

# THE EVOLUTION OF GEORGIA THRIVE

**1995**

▶ The Court Improvement Project was established by the Supreme Court of Georgia to improve the handling of juvenile dependency cases and advance data-driven continuous improvement (later renamed Justice for Children).

**1998**

▶ Michelle Barclay, director of the Court Improvement Project, provided scholarships to juvenile court judges to attend the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) annual conference, leading to the introduction of the concept of infant mental health to juvenile courts.

**2002**

▶ Michelle Barclay, Judge Robin Nash, and Judge Peggy Walker visited Dade County, FL, to observe how Judge Lederman's Safe Start Court supported young mothers and infants.

**2003**

▶ Judge Peggy Walker, with support from the Supreme Court of Georgia, applied for and was accepted into the Zero to Three Fellowship (Class of 2005).

**2009**

▶ Georgia's first Infant-Toddler Court was established in Douglas County with support from Rep. David Scott, who secured dedicated federal budget funding.

**2014**

▶ Judge Walker, president of NCJFCJ, held national conferences about trauma informed courts practices across four regions, including the first conference at the Carter Center in Atlanta.

**2016**

▶ Douglas County Board of Commissioners secured local funding to support trauma-informed court practices.

**2018**

▶ Under the leadership of Commissioner Kelly Robinson, Douglas County awarded \$50,000 to train the first cohort of Child-Parent Psychotherapy providers to serve court-involved families.

**2022**

▶ Mindworks Georgia was awarded federal Infant-Toddler Court Program funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration to pilot three Georgia sites, named Georgia THRIVE.

**2024**

▶ The first Georgia THRIVE site was established in Athens, Ga.

**2025**

▶ Two additional Georgia THRIVE sites were selected and implemented in Gwinnett and Troup counties.

**NEXT**

▶ Expand Georgia THRIVE to all 159 counties!