



**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:** 10/4/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

**Arrival:** 1:10 PM

**Departure:** 3:45 PM

**FR-19529**

**Welchel, Amanda L**

39 WILLOW STREET Commerce, GA 30529 Jackson County  
 (706) 870-6885 ASTEVENS333@AOL.COM

**Regional Consultant**

Lynn Schnitzer

Phone: (678) 717-5720  
 Fax: (770) 344-5683  
 lynn.schnitzer@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

39 WILLOW STREET  
 COMMERCE, GA 30529

**Quality Rated:** No

<u><b>Compliance Zone Designation</b></u>		
10/04/2022	Licensing Study	Good Standing
02/18/2022	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/29/2021	Licensing Study	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**

<b>Age Ranges</b>	<b>Children Present</b>	<b>Child For Pay</b>	<b>CAPS</b>	<b>Not for Pay</b>	<b>Provider Children</b>
<b>Infant (0-11 mos)</b>	1	1	0	0	0
<b>1 &amp; 2 Years</b>	2	2	0	0	0
<b>3 &amp; 4 Years</b>	1	2	0	0	0
<b>School Age(5+) Years</b>	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 13 Years</b>	4	6	0	0	0
<b>Total Under 18 Years</b>	4				

Children Present: 4	Total Children: 7
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 2	Total Caregivers/Helpers: 2

**Comments**

The purpose of today's visit was to conduct a licensing study and to follow up from the previous visit conducted on February 18, 2022.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 10/04/2022

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/Regulations.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 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!**

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)

Amanda Welchel, Program Official

Date

Lynn Schnitzer, Consultant

Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 10/4/2022 **VisitType:** Licensing Study

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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**

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.19 - Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

**Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.19(1)(a)3 - Consultant discussed with provider to ensure that crib sheets are tight-fitting.

**Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022**

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

**N/A**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 7**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1

Met

Child # 2

Met

**Records Reviewed: 7**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met
Child # 6	Met
Child # 7	Met

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**290-2-3-.08 Children's Records**

**Met**

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Facility**

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

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) - Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that the center is conducting tornado and emergency preparedness drills every six months.

**Correction Deadline: 11/3/2022**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(d) requires that children shall not have access to hanging cords or other hazardous objects. It was determined based on observation that the sleeping room contained an open tanning bed accessible to children.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will ensure that hanging cords are inaccessible. Provider will ensure that the tanning bed is covered.

**Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022**

**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**

**Correction Deadline: 2/18/2022**

**Corrected on 10/4/2022**

**.13(1) - The previous citation has been cited under .11(2)(d).**

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

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.13(2)(a) requires that outdoor play areas be 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. It was determined based on observation that a wire cord was not securely attached to the support beam on the outdoor play area.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will repair any and all identified outdoor hazards and will monitor playground daily or more often as needed to ensure that the Home's outdoor play area is kept clean and free of hazards. The provider will install an additional fence pole to narrow the gap.

**Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022**

**Recited on 10/4/2022**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.13(2)(d) requires that outside play areas be protected from traffic or other hazards by fencing or other barriers at least four feet in height and approved by the Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children. A fence shall be provided around swimming pools to make them inaccessible when not in use. It was determined based on observation that there was a gap measuring approximately four inches between the provider's home and where the outdoor fencing starts on the left side of the outdoor area.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will enclose the outside play area(s) with a four-foot high fence or other Department-approved barrier and inspect regularly to ensure fencing material is safe and any hazards identified are repaired or replaced. The Home will install or repair a fence around swimming pools that makes them inaccessible to children.

**Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022**

**Food Service**

**290-2-3-.10 Food Service & Nutrition**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

290-2-3-.10(6) - Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure menu meets guidelines established by the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 10/4/2022**

**Health and Hygiene**

**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

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

**Met**

**Comment**

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures.

**290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR)**

**Not Evaluated**

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

**Licensure**

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**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

The consultant observed the provider to care for four unrelated children for pay on this date.

**Safety and Discipline**

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**290-2-3-.11 Animals** **Met**

**Comment**

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged.

**Comment**

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date.

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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 First Aid Kit** **Met**

**Comment**

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

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**290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)** **Not Evaluated**

**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**

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 February 18, 2022.

**Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

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**290-2-3-.07 First Aid & CPR** **Met**

**Comment**

Evidence observed that the provider was certified in First Aid and CPR.

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

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff Training** **Met**

**Comment**

Annual training requirement and documentation observed for 2021.

**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

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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.