

The Great Start Georgia Vision



The experiences a child has prior to entering kindergarten affect how the brain develops and provide the foundation for success in school and life.

The Governor's Office for Children and Families and the Georgia Department of Public Health work with communities throughout the state to ensure that our children and families are edu-

cated, healthy, safe and growing—and Great Start Georgia is the first step in this process.

Great Start Georgia provides communities with a framework for reaching out to new and expectant families, offering support and services to improve the well-being of Georgia's children and families.



Great Start Georgia Information & Referral Center

1-855-707-8277

www.GreatStartGeorgia.org



Sponsored by:



Governor's Office for
Children and Families

In partnership with:



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What We Do

The mission of **Great Start Georgia** is to provide wide-ranging support services for families and children to ensure that families have the information and support they need to provide a great start in life.

Great Start Georgia's Information & Referral Center provides families with a localized community resource guide and connections to relevant resources and age-appropriate information. Services include:

- ◆ Maternal and Child Health
 - ◇ Children 1st
 - ◇ Babies Can't Wait
 - ◇ **Children's Medical Services**
 - ◇ Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- ◆ Home and Child Safety
- ◆ Community and Family Safety
- ◆ School Readiness
- ◆ Family Economic Self-sufficiency
- ◆ Home Visiting

Every Georgia Child Deserves a Great Start...

And we're here to make that happen.

Great Start Georgia connects families to parenting resources and a wide range of community services that improve child and family well-being. Families can enter the program several ways, including through the Information & Referral Center.

Know someone who could use a great start? Call our toll-free number today or visit the website to complete a referral form!

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How You Can Help

If you know about an expectant parent or family with a newborn or young child, you can help make sure they have the information and support they need to provide a great start for their children by calling our toll-free number or visiting the website to submit a referral. Messages can be left 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will be returned. This service is free and confidential.

Professionally trained Information & Referral Center staff will then contact the families to conduct a comprehensive screen to determine their needs and connect them with the appropriate resources.

Home visiting programs are available for families with more intensive needs in many counties across the state. Contact the Information & Referral Center or visit the website to learn what counties near you offer home visiting services.