





Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/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 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)

Torii Fedrick, Program Official

Date

Cresia Jackson, Consultant

Date



**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

**Findings Report**

**Date:** 4/28/2022 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 10:10 AM **Departure:** 10:45 AM

**FR-55300**

**Fedrick, Torrii S**

1501 Magnolia Street Thomasville, GA 31792 Thomas County  
(229) 236-2329 t.fedrick@yahoo.com

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Regional Consultant**

Cresia Jackson

Phone: (229) 238-2958

Fax: (229) 238-2957

cresia.jackson@decal.ga.gov

The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

**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)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.19(2)(c) requires that infants shall only sleep in a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep as described in 290-2-3-.19(1)(a) and shall not sleep in any other equipment, such as, but not limited to, a car safety seat, bouncy seat, highchair, or swing. Infants who arrive at the facility asleep or fall asleep in such equipment or on the floor shall be transferred to a safety approved crib or other equipment approved for infant sleep. It was determined based on observation that an infant was asleep in a swing and not moved to a safety approved crib as required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will move infants who fall asleep in equipment other than a safety-approved crib such as a car safety seat, highchair or swing, or on the floor, to a safety-approved crib.

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Facility**

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**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(f) requires that poisons, medicines, cleaning agents and other hazardous materials be in locked areas or inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the provider did not lock away spray disinfectant, lysol wipes, and hand sanitizer. It was found placed on a cubbie when entering the FDCH and in the lower area of the daycare area sitting on a small table all accessible to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

To ensure the safe storage of hazardous items, the Home Provider will make these items inaccessible to the children.

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

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**290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.13(1)(e) prohibits the use of multiple plugs and electric extension cords. Electrical outlets within reach of children shall be plugged or covered. It was determined based on consultant observation that the pathway to the lower area of the FDCH leads through the kitchen and a outlet that was in use was hanging from the wall area, not secured posing a electrical hazard to children in care.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will not use multiple plugs and electric extension cords and will check regularly to ensure electrical outlets are plugged or covered.

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

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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 children had access to exposed concrete, an exposed tree stump, and a mop placed in an empty bucket on the playground.

**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.

**Correction Deadline: 5/8/2022**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

Discussed diapering practices with Provider.

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

Discussed diapering practices with provider.

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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)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.04(1)(d) requires a person that provides care for more than six children for pay, related or unrelated, as defined in these rules, shall make application to the Department for a license to operate a Child Care Learning Center, except as provided in 290-2-3-.07(15). It was determined based on observation that the provider was caring for eight children for pay.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Family Child Care Learning Home caring for more than six children shall reduce the number of children in care to six. The Family Child Care Learning Home will submit an application for a Child Care Learning Center and receive a license to operate from the Department before caring for more than six children, related or unrelated, for pay.

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

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<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.

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

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

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<b>Staff Records</b>
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**290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.21(1)(a) requires the Home to ensure that the Provider, every actual and potential Employee(including residents age 17 and older) and Provisional Employee of the Family Child Care Learning Home has submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined based on observation that one employee was present without having submitted both a records check application to department and fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will submit both a records check application to the department and fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site to ensure that every actual and potential Provider, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Family Child Care Learning Home submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The provider 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 Home will complete the affidavit training to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022****Finding**

290-2-3-.21(1)(c) requires every Employee to have a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before residing in the Home if age 17 or older. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on the provider's statement that one employee was present at the home alone caring for children without having a Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will submit an application and fingerprint application to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Home. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. The provider 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 Home will complete the affidavit training to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Discussed staff qualifications and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

**Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision**

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**290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(15) requires the Home to ensure that the total number of Children not Related to the Provider in the Family Child Care Learning Home, for pay or not for pay, cannot exceed six Children, except that a Provider may care for two additional children who are three years of age or older for two designated one hour periods daily upon approval approved by the Department. It was determined based on observation that the provider cared for eight children for pay outside of the 2 hour designated hours approved by the Department.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will reduce the number of unrelated children, both for pay and not for pay, so that the total number of unrelated children in care does not exceed the number of children as specified in these rules.

**Correction Deadline: 5/8/2022**

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**290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.07(17) requires at least one Staff person with a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination shall supervise Children at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means Staff members are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The person(s) supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. Plans shall be made to obtain additional Staff help in cases of emergencies. It was determined based on observation that there was inadequate supervision when the helper left one infant asleep in the swing and two toddlers roaming around the front of the home unsupervised, while she watched television in the lower half of the day care area.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will ensure that either the Provider or at least one Staff person with a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination supervises the children at all times as required by the rules. The Home will develop or update a plan to obtain additional Staff help in case of an emergency.

**Correction Deadline: 4/28/2022**