



GEORGIA PRISON MOTHERHOOD PROJECT

A research site of **Enhanced Perinatal Programs for People in Prison (E4P)**:
A multi-state project exploring pregnancy and postpartum support programs offered to incarcerated individuals

Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color are disproportionately represented in the criminal legal system. They are also at increased risk for adverse birth outcomes. E4P aims to reduce maternal health inequities in the criminal legal system by increasing our understanding of pregnant and postpartum people in prison and the programs that serve them.

The **Georgia Prison Motherhood Project** is a collaboration between Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing and the Georgia Department of Corrections. This collaboration provides nursing students the opportunity to participate in and provide prenatal education and postpartum support for incarcerated women. The Georgia Prison Motherhood Project provides services to individuals who are incarcerated at Helms Facility in Southeast Atlanta, GA. Following birth, postpartum clients are transferred to Lee Arrendale State Prison, a women's facility located in Alto, GA. **Contact:** brenda.baker@emory.edu

Georgia Prison Motherhood Project offers:

- Group programming

GROUP PROGRAMMING

- Prenatal class
- Seven weeks, rolling curriculum
- Up to 20 attendees per class
- Participants get points for attending classes, which can be used to reduce sentence time
- Taught by nurses

OTHER PROGRAMMING OFFERED

- Prenatal yoga taught by a yoga instructor
- A 10-week parenting education program is provided by the Lee Arrendale chaplain
 - Once completed, children spend one Saturday a month with their mother at Arrendale, a women's prison located 90 miles from Atlanta, where all clients are transferred after giving birth
- Monthly baby showers for women who are in the program, with lunch, games, and gifts

PROGRAM INFORMATION

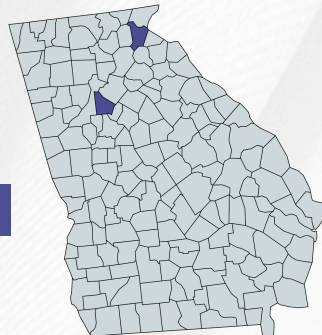
- The Georgia Prison Motherhood Project has three part-time volunteers
- Programming began in 2015
- Over 400 women have participated in classes since 2015

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Offer one-on-one prenatal, birthing, and postpartum programming

HELMS FACILITY

- A small medical facility that houses all pregnant individuals
- Located in DeKalb County (shaded on map)
- Opened 1990
- Security Level: Special Mission
- Capacity: 64



Learn more about the Georgia Prison Motherhood Project at:
https://www.emoryhealthdigest.emory.edu/issues/2019/autumn/features/pregnancy_behind_bars/index.html



EMORY

NELL HODGSON
WOODRUFF
SCHOOL OF
NURSING

ARRENDALE STATE PRISON

- GA has four women's state prisons. Arrendale is one of the largest. Clients are relocated to Arrendale after giving birth.
- Located in Habersham County (shaded on map)
- Opened: 1951
- Security Level: Special Mission
- Capacity: 1824