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

Date: 9/10/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 11:25 AM **Departure:** 2:15 PM

CCLC-11430
Hand Memorial United Methodist Day Care
242 Hand Avenue West Pelham, GA 31779 Mitchell County
(229) 294-1808

Regional Consultant
Angela Williams-Jackson
Phone: (404) 710-3984
Fax:
angela.williams-jackson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated:

Compliance Zone Designation		
09/10/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/03/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
09/03/2025	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

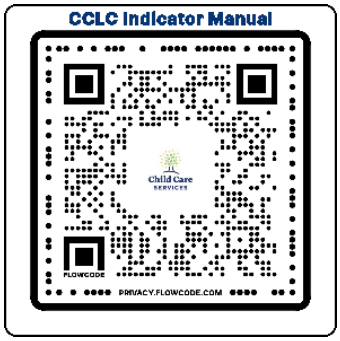
Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	(1)- Infants- 1 yr	Infants and One Year Olds	1	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	(2)- Two's	Two Year Olds	1	10	C	10	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	(3)- 3-4 yrs	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	(4)- One's		0	0	C	8	C	NA	NA	
Main	Cafeteria Area/Afterschool		0	0	C	46	C	NA	NA	
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					
Total # Children this Date: 22		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Back Playground Area	59	C
Main	Side Playground	28	C

Enrolled Children

Infant (0-12 months)	Toddler (1-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-5yrs/full time care)	School Age (before/after care only)	GA PreK only	Summer Only
6	10	10	8	0	0

Comments
The Center was left with repeat citations on this date.



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx.



For additional information regarding the full compliance inspection results of this program or any licensed program in the state, access the Child Care Services Compliance-at-a Glance website by scanning this QR code or visiting: https://families.decal.ga.gov.

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

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@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities **Met**

Correction Deadline: 3/11/2026

Corrected on 9/10/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The classrooms had current lesson plans posted.

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Met**

Comment
A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Met**

Comment
Parent agreements observed obtained and completed.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that the exhaust fan and the switch were not working as required in the hall bathroom to the left of room (1)- Infants - 1 yr.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will fully enclose and ventilate bathroom areas, as required, and will provide adequate ventilation and sanitation in bathrooms that are not fully enclosed.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR) **Met**

Comment
Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by the center on this date.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.25(8) requires protective caps on all unused electrical outlets within children's reach and requires that electrical outlets in use be made inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that in the Cafeteria Area/ Afterschool room there was an electrical outlet on the back wall and the front wall without protective caps posing an electrocution hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff to check outlets and replace protective caps when needed and identify and monitor how outlets in use are inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2026

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation on the back playground was a metal slide in the middle of the playground exposed to the sun without a shaded covering posing a burn hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

Recited on 9/10/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation the following were accessible to children and posed a hazard:
Playground Back
- Pine needles and pinecones throughout.
- Overgrown grass near the back right and front right of the large play set.
- Weeds and vines protruding through the back fence.
Playground Side
- Unwound green hose near the back door of Cafeteria Area/ Afterschool room.
- Weeds throughout the mulch.
- Weeds and vines protruding through the back and right fence.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2026

Recited on 9/10/2026

Food Service

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Met**

Comment
Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

Health and Hygiene

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

Comment
Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that the Center did not have warm running water in the hall bathroom.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR) **N/A**

Comment
The Provider currently does not dispense or administer medication.

Policies and Procedures

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures **Met**

Comment
Program observed to have complete emergency drills.

591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices **Met**

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

Corrected on 9/10/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The person left in charge when the Director is not present was posted.

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **N/A**

Comment
Center does not keep animals on the premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR) **Met**

Comment
Age-appropriate discussion and redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.36(4)(b) requires that the interior of a transportation vehicle be clean, in safe repair and free of hazardous items, objects and/or other non-essential items which could cause injury. It was determined based on observation the vehicle had trash and debris throughout the floor.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The center will maintain that all transportation vehicles are clean, in safe repair, and free from hazards.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2026

Recited on 9/10/2026

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

Corrected on 9/10/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. All transportation agreements were complete.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment
Discussed SIDS and infant sleeping position.

Staff Records

Records Reviewed: 8 **Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 4**

Staff # 2 Not Met

Date of Hire: 01/02/2019

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-CPR missing,.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 4 Not Met

Date of Hire: 09/01/2020

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.31(2)(b)2.-Staff Qualifications-Education Missing

Staff # 5 Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/25/2003

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.33(4)-Food Prep Training Missing 4 hrs.

Staff # 7 Not Met

Date of Hire: 06/01/2026

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.14(2)-First Aid Missing,.14(2)-CPR missing

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

Comment
Director provided two files for employees hired since the last visit.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.14(1)(a) requires all Staff who provide direct care to children must obtain certification in a biennial training program in pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment. Current and valid evidence of the successful completion of such training shall be maintained on the Center's premises. The hours obtained completing this certification will not count towards the required annual training hours. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #7 did not have evidence of current pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation and a triennial training program in pediatric first aid within the first 45 days of employment as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
All caregiver Staff will complete the required training. The Director will send copies via email verification of completed CPR/First Aid certification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure all caregiver Staff have completed this training within the first 45 days of employment and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

Finding
591-1-1-.14(2)(b) requires that there must always be one staff person present in each classroom where children are present that has current and valid pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #2 and # 7 did not have evidence of current pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation and pediatric first aid training on file as required. Both Staff were observed working alone in Rooms (1)- Infants- !yr and (2)- Two's.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Director will schedule and/or position caregiver Staff throughout the Center to ensure at least one currently pediatric CPR and First Aid trained Staff person is present in each classroom where children are present.

Correction Deadline: 9/24/2026

591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records **Met**

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2026

Corrected on 9/10/2026
The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Files were organized.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.33(4) requires within the first year of employment, the Director and person with primary responsibility for food preparation shall have four clock hours of training in food nutrition planning, preparation, serving, proper dish washing and food storage. It was determined based on a review of records that Staff #5 did not have evidence of four clock hours of food and nutrition training as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will schedule food preparation training, as required, and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

Correction Deadline: 9/17/2026

Recited on 9/10/2026

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.31(2)(c) requires the Center to maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, to make the document available for inspection and to provide the document to Department staff upon request. It was determined based on a review of records that a lead teacher, Staff #2 and #4 did not have evidence of educational credentials as required in (1)- Infants- 1yr and (3)- 3-4 yrs.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will review lead teacher records to ensure the required documentation is on file and will obtain and file it if not found.

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2026

Recited on 9/10/2026

Staffing and Supervision

591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR) **Met**

Comment
Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Comment
Adequate supervision observed on this date.