

## **BRIGHT FROM THE START**

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE, Suite 754, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334 (404) 656-5957

Nathan Deal Amy M. Jacobs
GOVERNOR COMMISSIONER

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Dear Child Care Provider:

I am writing to let you know about features recently added to <a href="www.qualityrated.org.">www.qualityrated.org.</a>, the online database where Georgia families can find information on early care and school-age programs in their area. The online database allows families to search from over 10,000 child care, preschools, activity programs, and summer care throughout Georgia.

Recently, DECAL, in partnership with Quality Care for Children, launched a media campaign to help families make informed decisions when choosing summer care options. I hope you see or hear our public service announcements on the radio, in printed materials, on social media, or as television news features. You can help steer families looking for summer care to your program by logging into your program's account at <a href="https://decalkoala.com/">https://decalkoala.com/</a> and updating your information about the services you offer, including summer care. The information you provide through your program's DECAL KOALA account populates the fields families see when they visit <a href="https://www.qualityrated.org">www.qualityrated.org</a>.

In February, DECAL conducted a webinar detailing these new features and how child care programs can use the features to promote their business to families. If you have questions about how to update your DECAL KOALA account to include these new fields, you can view the webinar at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yCTtL2\_7iA&feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yCTtL2\_7iA&feature=youtu.be</a>

Please watch the webcast and be sure to regularly update your information in DECAL KOALA (<a href="https://decalkoala.com/">https://decalkoala.com/</a>). Your maintaining current information on your program and services will help families as they look for child care and early education programs that best meet their needs. If it applies, be sure to check the box indicating your program provides summer care.

Send any questions you have about the new features to <u>decalkoala@decal.ga.gov</u>. Thank you for helping DECAL serve children and families in our state. We couldn't do it without you.

Sincerely,

Kristie Lewis Assistant Commissioner for Child Care Services