



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 27, 2019

### Voices for Georgia's Children Launches Georgia Pre-K Week at the State Capitol

Atlanta, GA – Voices for Georgia's Children, along with Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Junior League of Atlanta, and Reach Out and Read Georgia hosted Georgia Pre-K Week Launch at the State Capitol this week.

For the past eight years, Georgia Pre-K Week has raised awareness about the importance of quality early childhood education. Community leaders and elected officials have commemorated the occasion by visiting Pre-K centers in their districts to see early learning in action and read a favorite children's book to the young learners. This year's official Pre-K Week book is the all-time favorite, Llama Llama Red Pajama. Key supporters of the program have included various state commissioners, elected officials, as well as former Governor Nathan Deal and First Lady Sandra Deal.

"The broad and diverse base of support from around our state is evidence that Georgia's leaders care about and understand the long-term impact of quality early learning on each child," said Dr. Erica Fener Sitkoff, Executive Director of Voices for Georgia's Children. "Research consistently shows that children entering kindergarten from quality early learning settings are more prepared and ready to learn, which our leaders see first-hand during Pre-K Week."

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

##### **Children enrolled in Georgia Pre-K:**

- **Showed significant growth across all learning domains, including math skills, language and literacy skills, and social-emotional skills;**
- **Are more prepared for Kindergarten compared to four-year-olds in other forms of care; and,**
- **Earn higher grades and retain more of what they learn.**



Georgia Pre-K Week is organized each year by Voices for Georgia's Children, a policy and advocacy non-profit organization, with the full support of Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL).

For more information about Georgia's Pre-K Program and the importance of early education, click on the following factsheets:

- [Georgia's Pre-K: Midpoint in Early Learning](#)
- [Quality Early Learning in Georgia](#)
- [School Readiness](#)

#### About Voices for Georgia's Children

Established in 2003, Voices for Georgia's Children ([www.georgiavoices.org](http://www.georgiavoices.org)) is a nonprofit child policy and advocacy organization that envisions a Georgia where all children will thrive because they are safe, healthy, educated, connected to family and community, and prepared to be productive and responsible citizens. Our mission is to promote equity, quality, and accessibility in systems created to serve children's needs. We are dedicated to advancing policies and implementation actions that ensure the best possible outcomes for children.

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