





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



### 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.decal.ga.gov/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decal.ga.gov).

- 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://decal.ga.gov/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)

Sandra Shepherd, Program Official

Date

Stacey Foston, Consultant

Date



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

### Findings Report

**Date:** 7/6/2021      **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit      **Arrival:** 8:55 AM      **Departure:** 9:30 AM

**FR-9900105534**

**Shepherd, Sandra V**

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

**Mailing Address**

3601 OAKLAND COURT  
SAVANNAH, GA 31404

**Regional Consultant**

Stacey Foston

Phone: (706) 806-0407

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stacey.foston@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

**Comment**

During the virtual walk through on this date, a variety of equipment and toys were observed.

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

**Comment**

The children mats were stored as required. Currently the provider is not caring for infants.

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

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

### 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.

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

**Comment**

No hazards were observed accessible to the children during the virtual walk through on this date. The Provider will be mindful to keep items that may pose a hazard inaccessible to the children.

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

**Comment**

During the virtual walk through on this date, the outside area appeared clean and well maintained. Fluff and redistribute sand as needed.

### Health and Hygiene

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

**Comment**

During the virtual walk through on this date, handwashing supplies were observed at the bathroom sink. Discussed hand washing requirements with the Provider.

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

**Comment**

There are no diapered children currently enrolled in the program. The changing table was observed to be in good condition.

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

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is 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 Discipline(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Discipline policy and practices were discussed with the Provider.

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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 Staff Qualifications(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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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.