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: 7/9/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:15 AM **Departure:** 5:35 PM

CCLC-11149
Thomasville Community Resource Center
501 Varnedoe St Thomasville, GA 31792 Thomas County
(229) 226-5846 cortney.oneal@tcrc.community

Regional Consultant
Angela Williams-Jackson
Phone: (404) 710-3984
Fax: (678) 717-5765
angela.williams-jackson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation		
07/09/2025	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
07/09/2025	Complaint Investigation & Licensing Study	Good Standing
03/10/2025	Monitoring Visit	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	Room 1-A	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	4	13	C	13	C	18	C	Centers,Free Play
Main	Room 2 - B	Six Year Olds and Over	2	12	C	20	C	28	C	Free Play
Main	Room 3 - C	Five Year Olds	2	7	C	14	C	20	C	Free Play
Main	Room 4 - D		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Main	Room 5 - E		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 98					
Total # Children this Date: 32		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 79			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 98					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Main	74	C
Main	Toddler Playground	16	C

Enrolled Children

Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
0	0	0	5	16	16	30

Comments
The investigation was substantiated and the center received citations..

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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 techincal assistance is available!**

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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a CI/LS:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR) **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.12(4) requires that equipment and furniture is secured if it is of a weight or mass that could cause injury from tipping, falling, or being pulled or pushed over. It was determined based on observation that in Room 2 - B there was a black screen television on top of a shelf near the back blue wall that was unstable and posed a tipping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will ensure that the identified equipment or furniture and any other such existing or future items are secured adequately and will have a system for checking these for stability.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

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

Comment
Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

Records Reviewed: 5	**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 2**
Child # 1	Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components" .08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing	
Child # 2	Not Met
"Missing/Incomplete Components" .08(1)-Emergency Contact information Missing	

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.08(1) requires the Center Staff to maintain a file for each child while such child is in care and for one year after that child is no longer enrolled. In order for the file to be complete, the file shall contain the following: child's name, birth date, sex, address, living arrangement, name of school if applicable; names of both Parents, home and work addresses, and home and work telephone numbers; name(s) and addresses of the person(s) to whom the child may be released including address, telephone numbers, relationship to child and to Parent(s), and other identifying information; name(s) and telephone number(s) of person(s) to contact in emergencies when the Parent cannot be reached; name and telephone number of the child's primary source of health care; and a statement regarding known allergies, physical problems, mental health disorders, intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities which limit the child's participation in the program. It was determined based on a review of records that two out of five children were missing the address of the emergency release contact.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
Center staff will develop a plan that includes how to obtain all required information for currently enrolled children and how to ensure this is done for future enrollees as well. The plan will also include how and where to maintain files for the required amount of time. The plan will be implemented and followed.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Facility

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

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

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

Finding
591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that the following were accessible to children and posed a safety hazard:
Room 1 - A
- On top of the cubby near the classroom door was a pack of baby wipes labeled, "keep out of reach of children" and three grocery bags.
Room 2 - B
- Two sets of stacked chairs on top of a table.
- A pack of baby wipes labeled, "keep out of reach of children" and one grocery bag on top of a low shelf near the Library area.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025 **Prior Visits: 03/28/2022**

Finding
591-1-1-.25(3) requires the Center and surrounding premises to be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center. It was determined based on observation that the following areas needed repair and posed a health and safety hazard to children:
Room 1 - A
- At the bottom of the pink wall near the back door and black baseboard had peeling paint and exposed drywall.
- The left side of the room on the pink wall had peeling paint.
- One ceiling tile over the back door that leads to the playground having a stain.
- One ceiling tile in the Library area had a stain.
- The children's bathroom sink faucet was corroded and had rust.

Room 3 - C
- The left side of the room on the green wall near the hanging hooks was peeling paint.
- The back green wall had peeling paint.
- On three ceiling vents and the tiles around the vents were dust.

Front Resource room
- Near the front area closest to the center's front entrance door were three ceiling tiles with stains.
- Near the back of the room were six ceiling tiles with stains, one ceiling tile missing, and the wood trim around the skylight was chipped and had black mold.

The hallway of Room 4 - D and Room 5 - E
- There were eight ceiling tiles with stains, four ceiling tiles missing with exposed wires.

The yellow corridor/space that leads to Rooms 1 - A, 2 -B, and 3 - C had seven tiles with stains.
Boys' bathroom near Room 4 - D and Room 5 - E
- Had black mold on the outside of the door.
- The ceiling had peeling paint, was falling apart, and had black mold.
- There were two large clear containers filled with water and water was leaking from the ceiling.

On the hall between Rooms 1 - A, and 2 -B
- Near the back door that leads to the playground the fire extinguisher was not charged.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will have the Center and surrounding areas cleaned, make repairs where needed, and remove all debris is removed. The Center will implement a plan to keep areas clean and in good repair that includes regular monitoring.

Correction Deadline: 8/4/2025 **Prior Visits: 06/20/2023**

Finding
591-1-1-.25(7) requires that doors to rooms not approved for child care, other than the kitchen doors, be latched or locked so children cannot wander into those areas. Except in School-age Centers, interior Center door locks shall permit Personnel to open the locked room from outside of the room in an emergency. It was determined based on observation that there was an unlocked closet door in Room 1 - A to the left side of the blue sink that had a bottle of laundry detergent and a staff member's purse accessible to children and posed a safety hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will routinely check that doors to unapproved rooms remain latched or locked and that Staff can open the locked rooms in an emergency.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

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 there was an electrical outlet without a protective cap on the back wall of the center outside on the playground to the left side of Room 1 - A's back door accessible to children that posed 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: 7/9/2025 **Prior Visits: 01/24/2024**

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

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the green gate door on the left side and right side of the playground was not secure. The wood pieces where the latch slides into were broke which posed a safety hazard of children leaving the playground.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Correction Deadline: 3/17/2025 **Prior Visits: 08/10/2020**

Corrected on 7/9/2025
The previous citation observed corrected on this date. There was no exposed plastic on the playground.

Food Service

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

Comment

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations **Not Met**

Finding

591-1-1-.18(5) requires the refrigeration of all perishable and potentially hazardous foods at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below and served promptly after cooking. Freezer temperature shall be maintained at zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or below. It was determined based on observation that the white refrigerator with one long door on the left side of the kitchen thermometer read 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will refrigerate foods as required, will train Staff on proper refrigerator and freezer temperature settings and monitor the settings. Food will be served promptly after cooking.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment

There were no diapered children enrolled in the program on this date.

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

Comment

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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 **Not Met**

Finding
591-1-1-.27 requires each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. It was determined based on observation that the center did not have evidence of names of people responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence, emergency telephone numbers, and a no smoking sign posted as required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Center will post the notices as required and ensure they remain posted.

Correction Deadline: 7/9/2025

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals **Met**

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-.36 Transportation(CR) **Met**

Comment
A current and completed inspection was observed for the vehicle with license plate number CUA4426 used in transporting children on this date. Transportation was not observed due to the visit occurring during the summer break.

Comment
The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Correction Deadline: 3/11/2025 **Prior Visits: 03/10/2025**

Corrected on 7/9/2025
The previous citation observed corrected on this date. The checklist for the last two weeks of school the week of May 12, 2025, and May 19, 2025, had the departure/return dates documented.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Correction Deadline: 3/10/2025 **Prior Visits: 03/10/2025**

Corrected on 7/9/2025
The previous citation observed corrected on this date. All the children were napping on a cot.

Staff Records

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

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

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

Correction Deadline: 4/9/2025

Corrected on 7/9/2025
The previous citation observed corrected on this date. The previous staff cited had current first aid and CPR cards on file.

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR) **Met**

Comment
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

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.