2 MINUTE ADVOCACY ASK
Home Visiting

Be a voice for children!

The Ask: Ask members of the House Appropriations Health Subcommittee to include $2 Million in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget to fund Home Visiting pilots for new mothers and infants in 12 high needs counties.

The Why:

- This program will provide home visiting in at risk/underserved rural communities during pregnancy and early childhood to improve birth outcomes, reduce preterm deliveries, and decrease infant and maternal mortality/morbidity.

- Home visiting programs can:
  - Increase healthy pregnancies,
  - Improve parenting skills,
  - Improve child health and development,
  - Strengthen family connectedness to community support, and
  - Reduce child abuse and neglect.

- This pilot will provide a full spectrum of services to support families during this time, including:
  - Clinical Services for pregnant and postpartum women like blood pressure checks, temperature, weight, assessment of pregnancy warning signs, etc.
  - Support for mother/infant bonding, lactation support, postpartum depression screening and link to services, feeding assessment and weight checks for baby, assessment of safe sleep practices and education as indicated, age-appropriate infant development screening assessments, etc.
  - Link to resources and services as indicated including health care and care coordination with primary provider, Children 1st, WIC, SNAP/TANF, Medicaid, behavioral health services, infant items (car seats, clothing, etc.), dental services, domestic violence community resources, etc.

- This pilot will be conducted in the following counties: Coffee, Atkinson, Clinch, Jeff Davis, Evans, Candler, Toombs, Bulloch, Habersham, Stephens, Franklin, Hart, and Banks

- Learn more about Home Visiting with Voices Home Visiting Factsheet
- Learn more about the Home Visiting Pilot with the DPH Factsheet