



**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:** 1/26/2023    **VisitType:** Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:30 AM    **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**FR-9900105534**

**Shepherd, Sandra V**

3601 OAKLAND COURT Savannah, GA 31404 Chatham County  
 (912) 355-2588 SVSLANG62@HOTMAIL.COM

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

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stacey.foston@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

3601 OAKLAND COURT  
 SAVANNAH, GA 31404

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
01/26/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing
07/26/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
03/23/2022	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.

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
<b>Infant (0-11 mos)</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>1 &amp; 2 Years</b>	3	4	2	0	0
<b>3 &amp; 4 Years</b>	3	5	2	0	0
<b>School Age(5+) Years</b>	0	2	2	0	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	6	11	6	0	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	6				

Children Present: 6	Total Children: 11
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 6	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

**Comments**

A Licensing visit was completed on this date.  
 A revised copy of this report was emailed to the Provider on 1/30/23.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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/Regulations.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](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.

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 1 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Sandra Shepherd, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, Consultant

Date



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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**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

**Comment**

Currently there are no infants enrolled. The children mats and bedding was stored as required.

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

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**290-2-3-.08 Children's Records Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.08(8)(b) - Discussed reviewing and updating the Home's policies to ensure they comply with Bright from the Start's current requirements. The consultant left resources with the Provider.

**Correction Deadline: 1/26/2023**

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

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

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

**Comment**

An operable smoke detector and fire extinguisher was observed as required in the home on this date.

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**290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

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

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute sand when playground dries.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

**Comment**

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures.

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**290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

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**Licensure**

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

**Comment**

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

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**Safety and Discipline**

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**290-2-3-.11 Animals** **Met**

**Comment**

Appropriate vaccination records were available for the one dog in the home.

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

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion observed.

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**290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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**Staff Records**

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

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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

**Comment**

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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

**Comment**

Annual training requirement and documentation observed for the year 2022.

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**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

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

**Comment**

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.