



# Welcome!

## **End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network**

**General Meeting**

**Monday, November 28, 2022, 1:00 p.m.**

# Agenda



- **Welcome / Introductions**
- **Overview of EMI Georgia Network**
- **GOTV - Elections are still taking place**
- **Georgia General Assembly Post-November Election**
  - Rep. Henry Wayne Howard – deceased (House Committees: Juvenile Justice, Education)
  - Rep. David Ralston – deceased (Speaker of the House)
- **Legislative Platform Planning – Elevating Youth Justice**
  - CHINS – Child in Need of Services
  - Preschool to Prison Pipeline
  - SB 367 (2016) - Issue of children 13 and younger (11-year-olds) being placed in detention by juvenile courts -- hard to find residential placement
    - 473 (2) When a child who is 13 years of age or younger is taken into custody as provided in
    - 474 subsection (a) of this Code section for any delinquent act other than a serious delinquent
    - 475 act, there shall be a presumption that such child should not be detained.
  - Raise the Age
  - Juvenile Life without Parole
  - Voting rights
- **Roadmap to Advocacy**
  - Finding your legislators
  - Issues and Committees mapping
  - Identifying allies
- **Justice Reform Partnership**
  - Talk Justice Tuesday, elevating youth justice in Georgia
    - January 10th & 24<sup>th</sup>
    - February 7th & 21st
  - Justice Day 2023 in Georgia (Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> or March 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- **Announcements and Wrap Up**
  - Next meeting date – January 23, 2023



# MISSION | BELIEF | ACTION STATEMENTS

## MISSION

The End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network is an intentional association of faith communities, organizations and individuals formed to effect positive change in the areas of juvenile and criminal justice.

## BELIEF

All children and families are of infinite value and potential--giving and deserving care, justice and support. This belief ensures an understanding that all strengthen the mosaic of life.

## ACTION

In order to break the cycle of generational criminal and juvenile justice involvement, there must be an intentional, collective investment in schools, communities and appropriate supportive services for children and adults to ensure that all children and families can succeed.



# What does EMI Georgia Network do?

EDUCATE

COMMUNICATE

FACILITATE

ADVOCATE

PARTICIPATE

# Connect with us!



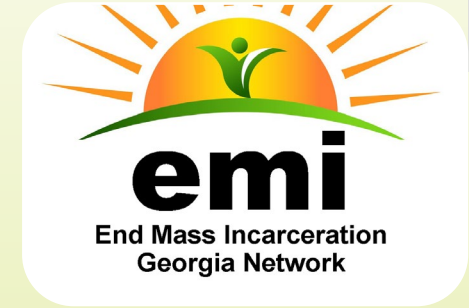
Join us on the fourth Monday at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom for our general meeting!



Drop us an email at [emiganetwork@gmail.com](mailto:emiganetwork@gmail.com) and become part of our Google Group!



Like us on Facebook!  
[facebook.com/emiganetwork](https://facebook.com/emiganetwork)



Visit our website for more information at [emiganetwork.org](https://emiganetwork.org)

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Next EMI Georgia Network Meeting – Nov. 28, 2022

# Georgia General Assembly Post-November Election

**Rep. Henry Wayne Howard  
(Augusta)**



**Rep. David Ralston  
Speaker of the House**



# Elevating Youth Justice



- **Preschool to Prison Pipeline**

In its most basic form, the preschool to prison pipeline is the use of exclusionary discipline practices (such as suspensions, expulsions, charges of being unruly, disrespectful, willful, etc.) that remove primarily children of color; children of low income or poverty; children who have a learning disability or difference; and emerging LGBTQIA2S+ out of the formal educational setting and into the alternative education, juvenile justice and/or criminal justice systems.

(<https://emiganetwork.org/breaking-the-preschool-to-prison-pipeline>)

- **CHINS – Child in Need of Services**

Passed in 2014 under Juvenile Code Reform

A child who is in need of guidance, counseling, structure, supervision, treatment or rehabilitation. CHINS applies to children who commit status offenses.

Examples of status offenses:

- ungovernable
- unruly
- truancy
- underage Possession of Alcohol
- runaway

When a child commits a status offense, the juvenile court can place the child under CHINS to serve as a diversion program and prevent children from having further involvement in the juvenile justice system.

# Elevating Youth Justice



- **SB 367 (2016) - Issue of children 13 and younger** being placed in detention by juvenile courts
  - 473 (2) When a child who is 13 years of age or younger is taken into custody as provided in
  - 474 subsection (a) of this Code section for any delinquent act other than a serious delinquent
  - 475 act, there shall be a presumption that such child should not be detained.
  
- **Raise the Age**
  - Raise the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to age 18, to include 17-year-old youth
  - Georgia is one of three states left in the nation that has not raised the age to include 17-year-olds.

Update on HB 272 as of 2022 legislative session: Senate Judiciary Committee submitted substitute to establish the implementation of a study committee.

Bill was not placed on Senate floor for a vote.



# Elevating Youth Justice



## ○ Juvenile Life without Parole

- Georgia Supreme Court decision (2020) - a trial judge (no need for a jury) can impose a life sentence without parole for a juvenile
  - <https://www.gasupreme.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/s20a0181.pdf>
  - <https://www.ajc.com/news/local/judges-can-sentence-juveniles-life-without-parole-court-says/dhzeCuQaT2LyVmc42pMchP/>
- US Supreme Court decision (2021) - a judge need not make a finding of "permanent incorrigibility" before sentencing a juvenile offender to life without parole
  - [https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/20pdf/18-1259\\_8njq.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/20pdf/18-1259_8njq.pdf)
  - <https://www.gpb.org/news/2021/04/23/supreme-court-rejects-restrictions-on-life-without-parole-for-juveniles>

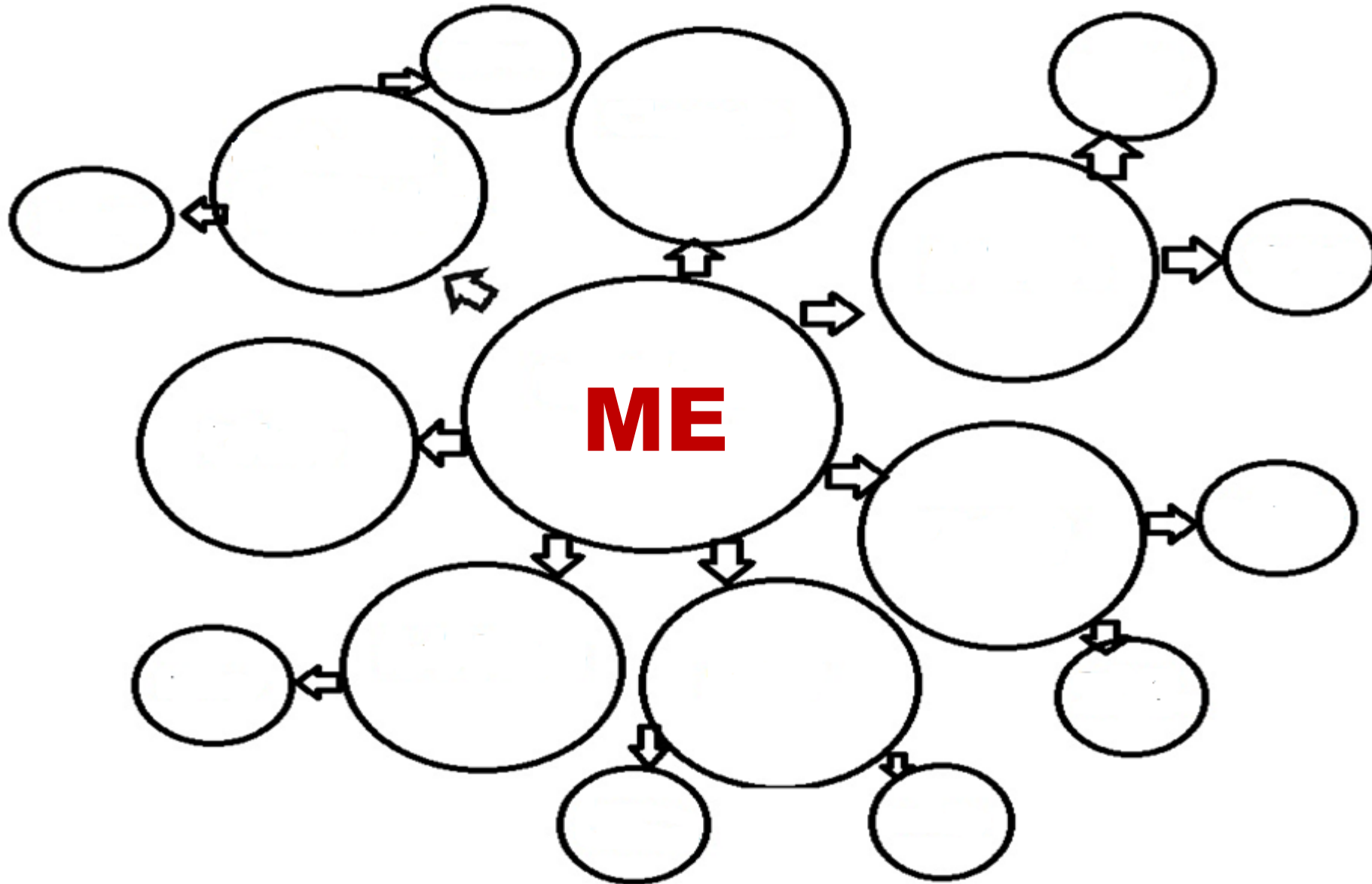
## ○ Voting rights

- Call upon county election officials to ensure that the youth of Georgia, who are under the supervision of a Department of Juvenile Justice facility and who are of eligible age, be afforded all opportunities to (1) register to vote and to (2) cast their ballots in all applicable elections held in the state of Georgia.
- Letters to county elections boards on behalf of our youth of voting age in DJJ facilities to inform our elections boards that the voices of our youth must be heard and to curb any disenfranchisement that might be taking place across our state.

# Roadmap to Advocacy

- **Finding your legislators**
  - My Voter Page – Georgia Secretary of State
    - <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>
- **Issues and Committees mapping (GA House and Senate)**
  - Georgia General Assembly: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/committees/all>
    - Education Committee
    - Juvenile Justice Committee
    - Judiciary Committee
    - Judiciary Non-Civil Committee
    - Public Safety Committee

# Roadmap to Advocacy for Our Children



# Announcements and Wrap-up

**Next EMI GA Network general meeting:**

Date: January 23, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

**Interested in helping us plan for 2023?** Drop us a note: [emiganetwork@gmail.com](mailto:emiganetwork@gmail.com)

## **The Road to Clean Slate: How Georgia can move toward Automatic Expungement**

**Thursday, December 8, 12 p.m.**

While Georgia has made progress in recent years to remove barriers to reentry by passing expungement reform, we still have a long way to go to provide true access to opportunity for most Georgians who have past involvement in the criminal legal system.

Georgia Justice Project attorneys and other local leaders will discuss the trend across the country toward Clean Slate automated record clearing as well as practical steps Georgia needs to take to get to that goal.

**Registration is required [here](#). Please share this with others and on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).**

## **2023 Multifaith Conference on Ending Mass Incarceration**

**January 11-13, 2023**

**Register at [www.multifaithemi.com](http://www.multifaithemi.com)**

The Multi-faith Initiative to End Mass Incarceration (EMI) is focused on catalyzing a faith-rooted response to this issue in a way that adds value to existing work and furthers coherence in faith-rooted efforts. Our vision is for multi-faith communities to exercise and amplify their calls and actions for eliminating mass incarceration in a dedicated, savvy, and impactful manner, at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA.

## **Georgia Budget and Policy Institute's Insights 2023 Conference**

**In-person Reception**

Wednesday, January 18, 4 PM – 6 PM

**Virtual Conference**

Thursday, January 19, 10 AM – 2 PM

**[RSVP FOR INSIGHTS](#)**

Registration for GBPI's 2023 Insights Policy Conference, *Equitable Budgeting Makes Perfect Sense*, is now open! Each year, Insights provides the most up-to-date analysis on just-released state budget proposals and takes a deeper look at the policies impacting everyday Georgians.