



Welcome!

End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network

General Meeting

Monday, September 25, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

Agenda



- **WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS**
- **OVERVIEW OF EMI GEORGIA NETWORK**
- **EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY**
 - Elevating Youth Justice – Focus on CHINS**
 - CHINS - Child in Need of Services Overview
 - **Guest Presenter:**
 - Guy Johnson, Senior Program Director, Federal and National Networks P-12 program
 - Group Discussion
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WRAP UP**
 - Next meeting date – October 23, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.



MISSION | BELIEF | ACTION STATEMENTS

MISSION

The End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network is an intentional association of individuals, organizations, grassroots and faith communities formed to effect positive change in the areas of youth 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 youth 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!



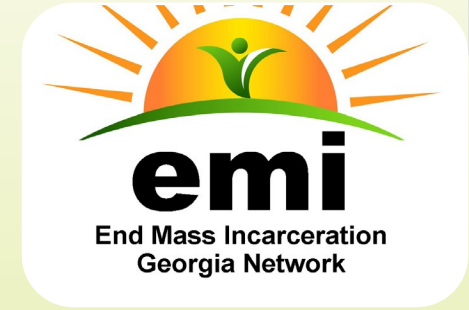
Join us on the fourth Monday at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom for our general meeting!



Drop us an email at emiganetwork@gmail.com and become part of our Google Group!



Like us on Facebook!
facebook.com/emiganetwork



Visit our website for more information at emiganetwork.org

Next EMI Georgia Network Meeting – October 23, 2023

Elevating Youth Justice - CHINS



"Changing the Narrative: Breaking the Preschool to Prison Pipeline"
Campaign:

Focus on CHINS (Child in Need of Services)

The legislative history and purpose statement tell us that the CHINS framework is intended to:

- **Move children** who commit status offenses **away from the delinquency model**
- **Reduce the use of secure detention *and* increase community-based services**, particularly for children who are designated as “low-risk offenders”
- **Understand the child’s behavior in the context of the family and respond through a multi-agency approach.**



Elevating Youth Justice - CHINS

- **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.

1. Provide appropriate out of court intervention services while continuing to reassess the needs of the youth and family to determine if services should be modified.
 - a. A youth can become involved in the program for a variety of reasons such as immature decision making, temporary crisis in the family, substance abuse, untreated mental health needs of the child/parent or even issues of abuse or neglect.
 - b. It is vital to initially assess the needs of the child and family to determine the cause of the youth's behavior so that appropriate services can be provided.
 - c. The CHINS program offers oversight and a variety of different services such as anger management classes, behavioral health evaluations, counseling referrals, parent/teen communication group, dare to dream program and many more.

Elevating Youth Justice - CHINS



Some of the challenges that have been noted for the full implementation of CHINS:

- **Lack of Oversight - No Designated State Agency**
- **Lack of Adequate Funding**
- **Lack of Uniformity in Implementation and Administration**
- **Some judges feel the need for a "compliance mechanism" or "consequences"**



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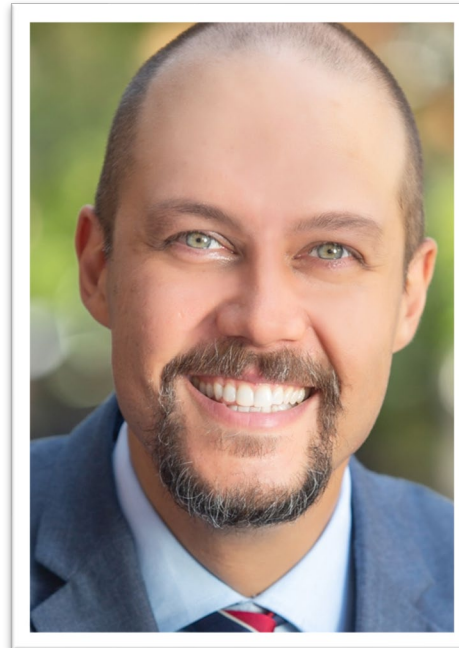
Cradle Justice: Breaking the Preschool to Prison Pipeline by Starting at the Beginning

Guest Presenter:



GUY JOHNSON

Senior Program Director,
Federal and National Networks
P-12 program



What's on your advocacy platform?



Shared Advocacy Shared Progress

Google doc response form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNC_rZ0-eDNKWiU5ldRweRM9VyBRxGBNonUqptgnTSvOgOAAQ/viewform

Google doc spreadsheet:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Gv--U07XyOpPZ0p1R8uteAyre79GqhRw4LnrE2yVG6Y/edit#gid=1790801195>

Announcements and Wrap-up



Interested in helping us plan for 2024? Drop us a note: emiganetwork@gmail.com

- **Next meeting date – October 23, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**
- **Cathy Harmon-Christian - Georgians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty: 14th Annual Mary Ruth Weir BBQ and Awards Celebration**
When: 10/7/2023, 2:00:00 PM
Where: Ebenezer Baptist Church
All are welcome to join the community of those who want to end the death penalty in Georgia. Sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/were-back-gfadp-welcomes-you-to-the-mary-ruth-weir-dinner-and-awards-2023-tickets-634924455137>
Ticket levels: \$1,000 per table; \$75/individual; “Pay what you can.”
We have an optional free National Park Ranger Tour of the Dr Martin Luther King, Jr, Historic Site from noon-1:30pm!
- Submit announcements by the 10th of the month to go out before the next general meeting. Send your announcements to [Google Form]. Like our EMI GA Network Facebook page so that you can tag us on your social media postings. [Drop link into chat: <https://forms.gle/i8eHwaz8XhVykW7X7>]