



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

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 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@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!

Michael Meissner, Program Official _____ Date

Yolanda Harris, Application Services Unit Consultant _____ Date

Angela Byrd, Child Care Services Manager _____ 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: 7/21/2023 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

FR-58726

Meissner, Michael B

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Application Services Unit Consultant

Yolanda Harris

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Joint with: Angela Byrd

The following information is associated with a Initial 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 on this date and used for this provider only.

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable and used for this provider only.

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

Met

Comment

Consultant discussed safe sleeping requirements with the provider during the inspection visit. Consultant observed the correct amount of cots/mat, sheets and covers on this date and will only be used by this provider.

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

Met

Comment

Home does not provide swimming. There is an above ground pool with seven foot barrier with locked gates. The home has a deck which leads to the pool. Provider has a locked door with an alarm to prevent children from entering the deck area.

Facility

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

Provider does not have fire arms in the home.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2023

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.

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

Comment

The Home appears clean and free from hazards on this date.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR) Not Met

Comment

The outside area appears clean and well maintained.

Consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that the children in care, never to cross over to the neighboring providers play area nor use any of their equipment or toys.

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 consultant's observation that the playground fencing was not measuring the require four-foot height. The fencing also had gaps in between the picket fencing with measured three and half inches which poses an entrapment hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Home will enclose the outside play area(s) with a four-foot high fence privacy wooden fence.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2023

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

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

Comment

The provider stated appropriate diapering procedures. Hand washing and sanitizing requirements for diapering were discussed with the Provider on this date.

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

Comment

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures on this date.

Licensure

290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR) Not Met

Finding

290-2-3-.04 (1)(a) prohibits the operation of a Family Child Care Learning Home without a valid license. It was determined based on consultant's observation there were six (6) children present in home on this date without a valid license with the department.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The provider/home will cease operation until such time a valid License is secured.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2023

Comment

The overall licensed capacity is six (6) children at any given time. Consultant discussed with the Provider that each licensed program would need to be separate at all times. The license programs should never be combined. The Provider of each program should be on-site of their licensed program at all times.

Comment

Consultant discussed Business License requirements with the provider. The provider has until August 18, 2023 to submit the Business License to the Consultant.

Correction Deadline: 7/21/2023

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Animals

Met

Comment

Animals maintained clean and appropriately caged in the outside fenced area away from the family home, not accessible to the children.

Comment

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date. The provider have 15 dogs on file.

- Nala-Mountain Dog
- Ginger-Labrador Retriever
- Fozzie Bear- Standard Poodle
- Aspen-Golden Retriever
- Chocolate Puppy- Labradoodle
- George- Miniature Poodle
- Kone- Labrador Retriever
- Mollie Brown- Labrador Retriever
- Poppy- Mini Aussie
- Rowlf- Standard Poodle
- Savannah- Labrador Retriever
- Sadone- Labradoodle
- Pumkin- Standard Poodle
- Cinnamon- Labrador Retriever
- M Golden Retriever

290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR)

Met

Comment

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. Consultant discussed appropriate discipline and guidance techniques with the provider.

290-2-3-.11 First Aid Kit

Met

Comment

Complete first aid kit observed in the Family Child Care Learning Home on this date used for this provider only.

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

Met

Comment

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Staff Records

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 Staff Qualifications(CR) **Met**

Comment

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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

Comment

Currently there are no children enrolled in the program. Consultant discussed ratios with the provider on this date.

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

Comment

There were no children present during the time of the inspection. Consultant discussed direct supervision with the provider on this date.