

# Advocating for Family and Child Well-Being

## **Host Instructions**

Thank you for hosting this conversation!

Here is an outline of what to expect and how to follow this host guide.

## **Overview**

- 1. Welcome guests when they arrive
- 2. Introduce the topic by reading the Summary
- 3. Read What to Expect
- 4. Read the Ground Rules
- 5. Introductions (5-10 mins)
- 6. Question 1 (10-20 mins)
- 7. Question 2 (10-20 mins)
- 8. Question 3 (10-20 mins)
- 9. Wrap up & next steps

### Total time needed:

1-1.5 hours

Timing varies based on the number of participants.

Break into small groups of 4-8 people if you have a large group.

# Have any questions?

In our online knowledge base you'll find:

- Host FAQs
- Facilitation tips
- Online hosting tips
- In-person hosting tips

See these and more at: about.inclusivv.co/host

### Welcome

Thank you for joining this conversation about how we can educate, advocate and inspire action on behalf of Georgia's children.

## **Summary**

We all know the saying, "It takes a village to raise a child." But how do we apply this wisdom to our children right here in Georgia? To truly support child well-being, we must look beyond the family unit, to address the societal factors that set families up for success. And we need to do it together — with the help of our friends, neighbors, coworkers, business leaders, and the faith community. Together, we are all invested in a promising future for Georgia.

This is a conversation on how we can come together as a village to help children thrive and build a better future for us all.

## What to Expect

Together we'll explore three big questions that take us on a journey of shared learning. No one is expected to be an expert, but everyone is invited to participate by sharing their experience and ideas. With each round of questions, we'll all have the opportunity to share. My role as host is to help ensure everyone's voice is heard and that we end on time. Before we begin, let's review and agree on the ground rules.

## **Ground Rules**

Our ground rules help create a brave space where we honor what is shared and learned in this conversation. By joining this conversation you agree to:

- Listen With Curiosity
- Engage With Empathy
- Appreciate Authenticity
- Respect Those With Lived Experience
- Enjoy Yourself!





# **Host Tips**

#### **Start With Introductions**

"Let's get started with the introduction question."

Read the question and copy and paste it into the chat (if hosting online).

Feel free to go first and kick things off!

# Moving to the Next Question

Once everyone who wants to has shared, transition to the next question:

"Now that we all know each other a little better, we'll move on to Question 1."

Read the question and copy and paste it into the chat starting from Question 1 through the bolded question.

Repeat this process until each question has been addressed.

## **Wrapping Up**

After everyone has shared on the final question (or if you are out of time) read the text under "What's Next" and add any other specifics you are aware of related to your group.

Ask to take a screenshot or a photo of the group to capture the moment and encourage people to share the impact of this conversation with friends, peers and colleagues.

## **Introductions** (1-2 minutes per person)

Share your name, where you live, and what inspires you to be an advocate for family and child well-being.

**Question 1:** (2–3 minutes per person)

Family well-being depends on access to jobs, quality child care, health and wellness resources, stable housing and financial opportunity. But not every community offers these things in equal measure. For example, Atlanta sits at #1 in the nation for income inequality<sup>1</sup> — a factor that can determine whether or not families have even the basics they need for their children.

When it comes to the well-being of children growing up in Georgia, what's one thing that breaks your heart, and what's one thing that gives you hope?

## **Question 2:** (3–4 minutes per person)

We know that in order to change minds, we have to change the stories. Public perception about child well-being is often influenced by beliefs such as:

- The Family Bubble: Thinking that parents alone are responsible for children's outcomes.
- Bad Apples Thinking: The idea that problems are caused by the actions of a few individuals.
- Fatalism: Thinking there's nothing we can do to improve the situation.<sup>2</sup>

Have you encountered any of these beliefs? What can we do to combat these myths and help change the conversation around child well-being in Georgia?

# Question 3: (3–4 minutes per person)

In the words of Nelson Mandela, "There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

What does it look like when a community shows up for its children? And what's one way you can commit to helping families and children thrive right here in Georgia?

## What's Next?

Thank you for sharing your stories, values and vision. Next, you will receive an email with next steps and an opportunity to share feedback. This conversation is just one of many in the Georgia Family and Child Well-Being Series. We encourage you to host or attend another topic and invite others as well.

<sup>1</sup> Donnelly, Grace. Economic Disparities in the Black Mecca. Atlanta Business Chronicle, 2020. bizjournals.com/atlanta/news/2020/06/26/a-walk-together-economic-disparities-black-mecca.html

<sup>2</sup> Sweetland, J. Reframing childhood adversity. FrameWorks Institute, 2021. frameworksinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/ReframingChildhoodAdversity2021.pdf