



**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:** 7/14/2023    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation by Phone    **Arrival:** 1:50 PM    **Departure:** 2:50 PM

**CCLC-17693**

**Childcare Network #89**

3584 Mt. Zion Church Road Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County  
CCLC-17693 cni89@childcarenetwork.com

**Regional Consultant**

Rena Keene

Phone: (912) 544-9930  
Fax: (229) 242-0062  
rena.keene@decal.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
07/14/2023	Complaint Investigation by Phone	Good Standing
03/08/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/15/2022	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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.

**Comments**

This Category IV Complaint Investigation was completed by telephone on July 14, 2023.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 07/14/2023

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.

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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.

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

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Karla Berlioz, Program Official

Date

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Rena Keene, Regional Consultant

Date



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**(Findings Report)**

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation by Phone:

**Children's Records**

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.08(2) requires Center Staff to maintain a file for each child that includes evidence of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunizations for each child enrolled in the center on a form approved by the Department, and to allow no child to continue enrollment in the Center for more than thirty (30) days without such evidence. It was determined based on a report from the Lowndes County Department of Public Health that the center was only 52.4% compliant with children's immunization records when the center was audited on May 10, 2023. According to Public Health personnel, four children enrolled had immunization certificates that expired during the 2022 calendar year. Additionally, it was found that fourteen (14) children did not have any documentation in their records of any immunizations. It was further determined that when Public Health officials returned to the center on June 27, 2023, the center was still only 60.4% compliant and the Public Health official stated that thirteen (13) of the fourteen (14) children previously found to lack any immunization record still had not obtained the required documentation.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Center staff will have and use a plan to track immunization forms for all enrolled children and to ensure the form or affidavit are obtained from the parent or guardian within 30 days of enrollment. Parents will be informed their child cannot remain enrolled in the center without this documentation.

**Correction Deadline: 7/24/2023**