



**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:** 1/17/2023 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 9:30 AM

**Departure:** 11:10 AM

**FR-14584**

**Hardin, Alice T**

513 NORTH BY-PASS Washington, GA 30673 Wilkes County  
(706) 401-4495 athardin2002@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Kesha McNeal

Phone: (866) 359-1672

Fax: (866) 359-7490

kesha.mcneal@dec.al.ga.gov

Joint with: Christina Jennings

**Mailing Address**

513 NORTH BY-PASS west  
WASHINGTON, GA 30673

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<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.
01/17/2023	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/06/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
05/17/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	2	1	0	1	0
1 & 2 Years	7	4	0	3	0
3 & 4 Years	0	0	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	9	5	0	4	0
Total Under 18 Years	9				
Children Present: 9 Total Children: 9 Caregivers/Helpers Present: 3 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2					

**Comments**

The purpose of the visit was to conduct a monitoring visit. The provider stated that no new staff or no new residents reside at the home on this date. The facility does not conduct transportation or field trips. The facility also does not participate in medication, or swimming.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 01/17/2023

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

Alice Hardin, Program Official

Date

Kesha McNeal, Consultant

Date

Christina Jennings, 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**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.12(3) - Please ensure that furniture be kept clean and in a safe usable condition. On this date the consultant observed the wooden shelf near the door to the playground to be unstable.

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.12(5) - Please ensure that all indoor and outdoor furniture, activity materials, and equipment shall be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint and kept clean.

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2023**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Comment**

Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.19(1)(a)3 - Please ensure that each crib and other equipment approved for infant sleep shall have only an individual, tight-fitting sheet which is changed daily or more often as needed and prior to a change of occupant. On this date the crib sheets were tight-fitting. The consultant and provider discussed changing the crib sheets prior to occupancy. The provider changed the crib sheets while the consultant was present.

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.19(1)(b)1 - Please ensure that mats shall be of sound construction and of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably the size and weight of the child. Mats must be in good repair, washable, covered with waterproof material and at least two inches (2") thick.

**Correction Deadline: 1/27/2023**

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

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

Pool not in use at this time, gates observed locked.

<b>Facility</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Met****Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children. On this date the consultant observed hazardous items in a drawer under the diaper changing table. The consultant also observed a toilet bowl brush accessible in the bathroom under the sink.

**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.

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**290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - Please ensure that the outdoor play areas is 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. On this date the consultant observed some bushes and hedges that needed to be trimmed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/27/2023**

<b>Food Service</b>
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**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.10(3) requires a signed written feeding plan for children less than one (1) year of age be obtained from Parent(s). Instructions from the Parent(s) shall be updated regularly as new foods are added or other dietary changes are made. The feeding plan shall be posted in the main child care area and must include the child's feeding schedule, the amount of formula or breast milk to be given, instructions for the introduction of solid foods, the amount of food to be given and notation of any type(s) of commercially premixed formula which may not be used in an emergency because of food allergies. It was determined based on the consultant's review that two infant feeding plans were lacking complete instructions for for the introduction of solid foods.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will develop and implement a plan to obtain and post the completed feeding plan as part of the enrollment process and to have parents update the plans on a regular basis.

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2023**

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(j) - Please ensure that children's hands are washed with liquid soap and warm running water: immediately upon arrival for the day.

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2023**

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

290-2-3-.11(1)(f) - Please ensure that diapers are changed on a nonporous surface. On this date the consultant and provider discussed removing the diaper changing cover off of the changing pad.

**Correction Deadline: 1/17/2023**

**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

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

Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

**Comment**

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

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider and children in care.

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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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

**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.

<b>Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision</b>
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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.