction fencing sticking out from the ground with a sharp wire on the end of one rod. The rods were sharp on the ends and presented a tripping hazard. Additionally, there was a concrete area with numerous cracks and many exposed sharp corners. Additionall,y the wood planks outside the back door near the children's table were weathered, soft, and sinking presenting a tripping hazard and potential for splinters.

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: 6/2/2025

Recited on 5/19/2025

Health and Hygiene

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) **N/A**

Comment
There are no diapered children currently enrolled in the program.

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
Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit **Not Met**

Finding
290-2-3-.11(1)(e) requires the Home and any vehicle used for transportation Children to have a first aid kit which at least contains: scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, thermometer, adhesive tape, band-aids, insect - sting preparation, antiseptic cleaning solution, antibacterial ointment, bandages, disposable rubber gloves, protective eyewear, facemask, and cold pack. The first aid kit, together with a first aid instruction manual which must be kept with the kit at all times, shall be stored in a central location so that it is not accessible to Children but is easily accessible to the Provider and Staff. The Home must also maintain written directions for the use of universal precautions for handling blood and bodily fluids. The directions on the use of universal precautions must be kept with the first aid kit at all times. It was determined based on observation that there was no first aid kit in the vehicle used for transportation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will replace any missing items in the first aid kit, keep the instruction manual and written universal precautions with the kit and will check the kit regularly. The Home will store the kit where children will not have access to it.

Correction Deadline: 5/26/2025

Recited on 5/19/2025

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

Correction Deadline: 9/25/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.11(2)(k) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review of records showed that one child was transported with appropriate child restraints from March 10, 2025 through May 16, 2025. The Provider was no longer transporting more children than there were appropriate restraints for.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.11(2)(m) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review of records showed that the Provider had an Vehicle Emergency Medical form for the child that was transported to Pulaski Elementary school in the mornings.

Staff Records

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

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.21(1)(k) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review of records showed that the Provider had ported over the most recent Comprehensive Records Determination letter to her Center.

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 **Met**

Correction Deadline: 10/24/2024

Corrected on 5/19/2025
.07(9) - This citation was corrected on this date. A review of records shows that the Provider had completed ten clock hours of diverse training for 2024 as required.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)