



EMI GEORGIA NETWORK

Breaking the Preschool to Prison Pipeline

Changing the Narrative Campaign

“Make It MINE”

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CHANGING THE NARRATIVE: BREAKING THE PRESCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE CAMPAIGN



Effect change in the narrative of misconceptions and misperceptions about the most affected populations of children caught and funneled through the preschool to prison pipeline and engender understanding in the broader community that criminalizing child behavior is contradictory to creating better outcomes

- Promote acknowledgment of systemic racism, poverty and trauma as primary contributors to the pipeline
- Engage in intentional actions that address systemic racism, poverty and trauma for better outcomes for all children and families
 - promote best practices
 - change the language



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- **As a community, we need to:**

- Insist that our local school boards and administrators replace discriminatory discipline with restorative justice practices and to prioritize the funding of student support services over law enforcement. Since we know that many of our children suffer from Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma, they and their families would be better served by school counselors, social workers, school nurses and child psychologists.
- Advocate for the governor and state legislature to fully fund the implementation of positive discipline practices (with fidelity), such as CHINS, PBIS, restorative justice and social-emotional learning programming in all public schools.
- Require that all school personnel are trained in trauma-informed practices; cultural competencies and appreciation; and implicit bias awareness.
- Engage teachers, parents, students, faith community leaders and other community leaders to actively participate in promoting school safety that depends less on law enforcement.
- Push for all of the above to be included as accountability measures in school and district improvement plans and the state's School Climate Rating.



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- **Get involved in the campaign challenge to "Make It MINE!" Mobilize, Inform, Network, Engage**
 - Host a "Changing the Narrative: Breaking the Preschool to Prison Pipeline" campaign roadshow event
 - Attend an EMI Georgia Network advocacy training
 - Share our **Advocacy Talking Points** with your organization, faith community, school community about how, as a community, we can break the preschool to prison pipeline
 - Participate in our legislative **Calls to Action** for policy change to break the preschool to prison pipeline
 - Post our "Changing the Narrative: Breaking the Preschool to Prison Pipeline" **social media materials** on your social media pages and platforms
 - Like and follow our **Facebook page** and share our social media postings
 - Check out **other ways** the network identified to **"MAKE IT MINE!"**



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OTHER WAYS TO "MAKE IT MINE"

Connect directly to most impacted populations (invite to the table)

- Black/African American persons
- Persons who are incarcerated
- Black and other students of color who are in the preschool to prison pipeline
- Parents of preschool level children

Create partnerships

- Volunteer organizations
- Schools/School district
- Faith communities
- Students
- Parents
- Law enforcement
- Educators
- Task force

Participate in legislative work

- Develop legislation
- Testify in committee hearings



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OTHER WAYS TO "MAKE IT MINE"

Be an information sharer

- Policy/Lawmakers
- Faith-based organizations
- Civic organizations
- Privileged populations
- Younger generation

Be an information gatherer

- Cultural awareness education
- Preschool to prison pipeline training

Accountability

- Develop an accountability and impact measurement tool that tracks the work being done and the impact on the issue



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- Volunteer or mentor at your local school. See what is going on--help students with addressing the underlying causes of their "misbehavior."
- Stop demonizing parents and help them. Connect with [Strengthening Families Georgia](#) for a training session or workshop for your organization/community.
- Get informed. Educate yourself on the preschool, school and cradle to prison pipeline. You can start with the toolkit on our [website](#) which has a list of resources.
- Engage with [EMI Georgia Network](#) and other local groups that are working directly on solving this problem and provide your time, energy, knowledge and resources.
- Storytelling:
 - Gather stories from parents whose children have been impacted by the school to prison pipeline and [share them with us](#).





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Stay in touch!

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<https://www.emiganetwork.org>

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