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: 9/8/2026 **VisitType:** POI Follow Up **Arrival:** 8:10 AM **Departure:** 9:00 AM

CCLC-52927
Rays of Hope Childcare
745 West Moores Crossing Road Thomaston, GA 30286 Upson County
(706) 647-0050

Regional Consultant
Brandi Mangino
Phone: (404) 548-4987
Fax:
brandi.mangino@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
09/08/2026	POI Follow Up	Good Standing
08/27/2026	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
08/03/2026	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	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	A - (1R) 5-12 yrs		0	0	C	10	C	14	C	
Main	B- (2R) 1's		0	0	C	9	C	NA	NA	
Main	C- (3R) 2's	Two Year Olds	2	10	C	12	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	D - (3L) 4's	Three Year Olds	1	7	C	21	C	NA	NA	Free Play
Main	E - (2L) 3's		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main	F - (1L) 6wks-18mths	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	5	C	19	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 88					
Total # Children this Date: 22		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 84			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 88					

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

Comments
The purpose of the visit was a plan of improvement follow-up.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

CCLC Indicator Manual

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.

Compliance at a Glance

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 POI Follow Up:

Facility

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

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2026

Corrected on 9/8/2026
.19(1) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Food Service

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

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2026

Corrected on 9/8/2026
.15(2)(f) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2026

Corrected on 9/8/2026
.15(6)(b) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Staff Records

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

Comment
Consultant requested to view all Criminal Record checks for employees hired after last visit. Director stated that there have been no new hires since last visit

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2026

Corrected on 9/8/2026
.09(1)(a) - Citation observed to be corrected.

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2026

Corrected on 9/8/2026
.09(1)(c) - Citation observed to be corrected.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR) **Met**

Comment
At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

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

Correction Deadline: 7/27/2026

Corrected on 9/8/2026
.32(7) - Citation observed to be corrected.