



**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:** 3/9/2021    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:35 AM

**CCLC-15166**

**Myra Carson DBA Mommy's Cottage**

470 Jefferson Highway Winder, GA 30680 Barrow County  
(770) 867-8599 sandib1949@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Ashley Shirah

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**Mailing Address**  
Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
03/09/2021	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing
08/28/2020	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
12/11/2019	Monitoring Visit	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.

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	A Front	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	2	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B Back	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	8	C	11	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	C	Infants and One Year Olds	1	4	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			40			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0	
Total # Children this Date:			24			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			40	
						Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:			0	

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	PG	195	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on March 9, 2021. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. A virtual inspection was conducted on March 9, 2021, with the director. An in-person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020 was reviewed during the virtual inspection.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 03/09/2021

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)

Sandi Barnett, Program Official

Date

Ashley Shirah, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

**Date:** 3/9/2021    **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:00 AM    **Departure:** 11:35 AM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date.

**591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Met**

**Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through storage of cleaning supplies and possible hazards were discussed. There were no hazards observed to be accessible to the children this date.

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(6) - Consultant observed one blue infant swing to not be in use but missing a latch on the playground. The consultant observed the director to remove the swing during the virtual visit.

Correction Deadline: 3/19/2021

**Food Service**

**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

**Health and Hygiene**

**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Comment**

Staff state proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.10(4) requires that if diapers are changed on a diaper changing surface, the surface shall be smooth, nonporous, and equipped with a guard or rails to prevent falls. Between each diaper change, the diaper changing surface shall be cleaned with a disinfectant and dried with a single-use disposable towel. It was determined based on consultant observation that the diaper changing pad in the infant/toddler room was observed to be quilted and not smooth on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure there is a smooth, nonporous changing surface that has a guard or rails for safety in each classroom that houses children wearing diapers. Center Staff will be trained and have adequate supplies to properly clean the diaper changing surface between each diaper change.

**Correction Deadline: 3/23/2021**

**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Director on this date. Liquid soap and paper towels were observed accessible in the restroom area.

**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the provider medication was not dispensed.

**Safety**

**591-1-1-.05 Animals**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Discipline was not directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the Director on this date.

**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Review of transportation documentation was observed to be complete.

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**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through SIDS and infant sleeping position was discussed.

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**Staff Records**

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**Records Reviewed: 10****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

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Staff # 1	Met
Date of Hire: 06/01/2018	
Staff # 2	Met
Date of Hire: 11/07/1990	
Staff # 3	Met
Date of Hire: 07/25/1988	
Staff # 4	Met
Date of Hire: 08/01/2008	
Staff # 5	Met
Date of Hire: 09/01/1990	
Staff # 6	Met
Date of Hire: 11/01/1990	
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Not Met
<u>"Missing/Incomplete Components"</u>	
.09-Criminal Records Check Missing	
Staff # 9	Met
Date of Hire: 06/17/2017	
Staff # 10	Met
Date of Hire: 06/04/2015	

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**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2**

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Comment**

Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit on August 28, 2020.

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete for six of six staff.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on review of records that staff # 8, a therapist, was observed to have a satisfactory criminal background check and within portability, however, the center did not have the therapist ported electronically.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will review files to ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will watch CBC videos to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 3/9/2021**

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Met****Comment**

Documentation observed of required staff training.

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Additional cleaning and sanitizing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed and observed during a virtual walk through on this date. The program was in compliance with the Executive Order issued on August 15, 2020.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through appropriate ratio were observed.

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**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met****Comment**

A Virtual Visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the virtual walk through adequate supervision was observed.