



Governor's Office for
Children and Families

**Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood
Home Visiting (MIECHV)
Collaboration at Its Best
Marcia Wessels, MPH**

**18th Annual Birth to Three Institute
July 29, 2014**

This project was supported in part by the Governor's Office for Children and Families and from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program (CFDA 93.505). Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the Governor's Office for Children and Families or from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program (CFDA 93.505).

Opportunities for Collaboration

- Developing State Partnerships
- Creating the Vision
- Engaging Communities
- Integrating Intake Services
- Connecting Technical Assistance and Training

State Partners

☐ State Lead Agency

- Governor's Office for Children and Families
- Department of Human Services-Family and Children Services
- MIECHV oversight and funding

☐ Center for Family Research, University of Georgia

- Technical assistance (TA) & training, continuous quality improvement, data system, and evaluation teams
- MIECHV infrastructure

☐ Leadership Team

- State agencies/organizations serving families and children
- MIECHV guidance

The Vision of Great Start Georgia

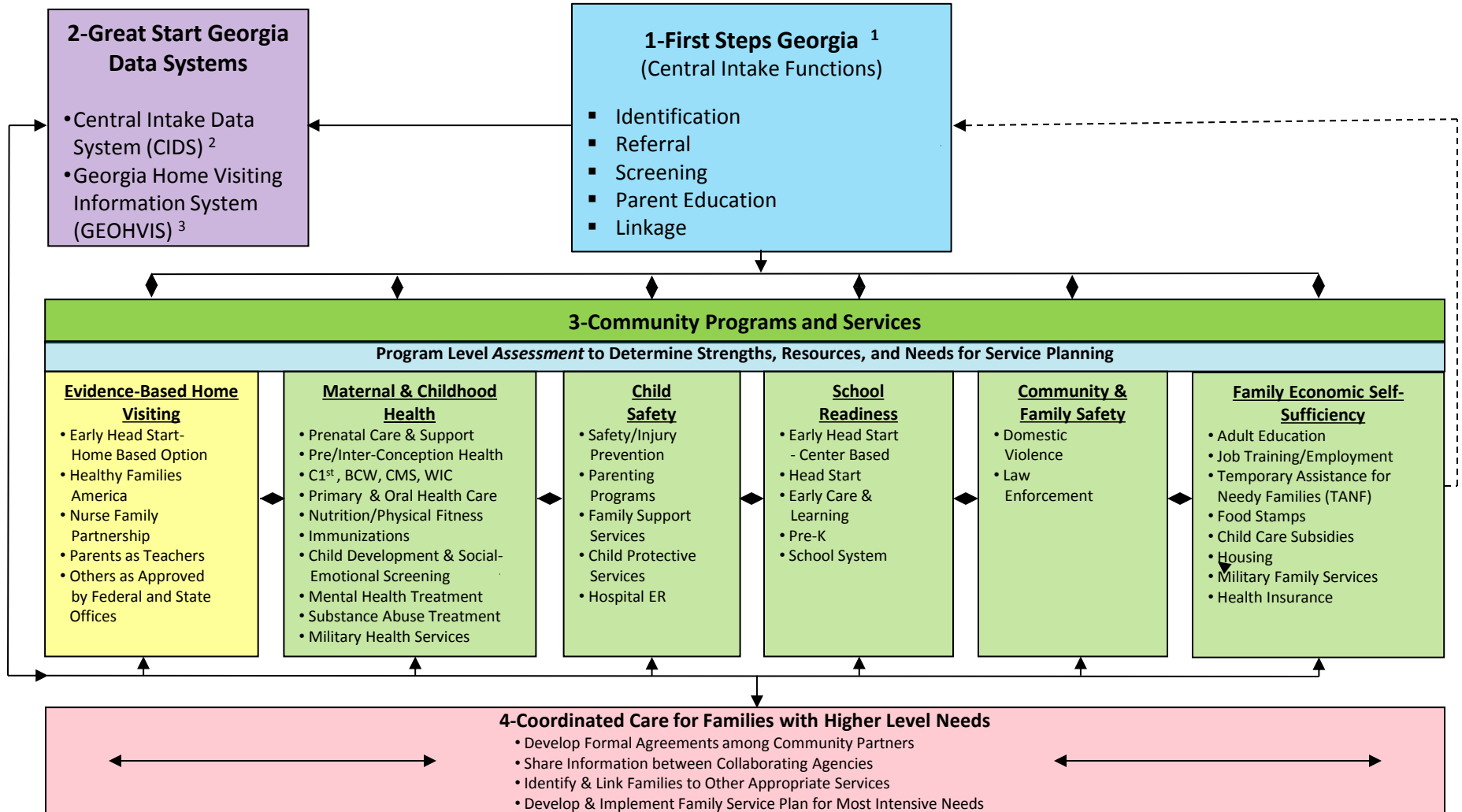
- ❑ A culture of caring, encouragement, and support for all families before and after the birth of a child
- ❑ A comprehensive, community-based maternal and early childhood system that requires collaboration among many partners
- ❑ All community child and family service providers meeting family needs
- ❑ Evidence-based home visiting (EBHV) as a major service strategy

Community Engagement

- ❑ Building on systems of care
- ❑ Expanding existing evidence-based home visiting programs
- ❑ Developing and strengthening partnerships
- ❑ Implementing Great Start Georgia framework



Great Start Georgia (GSG)



¹ Shared responsibility among GSG Community Partners, Local Public Health Staff, and GSG Information and Referral Center

² Coordinated by Georgia Department of Public Health Information and Referral Center

³ Coordinated by the Center for Family Research, University of Georgia

Integration of Intake Services

- Identification and Referral
- Screening
- Parent Education
- Linkage to Services
- Data Systems

Connecting TA and Training

- ❑ Professional Development Work Group
 - Annual Home Visiting Institute
 - Professional Development Plan
- ❑ Great Start Georgia (GSG) TA and Training Team
 - GSG Central Intake TA and training
 - EBHV model TA and training
- ❑ Regional/State Home Visiting Model Specialists
 - Model-specific TA and training
 - Partnering with GSG TA and Training Team



Governor's Office for
Children and Families

Marcia Wessels, MPH
Director of Technical Assistance and Training
Great Start Georgia
Center for Family Research
University of Georgia
marciaw@uga.edu
404-966-2766