

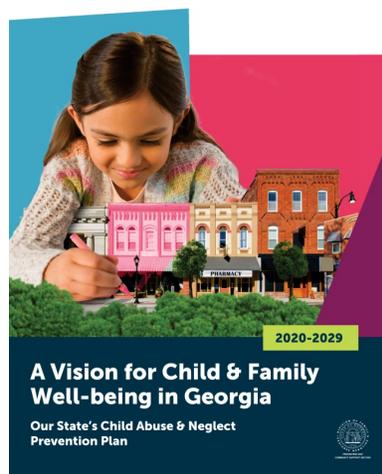
## Georgia Essentials for Childhood Releases “A Vision for Child and Family Well-being in Georgia” – Our State’s Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan

Beginning in early 2019, leaders representing family-serving state agencies, community organizations, and stakeholder groups came together to address Georgia’s high rate of child abuse and neglect. It was determined that in order to truly impact this pervasive problem in our state, we would need a unified, collective impact approach and they decided that the state’s Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan, originally developed in 1993, should be updated.

Over the course of the next year, over 30 meetings were held across the state which included state and local government leaders, providers of human services, educators, civic and business leaders, parents, caregivers and members of faith-based organizations. Additionally, two surveys soliciting input from providers and parents/caregivers were distributed and completed by nearly 800 Georgians. A state plan incorporating the input from this diverse group was developed and in mid- 2020 was approved by state leadership.

The Georgia Essentials for Childhood Steering Committee has been charged with overseeing the implementation of the state plan, monitoring progress toward the plan’s goals, assisting in the development of regional plans, and reviewing progress toward the plan on an annual basis. For more information about the Georgia Essentials for Childhood initiative, visit [tinyurl.com/GAEssentials](https://tinyurl.com/GAEssentials) or click the one-pager below to download. The state plan will be posted on the webpage linked here: [TinyURL.com/GACANPP](https://TinyURL.com/GACANPP) or you can click on the photo below.

The Steering Committee would like to thank [Prevent Child Abuse Georgia](#), [Georgia's Division of Family and Children's Services' Prevention and Community Support Section](#), Advantage Consulting LLC, and the hundreds of Georgians who provided input and feedback into the development of this plan.



The Plan was officially launched at the

Georgia Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect on September 16, 2020.

This virtual conference session included a presentation by Dr. Melissa Merrick, President and CEO of Prevent Child Abuse America and a panel discussion of Georgia's family and child-serving organization leaders. To view the video of this conference session, click here: <https://youtu.be/qB7xe360GFs>.

## Georgia Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect

FROM PREVENTION TO INTERVENTION

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SERIES

PREVENTION  
FORWARD  
2020



## Georgia Essentials for Childhood

We envision a state where children and families thrive in connected, nurturing communities where they live, learn, work, and play.



### Our Mission

To develop a common approach across multi-disciplinary organizations and stakeholders to align activities, programs, and policies so that all Georgia's children, youth and their families have safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments.

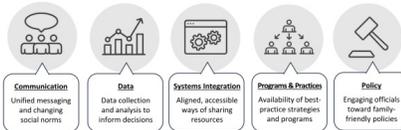
### A Comprehensive Child Abuse & Neglect Framework

Georgia Essentials for Childhood is part of a comprehensive effort for child abuse and neglect prevention across several states using the *Essentials for Childhood* framework developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

We are working to build resilient communities, address and prevent adverse childhood experiences, improve community environments, and reduce and destigmatize trauma.

Georgia Essentials views this work through an intentional equity and racial justice lens. A child's race, ethnicity, gender, family income, or neighborhood should not predict their future success and well-being.

Using a common agenda and data-driven information, this effort is driven by 5 working groups:



Georgia Essentials is led by the Division of Family and Children Services, the Department of Public Health, and Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, and receives technical assistance from the CDC. This work is guided by a steering committee and includes public and private partners from across the state.

[Tinyurl.com/GAEssentials](https://tinyurl.com/GAEssentials)



We are coming soon to a region near you! Starting in late 2020, our team will be coming to all 14 DFCS regions to help create local plans. Let us know if you're interested in participating in your region by emailing [gadfcs.prevention@dhs.ga.gov](mailto:gadfcs.prevention@dhs.ga.gov).