



## Foreverfamily Atlanta in the Pittsburgh Community

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Since our earliest days in 1987, our organization has always been about one thing—families. We have always and will always be dedicated to helping families stay together and stay strong, even through the most desperate of situations.

Originally, we called ourselves AIM, or Aid to Imprisoned Mothers. But when our mothers told us the best way we could help them is by helping their children, we expanded the focus of our programs, and we evolved our name to mean Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers.

While Foreverfamily has helped children for over twenty years, what's different in our Pittsburgh project is that we're bringing our services right into the heart of the neighborhood. We moved our program site to Heritage Station and set up a family advocate across the street in PCIA's offices. By becoming part of the neighborhood, we can offer even more comprehensive prevention-oriented, family-centered services:

- An onsite family advocate who can help families navigate bureaucracy and access much-needed human services and resources.
- A 24-hour, 7-day-a-week bilingual hotline for referrals and emergency needs, ranging from family counseling to quality daycare to post-incarceration re-entry job training.
- Informational materials that educate the community on the special challenges of children of incarcerated parents.
- Respite care for parents and caregivers.

In addition, our youth-oriented programs at Heritage Station focus on helping children develop their academic, interpersonal and leadership skills as well as enriching their experience with cultural and recreational activities. Moreover, we empower them by educating them on the effects of child abuse and neglect, as well as their rights as children and the resources available to them. The sum impact of Foreverfamily's work is the inspiration we give children to become successful adults, the added strength Foreverfamily gives to their caregivers to raise them with love, and the hope Foreverfamily gives to their parents for a better life for themselves and their children.

### About the Pittsburgh Community of Atlanta

One Atlanta's most historic black neighborhoods, Pittsburgh was founded in 1883 by African Americans who worked in the railroad industry. Southern segregation around the turn of the 20th century gave birth to this thriving community that bred black-owned businesses, homes, churches and schools. By the 1960s, highway construction, redlining and other economic forces led to the general decline of Pittsburgh and other nearby African-American communities. Today in Pittsburgh, as well as other economically-depressed areas of Atlanta, one out of four young people engages in at-risk behaviors, including drug dealing, theft, gun sales and gang activities. With our efforts in Pittsburgh, Foreverfamily is working to help our families overcome these challenges to revitalize and restore the community.

### About Our Partnership

Foreverfamily is the only organization in Georgia, and one of the first of its kind in the nation, that is dedicated to serving the children of incarcerated parents. Our effective intergenerational approach has received national, state, and city-wide acclaim. PCIA collaborates with us to further realize their three-fold mission of community safety, community building, and economic development in the Pittsburgh neighborhood. United Way 211 works to connect callers to information about critical health and human services available in their community. Together, we support our children as they, their parents and caregivers work to surround each other with the love of family.