



**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:** 12/29/2021 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit

**Arrival:** 1:00 PM

**Departure:** 1:45 PM

**FR-000011073**

**Benn, Itza M.**

5000 Bonnybrook Way Columbus, GA 31907 Muscogee County  
(706) 887-2911 ITZA.BENN@YAHOO.COM

**Regional Consultant**

Penny Svenson

Phone: (470) 346-1037

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penny.svenson@dec.al.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:**

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>		
12/29/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
05/19/2021	Licensing Study	Good Standing
11/17/2020	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**

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	1	1	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	2	2	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	3	3	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	3				

Children Present: 3	Total Children: 3
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

**Comments**

December 29, 2021--A virtual visit was conducted due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

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)

Itza Benn, Program Official

Date

Penny Svenson, 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**

The Consultant discussed with the Provider that equipment and supplies should not be stacked so as to pose a fall hazard.

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

**Met**

**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)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure an operable smoke detector was on each floor of the home.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure the door was not obstructed by the equipment and stacks of paperwork.

**Correction Deadline: 12/29/2021**

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

A virtual visit was conducted during naptime and the playground was not able to be observed, as the Provider could not leave the children unattended. The Consultant discussed with the Provider to ensure equipment was cleaned, limbs and weeds removed from the play area and fence, the gate to the pool area remained locked, ant beds removed, trees checked for safety, and resilient surface fluffed as needed. This list was not all inclusive and any items that could pose a hazard to children were expected to be repaired or removes as needed.

**Correction Deadline: 1/8/2022**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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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.

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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)****Met****Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

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**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.

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**Safety and Discipline**

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

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

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.