



# Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning

BRIGHT FROM THE START

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Governor

**Amy M. Jacobs**  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MEDIA ALERT

*Seventy of Georgia's 159 Counties don't have Summer Food Service Program Meal Sites to feed hungry children this summer. Thirteen of Georgia's Counties have a high child food insecurity rate ranging from 27% to 30.4%.*

**Alert:** The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) is hosting an event to recruit sponsoring organizations to provide free meals to hungry children this summer.

Last summer, 4.8 million FREE meals were served to Georgia's children when school was out, but more sponsoring organizations are needed to ensure that the 500,000+ children without access to nutritious food are fed this summer.

**Who:**

Clarissa Hayes, senior child nutrition policy analyst, with the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) serves as the conference keynote speaker and will discuss Child Hunger in Georgia.

**When:**

Tuesday, February 25, 2020, Program begins at 8:15 a.m.

**Where:** Helms College, 5171 Eisenhower Pkwy, Suite H, Macon, GA, 31206

**How to attend:**

Contact Reg Griffin at 404.309.8131. Media interviews with child nutrition experts are available.

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### **About Bright from the Start**

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning is responsible for meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and their families. It administers the nationally recognized Georgia's Pre-K Program, licenses child care centers and home-based

child care, administers Georgia's Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program, federal nutrition programs, and manages the voluntary quality enhancement programs.

The department also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works collaboratively with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state to enhance early care and education. For more information, go to [www.decal.ga.gov](http://www.decal.ga.gov).