



**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:** 4/26/2021    **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit    **Arrival:** 9:30 AM    **Departure:** 10:30 AM

**CCLC-52927**

**Rays of Hope Childcare**

745 West Moores Crossing Road Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson County  
 (706) 647-0050 raysofhopechildcare@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Brandi Mangino

Phone: (478) 314-9726  
 Fax: (478) 599-0169  
 brandi.mangino@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**  
 Same

**Quality Rated:** ★ ★

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>			<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b> - 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.  <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. <b>Deficient</b> - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
04/26/2021	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/19/2021	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
09/10/2020	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	

**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 - (1R) 5-12 yrs		0	0	C	10	C	14	C	
Main	B- (2R) 1's	One Year Olds	1	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Main	C- (3R) 2's	Two Year Olds	1	6	C	12	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D - (3L) 4's	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	21	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E - (2L) 3's	Three Year Olds	1	10	C	13	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	F - (1L) 6wks- 18mths	Infants and One Year Olds	2	10	C	19	C	NA	NA	Floor Play
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 87							
Total # Children this Date: 43			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 87		Building @25 capacity limited by Health Department Limitations		

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A - 6wks-12 yrs	111	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on April 26, 2021. Staff background checks were all reviewed. A virtual visit was conducted on April 27, 2021 with the Director. An in person visit was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance with the Executive Order issued April 8, 2021 was discussed.

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.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 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.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

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@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 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://dec.state.ga.us/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)

Sherri Cochran, Program Official

Date

Brandi Mangino, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

### Activities and Equipment

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

Technical Assistance

##### Technical Assistance

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.  
Cleaning and disinfecting of equipment and toys were discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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

Not Evaluated

##### Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

### Facility

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

Technical Assistance

##### Technical Assistance

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.  
Discussed center licensing capacity.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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

Technical Assistance

##### Technical Assistance

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.  
Discussed keeping hazards inaccessible to children in care.

**Correction Deadline: 5/26/2021**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Playground hazards discussed. Playgrounds observed during the virtual walk through.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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**Food Service**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

.) Discussed new revision to restricted food rule which states: Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents, such as, but not limited to, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, grapes and any other food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe shall not be served to the children less than four (4) years of age. Children older than four (4) years of age may be served these foods provided that the foods are cut in such a way as to minimize choking.

3.) Please ensure the new updated infant feeding form is used. Discussed revision to the written feeding plans for children under the age of 1 years old. Age-appropriate solid foods (including cereal) shall not be given to infants or children less than one (1) year of age until recommended as developmentally appropriate by the child's primary care physician and indicated in writing by the Parent(s). As soon as the feeding plan indicates that a child is ready for solid foods, the child shall be fed from individual spoons and individual containers or dishes. A child shall not be fed directly from the original baby food container if the contents are to be fed to the child at more than one (1) meal or to more than one (1) child.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Diapering requirements discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Handwashing requirements discussed

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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

**Met**

**Comment**

Documentation for medication dispensing observed complete.

## Policies and Procedures

### 591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

Emergency preparedness plan reviewed.

Correction Deadline: 5/1/2021

### 591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

New required reporting requirements discussed.

Correction Deadline: 5/26/2021

## Safety

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

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Discipline was not Directly observed during the virtual walk through. Regulations regarding discipline were discussed.

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021

### 591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Not Evaluated

#### Comment

Center does not provide routine transportation.

## Sleeping & Resting Equipment

### 591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)

Technical Assistance

#### Technical Assistance

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.

Staff:child ratio requirements were discussed.

Correction Deadline: 5/6/2021

## Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 15

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 01/13/2015

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 07/28/2020

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 02/15/2019

**Records Reviewed: 15****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 4 Met  
Date of Hire: 09/09/2020

Staff # 5 Met  
Date of Hire: 01/13/2015

Staff # 6 Met  
Date of Hire: 09/27/2020

Staff # 7 Met  
Date of Hire: 06/29/2020

Staff # 8 Met  
Date of Hire: 09/28/2015

Staff # 9 Met  
Date of Hire: 02/04/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 10 Met  
Date of Hire: 09/13/2018

Staff # 11 Met  
Date of Hire: 08/15/2018

Staff # 12 Met  
Date of Hire: 10/05/2015

Staff # 13 Met  
Date of Hire: 08/15/2018

Staff # 14 Met  
Date of Hire: 03/14/2017

Staff # 15 Met  
Date of Hire: 03/03/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

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**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 9**

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

All current staff have a satisfactory criminal record check.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

Additional cleaning and disinfecting due to the COVID-19 pandemic was discussed. The center was in compliance with the Executive Order issued April 8, 2021.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.  
Staff:child ratio requirements were discussed.

**Correction Deadline: 4/26/2021**

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

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

2 A virtual visit was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This rule was unable to be fully evaluated and will be reviewed the next regulatory visit.  
Discussed new revision to the supervision rule which states: 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.

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2021**