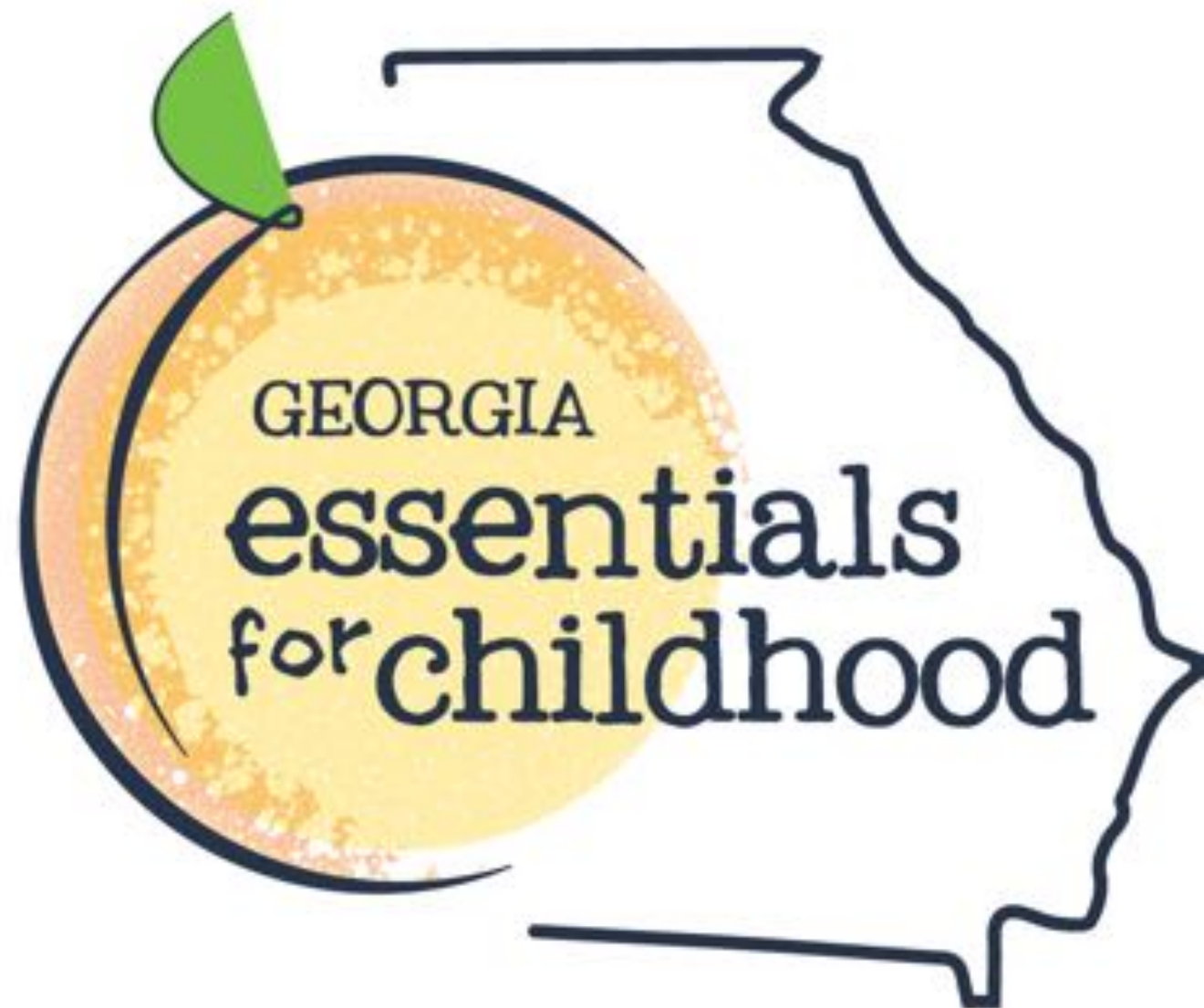
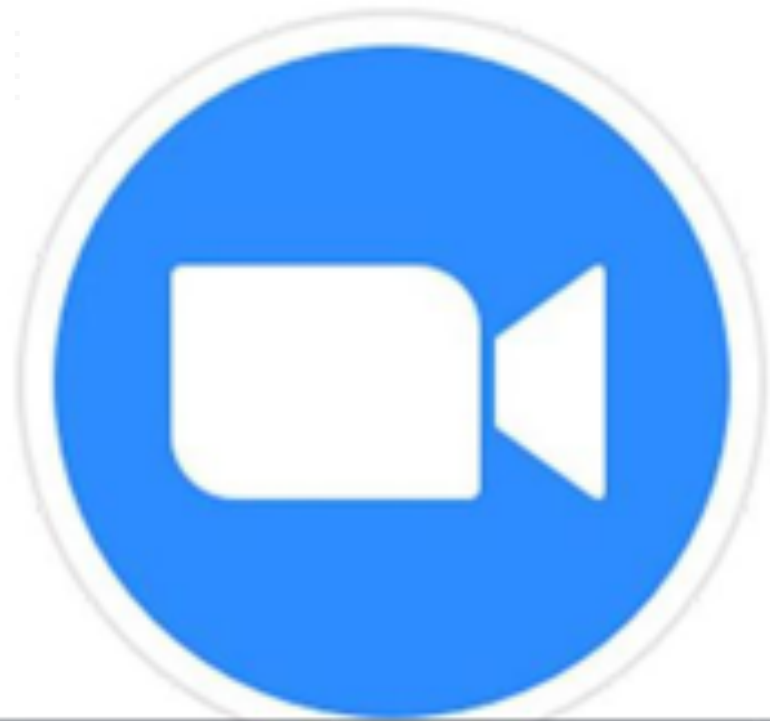


Georgia
Essentials for
Childhood

Annual
Meeting

August 17, 2020





zoom

Zoom Instructions

- Muting
- Chat (reporting and adding links or sharing documents)
- Breakout Groups
- Connection Disruptions
- Recording

Backbone
Organization
Representatives

Lisa Dawson, Georgia
Department of Public Health

Julia Neighbors, Prevent Child
Abuse Georgia

Natalie Towns, Georgia Division
of Family & Children Services



Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Reflecting on a Year of Georgia Essentials

Georgia's Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan (CANPP)

Pandemic Response Review

Essentials for Childhood and the COVID-19 Pandemic

Integrating Essentials for Childhood and Georgia Essentials into Your Organization

Calls to Action and Next Steps

Essentials for Childhood

[Essentials for Childhood](#), a strategic framework developed by the CDC, presents a roadmap to align and support Georgia stakeholders committed to the positive development of children and families, and specifically to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The steps suggested in the *Essentials for Childhood* Framework help create neighborhoods, communities, and a nation in which every child can thrive.

Essentials for Childhood in Georgia

Is a multidisciplinary partnership that proposes strategies to promote the types of relationships and environments that help children grow up to be healthy and productive citizens so that they, in turn, can build stronger and safer families and communities for their children.

Georgia Essentials does this by examining data; proposing strategies and programs; advocating for policies; and building partnerships and general awareness.

The *Essentials for Childhood* framework provides an approach to:

- Move away from the focus of “fixing” or punishing bad parents to empowering and developing successful parents through policies and programs.
- Enrich existing work to improve conditions for children and families.

This Collective Impact strategy focuses on deep cross-sector collaboration to:

- ✓ coordinate and manage existing and new partnerships with other child serving organizations and non-traditional partners;
- ✓ work with partners to identify strategies across sectors;
- ✓ identify, coordinate, monitor and report on the strategies implemented by multi-sector partners;
- ✓ coordinate improvement processes (e.g., continuous quality improvement) for multi-sector partners to refine strategies; and
- ✓ document state-level impact of these efforts.

What makes *Essentials* different?

- Focuses on the **broader social, economic and political environment** and the forces at play that create undue stress on families- eroding their ability to provide nurturing relationships.
- Emphasizes **policy-level impacts** as core to the strategy and addresses a holistic array of factors leading to child maltreatment, versus a specific cause or single factor.
- Takes an “all in” approach where **every entity can play an instrumental role** and invites nontraditional partners to be part of the solution.
- Presents a multifaceted approach to a complex set of conditions and assumes that **all sectors and constituents must act** and interact differently- with a common vision of what is possible.

Welcome and Introductions

- NAME
- Title
- Organization

Please use the chat feature to introduce yourself



Breakout Group

Introduce yourself and describe how you have been involved in the Essentials work over the past year

5 minutes



A close-up photograph of two hands shaking in a firm grip. The hand on the left is adorned with several beaded and woven bracelets. The hand on the right is wearing a watch and a bracelet. In the background, a desk is visible with a clear water bottle with a black and white striped sleeve, a glass jar filled with snacks, and a pen holder with various writing instruments. The scene is set in a professional or office environment.

Reflecting on a Year of Georgia Essentials

Presentations by Working Group Co-chairs

Co-chairs and Working Groups

Communications and Outreach

- **Deborah Chosewood**, Georgia Division of Family and Children Services — Prevention and Community Support Section
- **Jyll Walsh**, PCA Georgia

Data

- **Rebecca Rice**, Georgia Family Connection Partnership
- **Rebekah Hudgins**, Georgia Family Connection Partnership

Policy

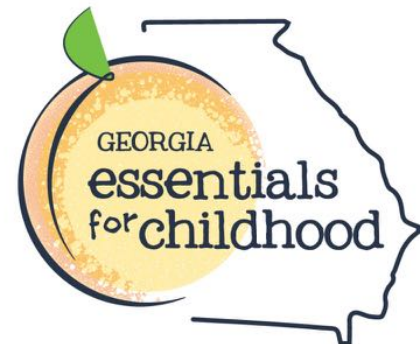
- **Hanah Goldberg**, GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students
- **Melissa Haberlen DeWolf**, Voices for Georgia's Children

Programs

- **Michelle Lanier**, UGA Center for Family Research
- **Marcia Wessels**, Concentric Consulting

Systems Integration

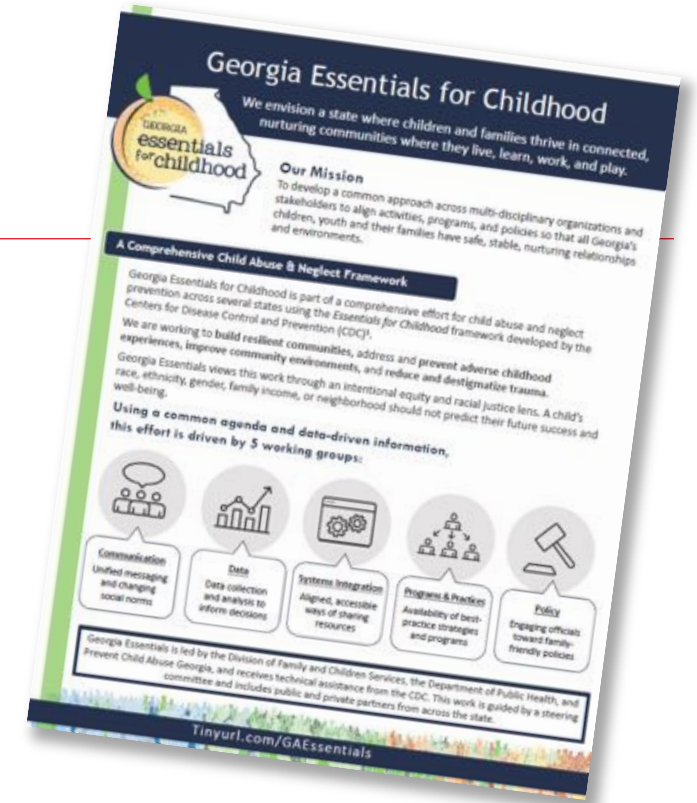
- **Marioly Botero**, United Way of Greater Atlanta
- **Shamonica McGill**, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia

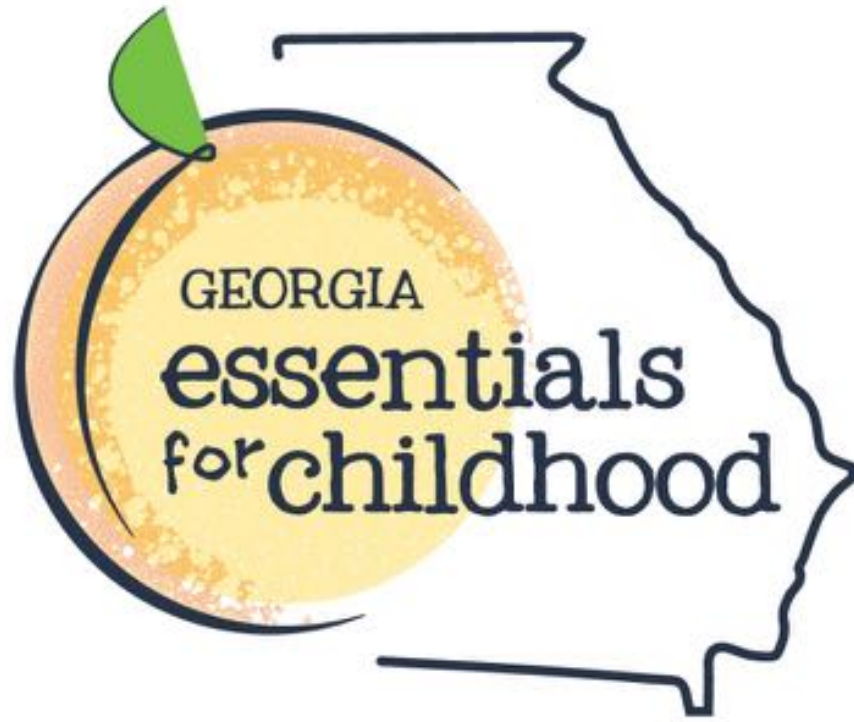


Communications and Outreach

Successes:

- Website
- Environmental scan for other Essentials states' communications work
- Message bank
- Supporting help-seeking campaign for 1-800-CHILDREN from DFCS and Banyan
- Georgia Essentials one-pager
- ACE fact sheet (with Data)





Communications
and Outreach

Priority Activities in Year 2:

- Heightened awareness around Essentials, especially related to ACE data and CANPP implementation

Members of Communications and Outreach

Liz Ferguson

Banyan Communications

Melissa Davis

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Fozia Eskew

Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Chinyere Nwamuo

Claire Lisco

Siarra Scott

Glendedora Dolce

Georgia Department of Public Health

Deborah Chosewood

LaMarva Ivory

Georgia Division of Family and Children Services

Arianne Weldon

Georgia Family Connection Partnership / Get Georgia Reading

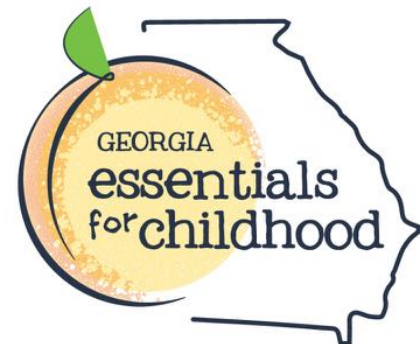
Jyll Walsh

Julia Neighbors

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

Emily Anne Vall

Resilient Georgia



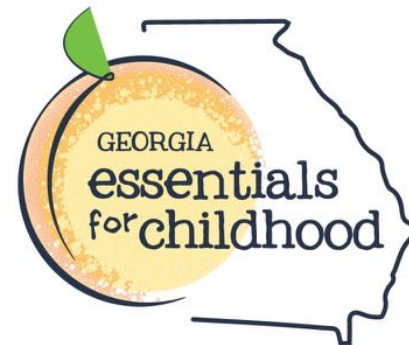
Data

Successes:

- Analyses of ACE data to share with other Working Groups and emphasize in communications
- ACE fact sheet (with Communications and Outreach)

Priority Activities Year 2:

- Closer alignment with Communications and Outreach to inform communications products
- Supporting data needs for CANPP strategies



Members of Data

Katie Ports

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Stan Sonu

Emory University School of Medicine

Hanah Goldberg

GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students

Fozia Eskew

Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Jennifer Hossler**Tiffany Sawyer**

Georgia Center for Child Advocacy

Christine Greene**Chinyere Nwamuo**

Georgia Department of Public Health

Deborah Chosewood**Lindsey Dale****Colleen Mousinho**

Georgia Division of Family and Children Services

Rebekah Hudgins**Rebecca Rice**

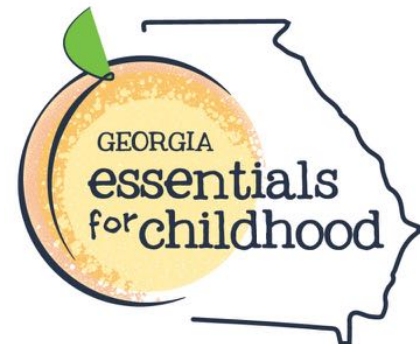
Georgia Family Connection Partnership

Julia Neighbors

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

Emily Anne Vall

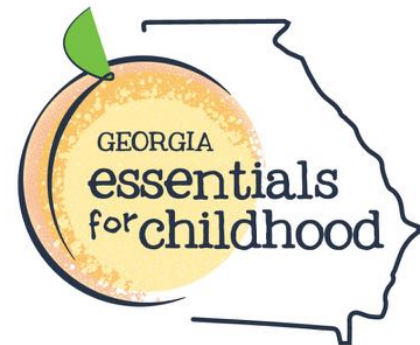
Resilient Georgia



Policy

Successes:

- ACE fact sheet with policymaker audience in mind (Voices and GEEARS collaboration)
- Nascent project on family-friendly workplace policies
- Development of letter to State-office leaders to introduce/re-introduce Georgia Essentials to them

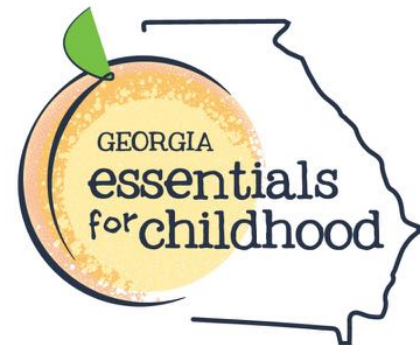


Policy



Priority Activities for Year 2:

- Family-friendly workplace policies
- Letter to State-office leaders (possible alignment with release of CANPP)



Members of Policy

Melissa Davis

Bentley Ponder

Laura Wagner

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Katie Ports

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Elisabeth Hayes

Chatham County Safety

Hanah Goldberg

Callan Wells

GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students

Fozia Eskew

Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Lisa Dawson

Claire Lisco

Christine Mills

Georgia Department of Public Health

Chinyere Nwamuo

Kimberly Ross

Dahlia Bell-Brown

Natalie Towns

Georgia Division of Family and Children Services

Julia Neighbors

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

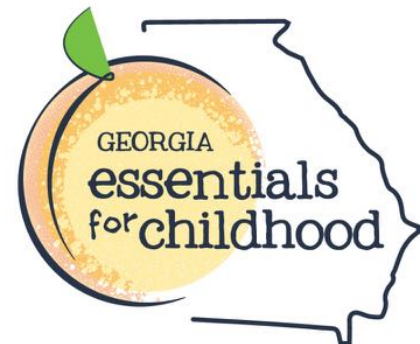
Ellyn Cochran

United Way of Greater Atlanta

Melissa Haberlen DeWolf

Camille Pendley

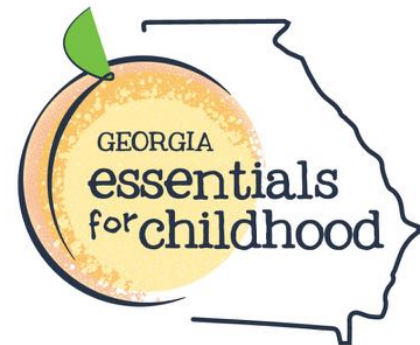
Voices for Georgia's Children



Programs

Successes:

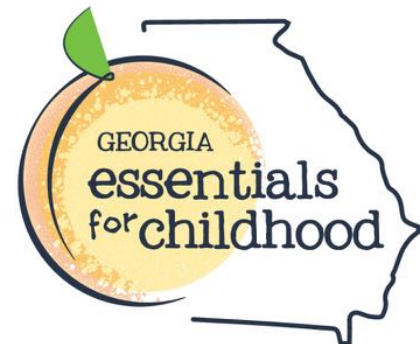
- Composition and energy/commitment of Working Group membership
- Classification/definition framework for evidence of effectiveness for parenting-support/-skills programs including emerging partnership with CDC for assessment tool
- Partnership with Systems Integration Working Group on inventory of parenting programs in Georgia



Programs

Priority Activities for Year 2:

- Developing program evaluation tool with CDC
- Inventory of parenting programs in Georgia (with Georgia Family Support Network)



Members of Programs

Bridget Ratajczak

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Connie Buchanan

Community Advanced Practice Nurses, Inc.

Marcia Wessels

Concentric Consulting

Lindy Grabbe

Emory University School of Nursing

Fozia Eskew

Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Gabrielle Green

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Dr. Stephanie Pearson

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Christine Mills Twanna Nelson Chinyere Nwamuo

Georgia Department of Public Health

Deborah Chosewood Laura Griggs

Georgia Division of Family and Children Services

JoAnne Bielecki

National SafeCare Training and Research Center

Naeshia McDowell Jeanette Meyer Julia Neighbors

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

Lauralen Avery

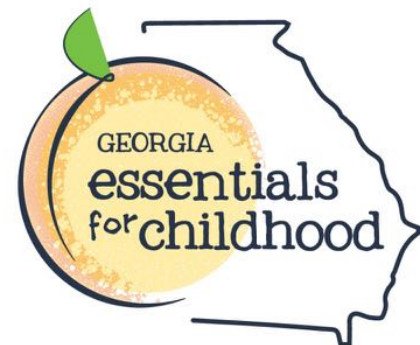
Daniel Charles

Tammie Collins

United Way of Central Georgia

Michelle Lanier

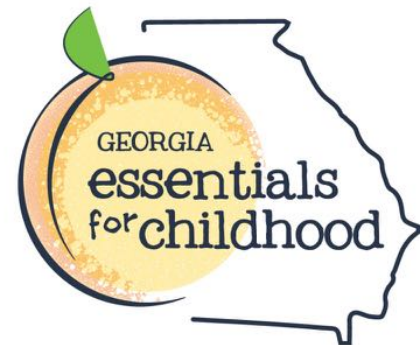
University of Georgia Center for Family Research



Systems Integration

Successes:

- Comparison and alignment of data and fields used by UWGA 2-1-1 and HMHBGA
- Communication protocol between systems to share and update data
- Generation of inventories of providers of parenting programs for Programs Working Group

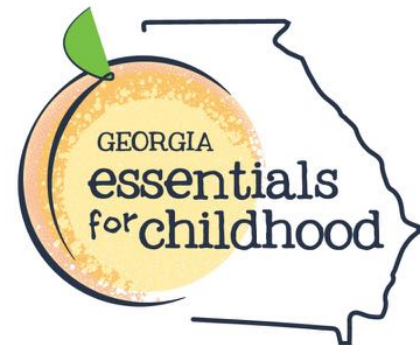


Systems Integration



Priority Activities for Year 2:

- Engagement of other I&R providers, including other 2-1-1 systems in Georgia



Members of Systems Integration

Chinyere Nwamuo

Georgia Department of Public Health

Dahlia Bell-Brown

LaMarva Ivory

Georgia Division of Family and Children Services

Yaa Agyeiwaa

Shamonica McGill

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia

Naeshia McDowell

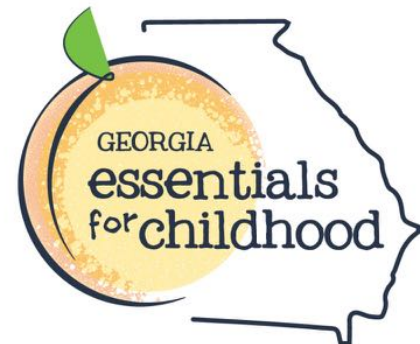
Julia Neighbors

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

Marioly Botero

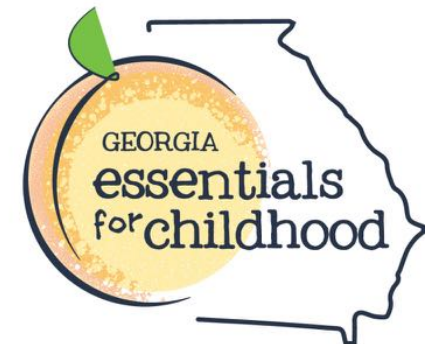
Shannon Norris

United Way of Greater Atlanta



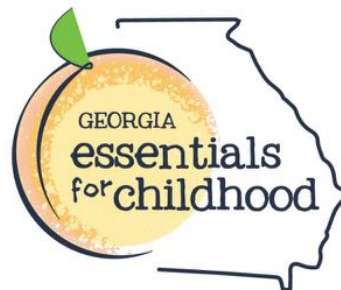
Year 1 — Lessons Learned

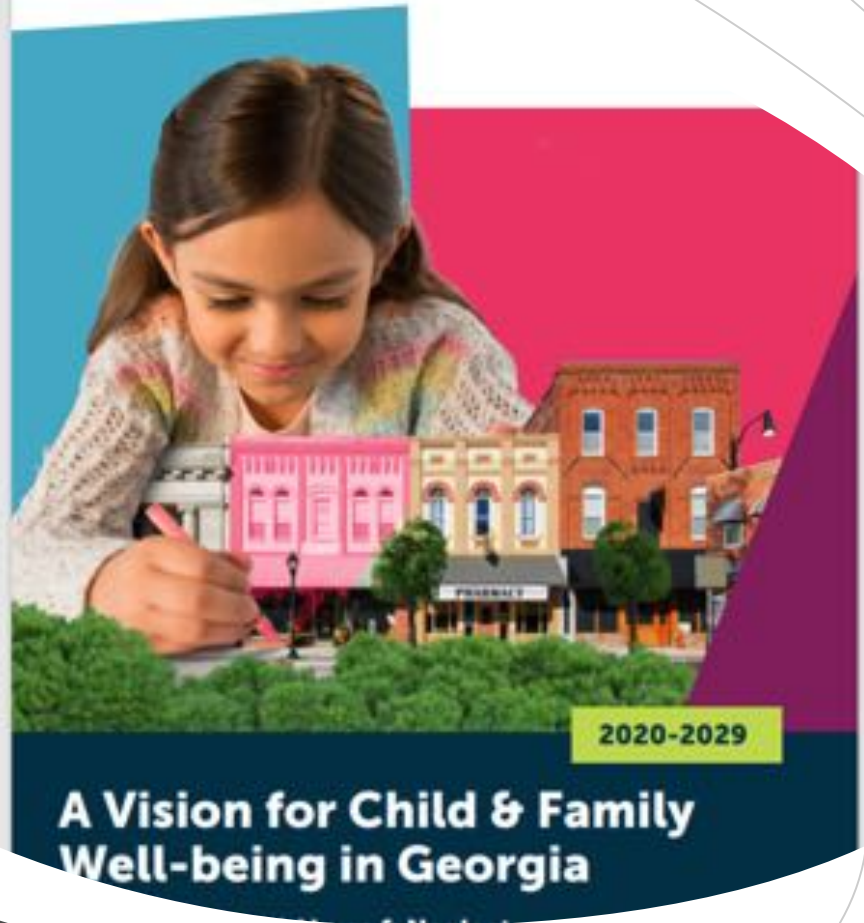
- Moving members beyond generating ideas to producing materials and do the work
- Understanding what other Working Groups or doing (aligning expectations and timelines) and fostering strategic collaboration across groups
- Importance of working strategically across Working Groups' members to be able to lean on others' expertise
- Trying to balance increased demands because of pandemic response and sharing resources



Other Activities & Accomplishments

- Assisting in the Production of Georgia's Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Plan
- Conducting Pandemic Response Review Discussion
- Supporting Resource Development Efforts/platform for collective impact
- Created a working structure with limited financial support (volunteer driven)- the result of 7 years of planning and persistence
- Took initiative to address low-cost strategies (adopting language across agencies; embedded the principles in organizational work)
- Growing participation over time — expanded institutional reach
- Supported the development and launch of the Belonging Campaign





2020-2029

**A Vision for Child & Family
Well-being in Georgia**

Georgia's Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan (CANPP)

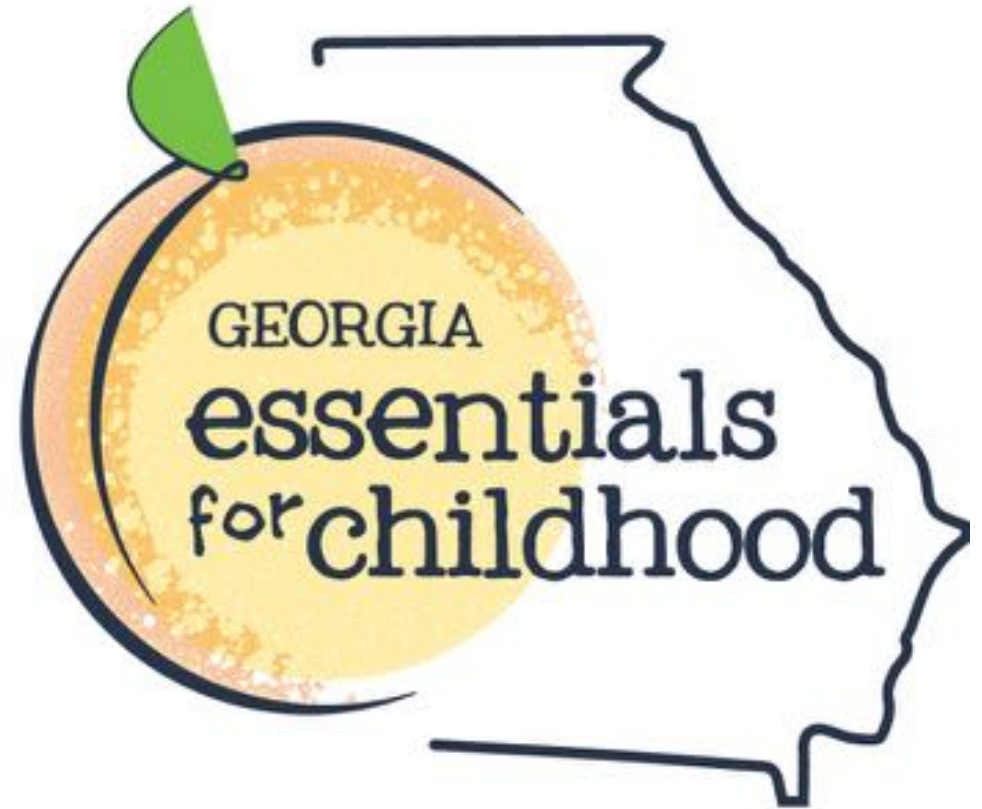
A Vision for Child & Family Well-being in Georgia: Our State's Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Plan

“It is the intent of all involved with the development of this Plan that it be (1) implemented at the local level, (2) revisited annually, and (3) updated every five years.”

*“To accomplish these tasks, the **Georgia Essentials for Childhood Initiative** will be responsible for annual monitoring and support of the Plan and coordinating its five-year update.*

CANPP Co-chairs

- **Natalie Towns**, Georgia Division of Family and Children Services — Prevention and Community Support Section
- **Julia Neighbors**, Prevent Child Abuse Georgia





What Are Georgia's Goals for Prevention?

When we come together with a common cause, we can make important conditions a reality.



Goals for Families

- All parents and caregivers have the skills and tools to meet the physical, intellectual, and emotional needs of their children.

- All children have the tools, skills, and support needed to meet their potential.
- All families have equitable access to culturally responsive services and resources in their communities to meet their needs.



Goals for Systems/ Governments

- Families are engaged in planning and evaluating child abuse and neglect prevention efforts.
- All community, commerce and state systems have integrated policies, training, programs, practices, and budgets that promote family and child well-being.
- Systems collaborate and cooperate in planning and implementing a comprehensive continuity of prevention services including but not limited to: strengthening economic supports to families, implementing family-friendly policies, and providing quality care and education.
- Permanent and adequate financial resources are equitably allocated to develop and maintain prevention strategies.
- All services and supports to children and families use trauma-informed, strength-based practices to reduce harms and prevent future risk.



Goals for Society

- All Georgia citizens are accountable for the protection and well-being of our children.
- Prevention is valued as essential and achievable with collective action.
- Society invests in children early and throughout their lives.
- Georgia has increased equitable opportunities and access to services and resources that foster child well-being.
- Social norms reflect a culture that supports and sustains safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments.



What Are Georgia's Objectives for Prevention?

For collective action to work, we must hold ourselves accountable for making a difference in changing existing community conditions.

This focus must be inclusive of all Georgia's families and children. Georgia's plan must change the following conditions:

- Increase family economic stability
- Increase family resiliency
- Increase access to early childhood care and education
- Increase family mental well-being
- Increase family physical health
- Increase community knowledge and awareness of the societal factors that contribute to child abuse and neglect and the capacity to prevent it



For all sectors of the community



Social/Human Services



Behavioral Health Systems



Faith and Civic Sectors



Public and Private Investment



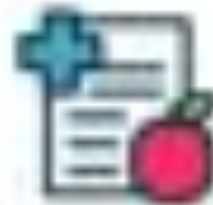
Local and State Government



Workplace/Business



Physical Health Systems



Education



Legal and Law Enforcement

Global & Sector Specific Strategies

Implementation Timeline

- Begin providing regional planning technical assistance in Fall 2020
- Regional planning to directly address COVID-19 and racial equity issues
- Support regional plan development and implementation in 2021/22



Have
a
Break

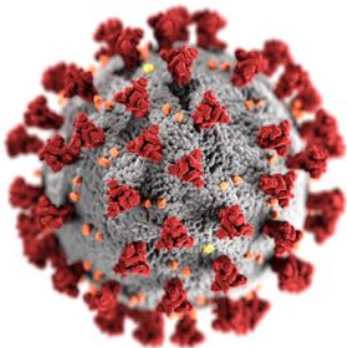
ACF/HRSA Call to Action



“It is critical that we come together as cross-sector partners to help families cope, decrease parental stress, support responsive relationships, and build protective factors to strengthen families and communities. “

COVID-19

Pandemic Response Review



Protective Factors in the Era of COVID-19

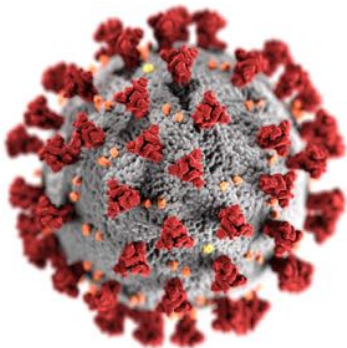
- Coordination of resources and services across agencies and organizations
- Promotion of data-informed decisions
- Promotion of policies and laws aligned with the best available evidence
- Promotion of healthy behaviors and best practice health education and awareness
- Increase in social capital and community connectedness
- Increase in health equity

The Social-Ecological Model: A Framework for Prevention



COVID-19

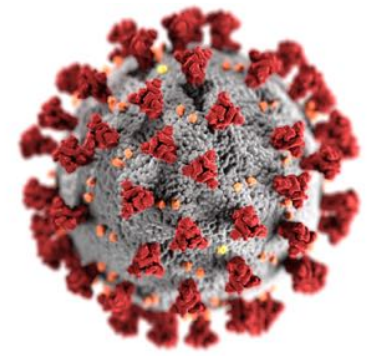
Pandemic Response Review



Discussion

- ❖ At an interagency level, where are these conversations happening and who is involved?
- ❖ How is information about resources being coordinated and disseminated to those who need it?
- ❖ What data is being captured, and who is tracking it?
- ❖ What behaviors are being promoted, and who is doing the promotion? How is the promotion being done?
- ❖ What efforts are underway to increase community social capital and community connectedness, and who is leading them?
- ❖ What policies and practices are being promoted to increase health equity, and who is involved?

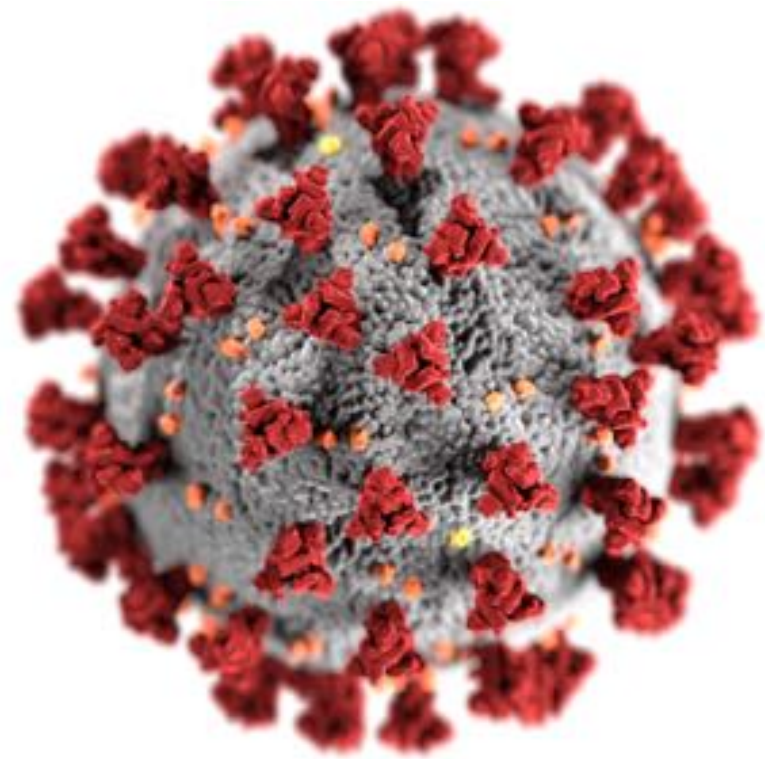
Findings




- Session included 40 participants representing 17 state agencies and community organizations
- Significant coordination and collaboration among smaller groups of agencies
- A variety of efforts underway to share resources, collect data, promote healthy behaviors, increase community connectedness and address health disparities
- Clusters of collaboration remain siloed from one another-no overarching repository of resources or data sharing

Pandemic Response Review — Next steps

- Reconvene in September
- Conduct gaps analysis
- Continue to build inventory of collaborative efforts and resources
- Share data
- Develop an online portal to collect and distribute information





Essentials for Childhood and the COVID-19 Pandemic

Sandra Alexander, MEd

Child Maltreatment
Consultant

Division of Violence
Prevention

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention

The subsequent slides that were presented during the meeting are not approved for public distribution and are excluded from this external version.

Julia Neighbors, Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

Integrating Essentials for Childhood and Georgia Essentials into Your Organization

PCA Georgia Strategic Plan 2019–2021

Adopted the framework of promoting safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments to prevent child abuse and neglect in our most recent strategic plan

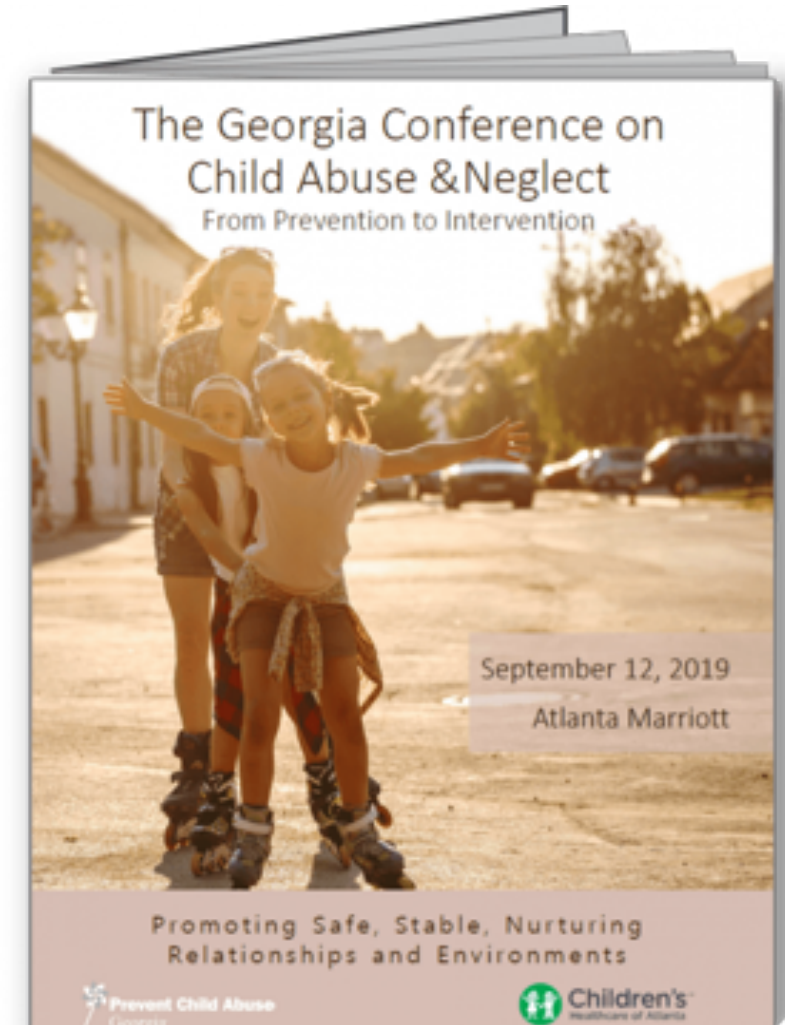
Vision: All children and families thrive in safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments



2019 GA Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect

Intentional focus on promoting safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments to prevent child abuse and neglect to over 380 conference participants.

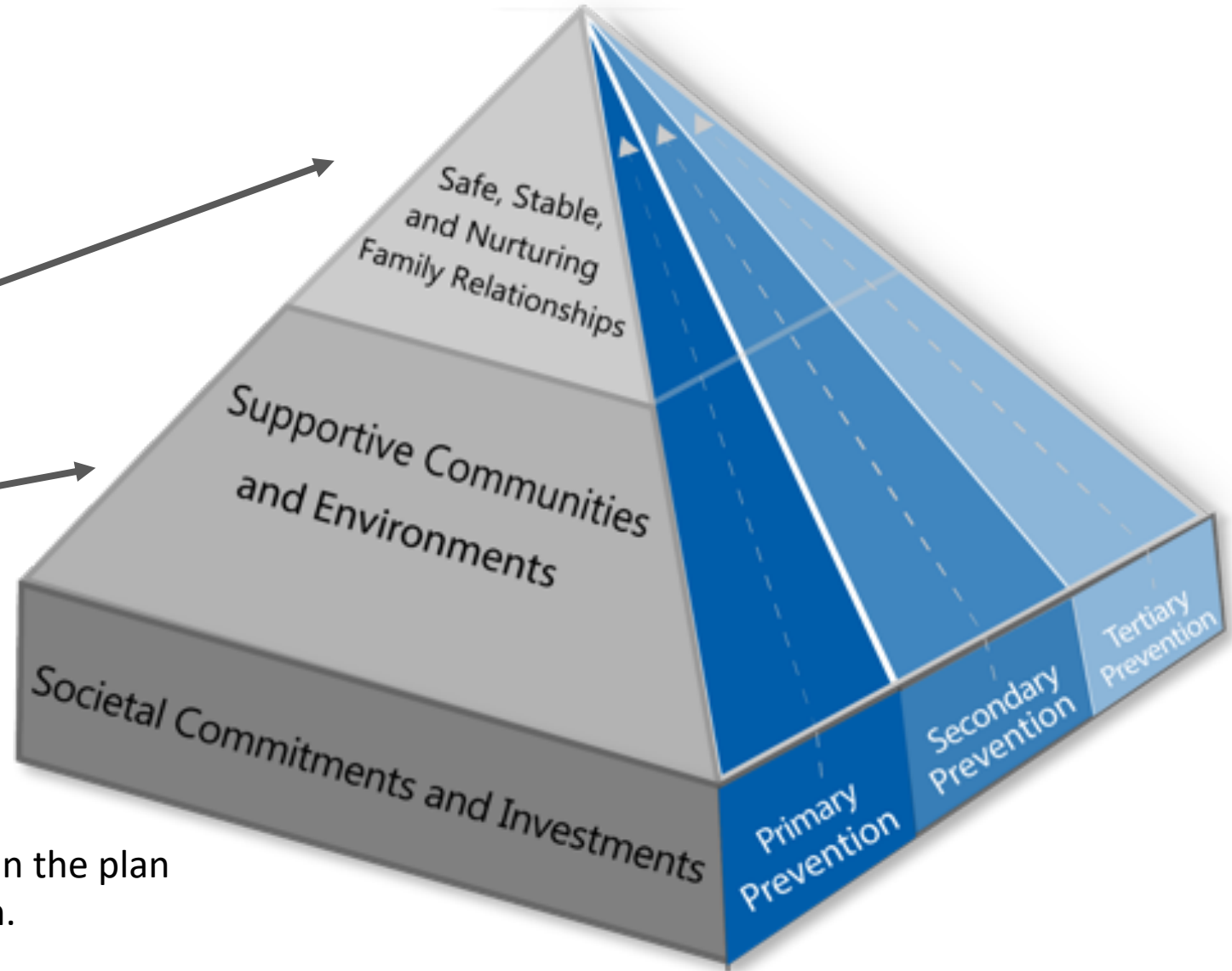
- **Safety:** The extent to which a child is free from fear and secure from physical or psychological harm within their social and physical environment.
- **Stability:** The degree of predictability and consistency in a child's social, emotional, and physical environment.
- **Nurturing:** The extent to which a parent or caregiver is available and able to sensitively and consistently respond to and meet the needs of their child.



[Agenda and Workshop Presentations](#)

Prevention Model

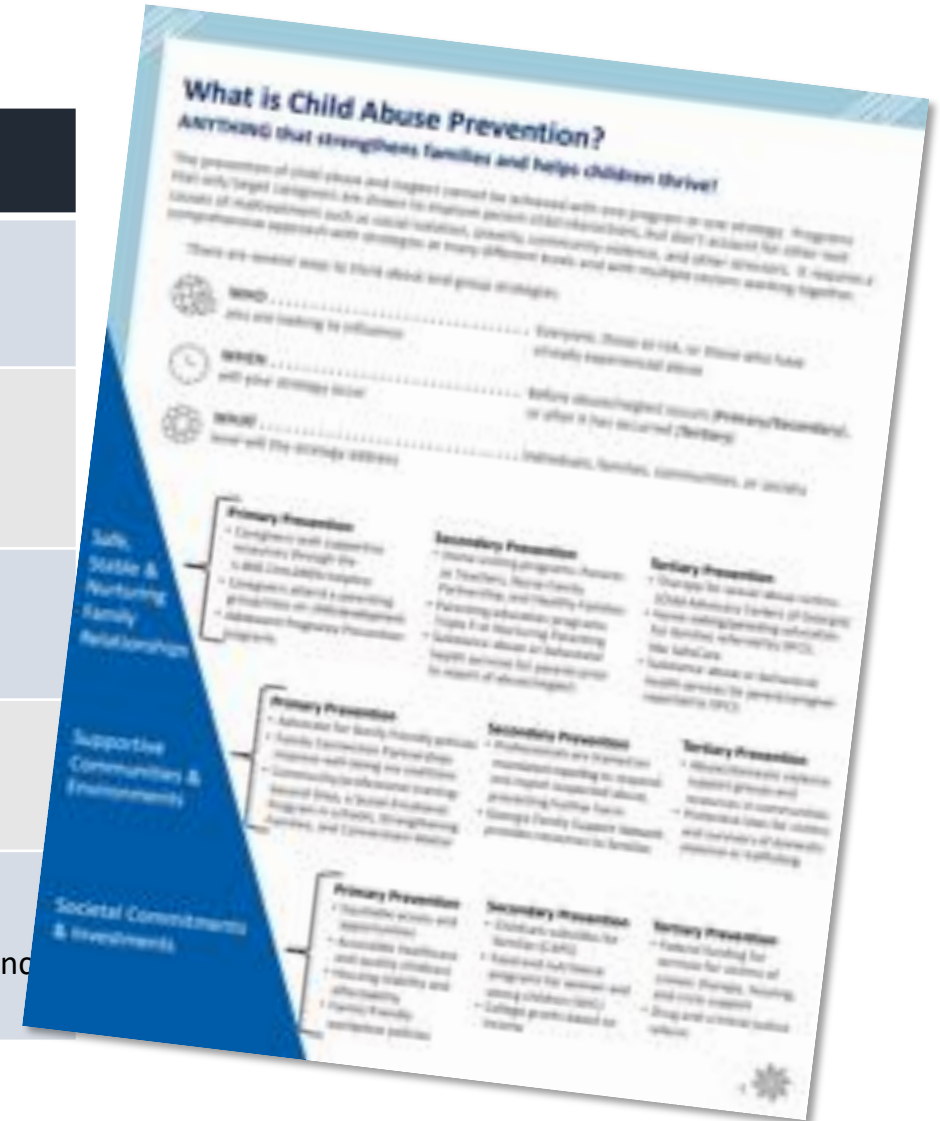
Demonstrates safe, stable, and nurturing relationships at the individual level and in environments at the community level.



Used in the state prevention planning process, within the plan itself and will be used in implementation of the plan.

Essential Strategies Embedded in Presentations for Prevention Education & CAP Month Materials

As a Society- Advocating for Strong Child & Family Policies	
Strengthen economic supports to families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening household financial security Family-friendly work policies
Change social norms to support parents and positive parenting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public engagement and education campaigns Legislative approaches to reduce corporal punishment
Provide quality care and education early in life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preschool enrichment with family engagement Improved quality of child care through licensing and accreditation
Enhance parenting skills to promote child development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early childhood home visitation Parenting skill and family relationship approaches
Intervene to lessen harms and prevent future risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral parent training programs Treatment to lessen harms of abuse and neglect exposure Treatment to prevent behavior and later involvement in violence



Embedding within Protective Factor Content

What does Resilience look like?

- Children **have nurturing relationships** with caregivers or other caring adults
- Caregivers have resilience to bounce back
- Caregivers **use positive parenting skills**
- Practical support services for parents and families are available



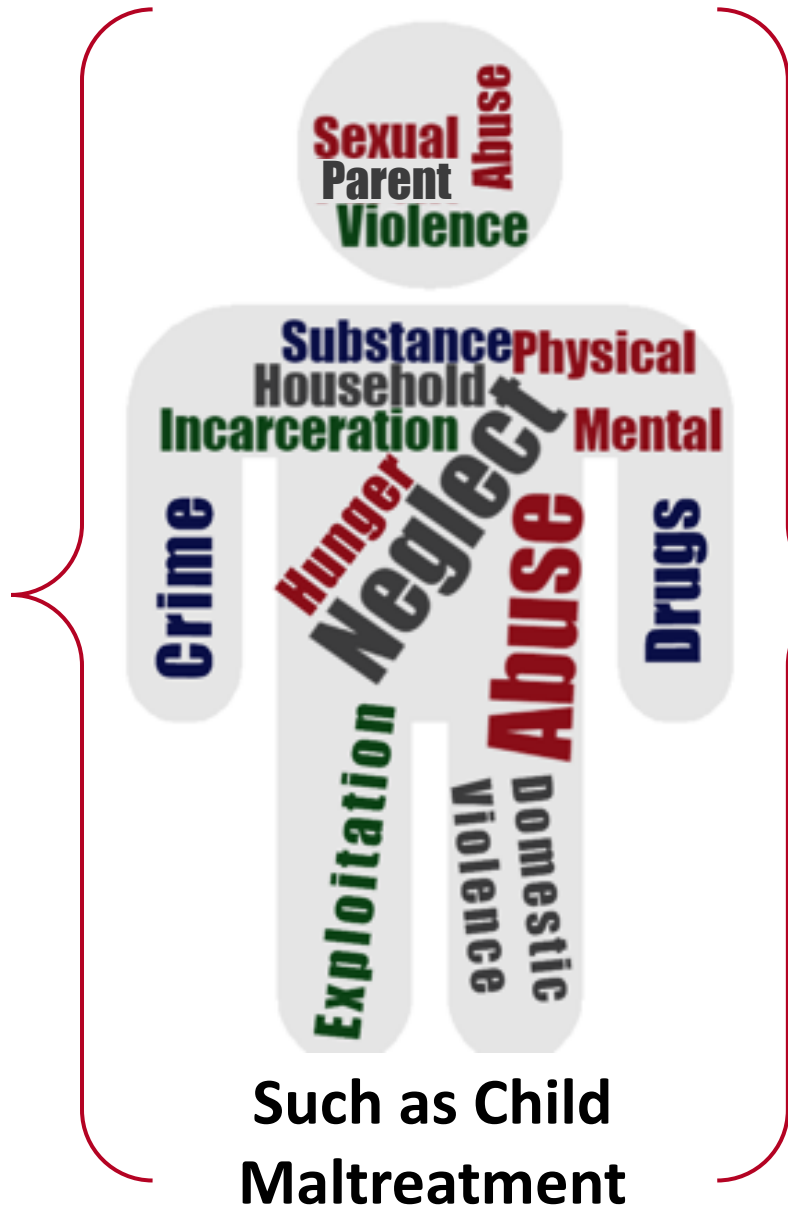
Resilience Buffers Adverse Childhood Experience

When caregivers and especially children have supportive relationships, concrete supports, and social and emotional competence, they are better able to cope with adverse experiences they may encounter.

By forming positive relationships, community members can work together to build a resilient, vibrant neighborhood and create opportunities to further integrate the Protective Factors. Safe communities can provide a buffer for children against adverse childhood and community experiences. These children then build resilience!

There are many ways Protective Factors are being utilized within Georgia communities.

Embed the Essentials Framework into Training Programs



Can impair social, emotional, cognitive, and physiological development

↓
Increase chance of health conditions and risky health behaviors

↓
Increase likelihood of disease, disability, and mental illness throughout adulthood



Protects children against developing emotional, behavioral and mental health issues

↑
Profoundly influence brain development and form the foundation of human development

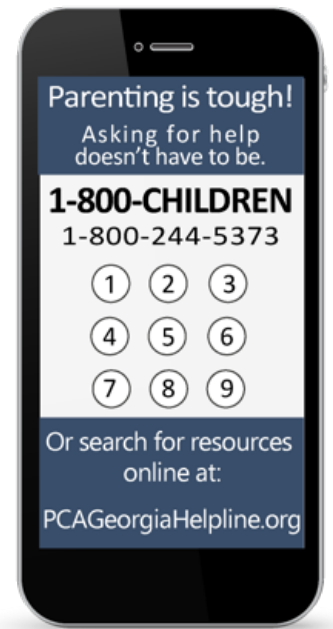
↑
Can provide the buffering that allows children to withstand, or recover, from adverse experiences

Children Need Love AND Resources to Thrive

Those resources include:

- Basic resources
- Essential Services
- Social Services

The 1-800-CHILDREN Helpline is a resource referral line for **parents**, **caregivers** and **professionals** who are concerned with the healthy development of children and the prevention of child abuse and neglect.



Breakout Discussion



How could you further embed the work of Essentials in your organization?



How has it influenced your work? (give examples)



What would you need in order to more directly or fully integrate the Essentials language and strategies

Thanks to our Steering Committee!!



Liz Ferguson

Banyan Communications

Melissa Davis

Bridget Ratajczak

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Hanah Goldberg

GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students

Jennifer Hossler

Tiffany Sawyer

Georgia Center for Child Advocacy

Dr. Stephanie Pearson

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Cheryl Benefield

Georgia Department of Education

Lisa Dawson

Terri Miller

Christine Mills

Georgia Department of Public Health

Twanna Nelson

Chinyere Nwamuo

Natasha Worthy

Deborah Chosewood

Natalie Towns

Georgia Division of Family and Children Services

Arianne Weldon

Georgia Family Connection Partnership / Get Georgia Reading

Jeanette Meyer

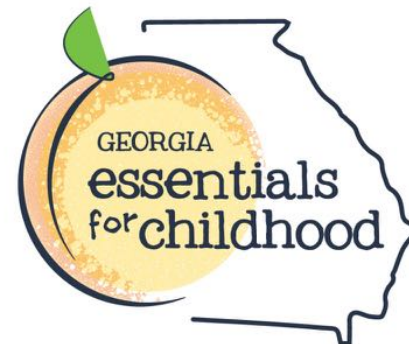
Julia Neighbors

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

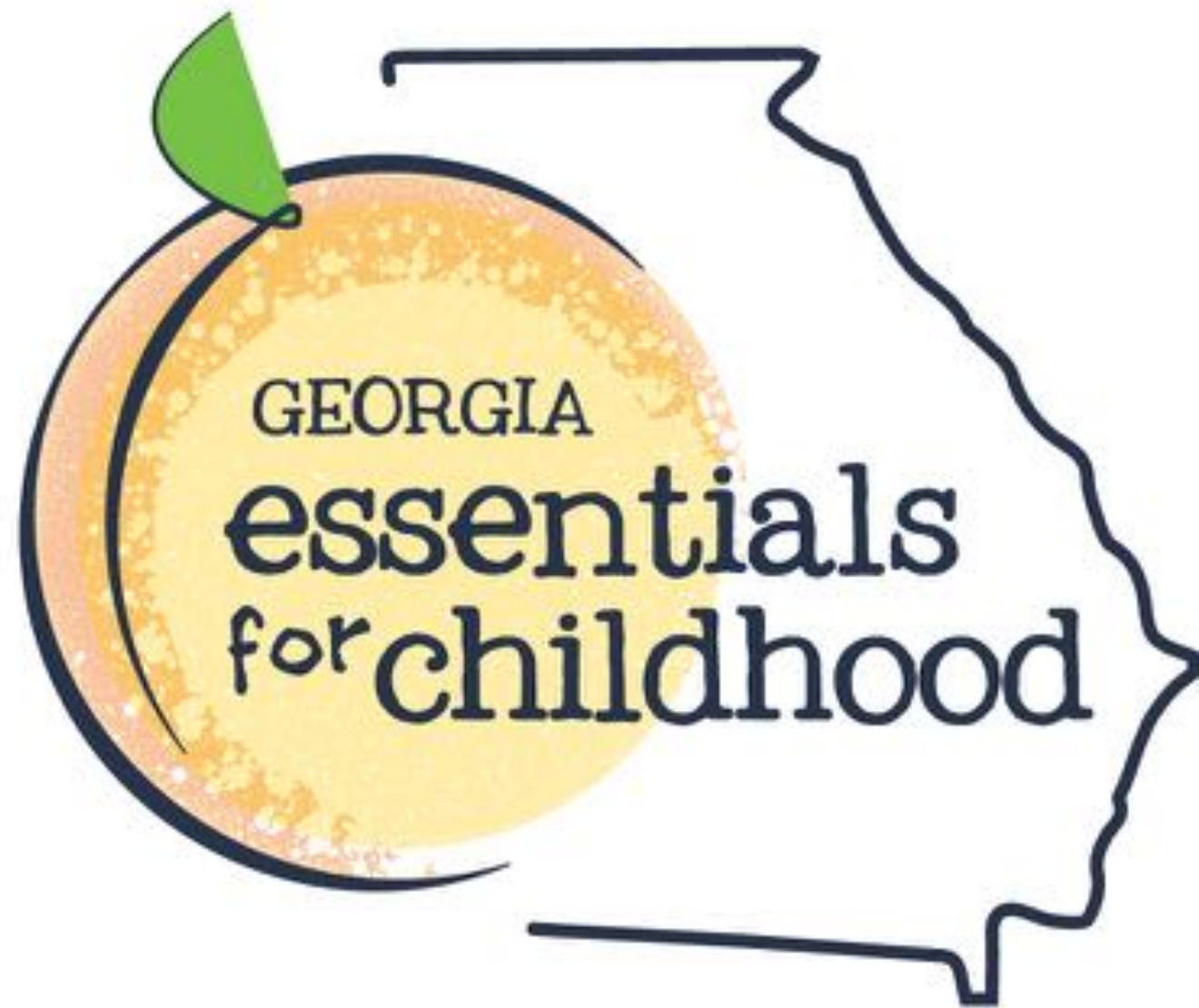
Erica Fener Sitkoff

Melissa Haberlen DeWolf

Voices for Georgia's Children



Call to Action & Next Steps



Get involved

1

Recommit to an existing working group

2

Sign-up for a different group

3

Learn more about the work

4

Register on the Georgia ACEs Connection page

PCA Georgia

Strengthening Families through Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships & Environments

About

Giving

Training

Prevention

Find Community Resources

Login

SIGN UP FOR NEWSLETTER

Essentials for Childhood

Child maltreatment is a significant public health problem, but it is also a **preventable** one. *Essentials for Childhood*, a strategic framework developed by the CDC, presents a roadmap to align and support Georgia stakeholders committed to the positive development of children and families, and specifically to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The steps suggested in the *Essentials for Childhood Framework* help create neighborhoods, communities, and a nation in which every child can thrive.

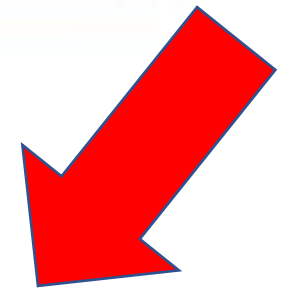
Contact: Essentials@gsu.edu

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Essentials for Childhood in Georgia

is a multidisciplinary partnership that proposes strategies to promote the types of relationships and environments that help children grow up to be healthy and productive citizens so that they, in turn, can build stronger and safer families and communities for their children.

Georgia Essentials does this by examining data; proposing strategies and programs; advocating for policies and building partnerships and general awareness.



