

# CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

## GEORGIA



## Improving Health Together through direct funding and national efforts

It is important to ensure babies are born healthy, children reach their full potential, and everyone thrives in Georgia. CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) is committed to supporting Georgia in its efforts to achieve this vision and here is how.



### SAVING BABIES

through birth defects prevention and research

Birth defects impact nearly 1 in 33 babies born each year. NCBDDD's state-based birth defects tracking and research identify causes of birth defects, opportunities to prevent them, and form the foundation for helping babies thrive. NCBDDD research was instrumental in efforts to implement folic acid fortification—saving babies as well as millions in healthcare costs each year.

NCBDDD coordinates the Georgia Center for Birth Defects Research and Prevention, which studies environmental, genetic, and behavioral factors that might cause birth defects. In addition, NCBDDD leads efforts to respond to the opioid epidemic's impact on babies—both potential birth defects and longer term developmental challenges.

### FAST FACTS:

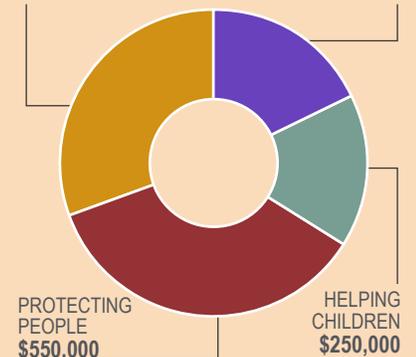
NCBDDD direct funding  
in Georgia for  
fiscal year 2017

# \$1.5 million

### Funding Investment

IMPROVING  
HEALTH  
\$475,000

SAVING  
BABIES  
\$280,000





## HELPING CHILDREN

live to the fullest by understanding developmental disabilities

NCBDDD is committed to tracking, researching, and providing useful tools and information on developmental disabilities. NCBDDD's **Learn the Signs. Act Early.** program collaborates with partners throughout Georgia to promote developmental monitoring, identify children with developmental delays, and connect those families with appropriate services.

In Georgia, 1 in 64 children were identified as having autism spectrum disorder. Researchers at NCBDDD collaborate with Georgia state agencies to better understand the factors that increase the risk for autism through the **Study to Explore Early Development.**

NCBDDD's **Early Hearing Detection and Intervention** program in Georgia successfully tested 98.1% (126,417) of newborn babies for hearing loss and identified 199 babies who were deaf or hard of hearing. These babies and their families will benefit from services that will keep their learning on par with their hearing peers.



## PROTECTING PEOPLE

and preventing complications of blood disorders

NCBDDD works with the Georgia State University Research Foundation to learn more about blood transfusion-associated complications in people with thalassemia and sickle cell disease. Through this research, NCBDDD hopes to identify ways to decrease health problems from blood transfusions and improve overall health for patients with these conditions.

NCBDDD also supports five hemophilia treatment centers in Georgia through a national program. Hemophilia treatment centers are specialized healthcare centers that provide comprehensive care for patients with hemophilia.



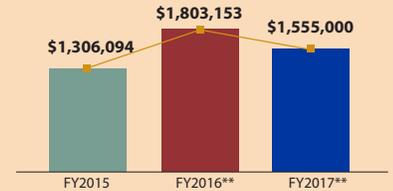
## IMPROVING HEALTH

of people with disabilities

More than 1 in 5 (22%) of American adults live with a disability. NCBDDD helps to ensure that individuals with a disability in Georgia have the same opportunity for good health as those without a disability.

NCBDDD funds Emory University to develop population-based estimates of congenital heart disease and expand our understanding of the healthcare needs and long-term outcomes of adolescents and adults with congenital heart disease. The goal is to improve the health of people with congenital heart disease and avoid preventable deaths.

## Annual Program Funding\*



### NCBDDD is directly funding

- Georgia Department of Public Health (\$530,000)
- Emory University (\$475,000)
- Georgia State University Research Foundation (\$550,000)

\* More information about NCBDDD and our support in Georgia is available at [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/aboutus/report/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/aboutus/report/index.html)

\*\* Zika supplement

**“We have accomplished a lot together, but there is more work to be done.”**

Coleen A. Boyle,  
PhD, MSHyg

