



**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:** 3/28/2023 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 12:45 PM

**Departure:** 3:10 PM

**FR-000000450**

**Ford, Tolanda C.**

1813 UPSON STREET Savannah, GA 31405 Chatham County  
(912) 236-3356 tsford19@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Chrissy Miller

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**Mailing Address**

1813 UPSON STREET  
SAVANNAH, GA 31405

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<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.
03/28/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/04/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/08/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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	2	2	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	2	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	4	4	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	4				
Children Present: 4 Total Children: 4					
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 6 Total Caregivers/Helpers: 3					

**Comments**

This is the second regulatory visit of the fiscal year.

Per the Provider, the home does not currently dispense medication, provide routine transportation, field trips, or swimming activities.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/28/2023

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.

#### 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@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

Tolanda Ford, Program Official

Date

Chrissy Miller, 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)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

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

**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(1) - Discussed obtaining the missing pick-up addresses for the person(s) listed on the two enrollment forms.

**Correction Deadline: 3/28/2023**

**Comment**

Attendance records were observed to be complete and well organized for the week of March 20, 2023 and Monday and Tuesday for the week of March 27, 2023.

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

290-2-3-.08(3) - Discussed ensuring that the Home obtains, on file, written Parental authorization at the time of a Child's enrollment for emergency medical care when the Parent is not available.

**Correction Deadline: 3/28/2023**

<b>Facility</b>
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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on the consultant's review of records that a fire drill was not conducted for February 2023, as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 3/31/2023**

**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)****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.13(1) - The consultant and the Provider discussed that the opening in the ceiling will need to be covered in the child care room to ensure that the plumbing and insulation will not be exposed. The Provider has contacted a repair person to come to the Home to fix the ceiling that had water damage and will be completed by April 7, 2023. The consultant did not observe any water leakage from the ceiling.

**Correction Deadline: 3/28/2023**

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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**290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR)****Not Evaluated****Comment**

Playground not observed on this date due to inclement weather.

<b>Health and Hygiene</b>
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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

**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. The consultant observed four children for pay, present, during the visit.

**Safety and Discipline**

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

Pleasant interactions observed between the provider, staff, and the children in care.

**290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit****Met****Comment**

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

**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.

**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.07(8) - Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR. The Provider has training in Basic Life Support and will be taking a pediatric first aid and CPR course by May 12, 2023.

**290-2-3-.07 Provider Qualifications****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.07(4) - Discussed having an employment application and documentation of orientation on file for the staff member helping in the Home. The Consultant printed out a blank employment application and a blank orientation form for the Provider.

**Correction Deadline: 3/29/2023**

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

**Correction Deadline: 12/31/2022****Corrected on 3/28/2023**

**.07(9) - The consultant observed this rule to be corrected on this date. The Provider had valid evidence of at least ten (10) training hours for January 2022 to December 2022, as required.**

<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.