



**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:** 9/21/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 5:00 PM

**Departure:** 6:00 PM

**FR-22612**

**Wilhite, Pecolia A**

605 VINCENT DRIVE Athens, GA 30607 Clarke County  
(706) 351-1434 ANITA.WILHITE@YAHOO.COM

**Mailing Address**

605 VINCENT DRIVE  
ATHENS, GA 30607

**Regional Consultant**

Kelly Jones

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kelly.jones@dec.al.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** No

Compliance Zone Designation			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
09/21/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
07/16/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
11/20/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	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	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				
Children Present: 0 Total Children: 0 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1					

**Comments**

A virtual inspection was conducted on September 21, 2021 with the Provider. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 09/21/2021

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.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)

Pecolia Wilhite, Program Official

Date

Kelly Jones, 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)

Technical Assistance

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.12(1) - Provider is currently not caring for children and is temporarily closed. Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure to have a variety of toys and equipment when children are present.

**Comment**

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions. Consultant discussed with the provider additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic during the walk through.

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

Met

**Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position. Currently no children enrolled.

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

Met

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

### Facility

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

Met

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) - Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. Provider not currently caring for children. Temporarily closed.

**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.

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

The Home appears clean and free from hazards. Provider temporarily closed . No children enrolled.

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

290-2-3-.13(2)(a)- The previous citation has been deferred until the next regulatory visit a tree fell in the yard and hit the play area. Currently no children enrolled. Provider temporarily closed.

**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: 8/6/2021**

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<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of hand washing and hygiene procedures.

**Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

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

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date) Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director/Provider on this date.

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures. Provider temporarily closed. No children enrolled.

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<b>Licensure</b>
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**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

No children currently enrolled. Provider temporarily closed.

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<b>Safety and Discipline</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date) A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through on this date. Staff stated knowledge of appropriate discipline procedures.

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

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

**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**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Provider stated that there have been no new hires since last visit July 16, 2021. Consultant reviewed the requirements of the criminal record check determination letter with the provider to include residence and anyone present during the hours of operation.

**Comment**

One of One 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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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.07(7) requires that the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees with direct care responsibilities shall complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on a review of records provider didn't have evidence of the required health and safety orientation on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will complete the required training and will ensure any Employees or Provisional Employees complete the training. The Provider will develop a plan to ensure that any new Staff hired complete the training as required.

**Correction Deadline: 10/22/2021**

**Recited on 9/21/2021**

**Defer**

290-2-3-.07(9)- Consultant will review annual training for 2021 during next regulatory visit.

**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: 8/15/2021**

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**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

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

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date) Provider temporarily closed only caring for grandchildren not for pay.

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

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. (This rule was not evaluated on this date) Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during meal times and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger.