



# REGIONAL COALITION SUMMARY REPORTS

WINTER 2024

Resilient Georgia is a statewide coalition of public-private partners building a more resilient, trauma-informed Georgia.

- Preventing ACEs
- Healing Adversity
- Promoting Resilience



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# ABOUT

***Aligning efforts and resources across Georgia that promote resiliency and healing.***

Resilient Georgia is a statewide coalition of more than 900 partners and stakeholders committed to building a stronger, more resilient Georgia.

Through a network of public and private partners, Resilient Georgia is creating a pipeline of trauma-informed behavioral health services and resources that support child and family wellness. This integrated system includes prevention, early intervention, research, advocacy and policy, and System of Care implementation and coordination.

**Building a  
Collaborative Georgia.**

**Building a  
Trauma-Informed Georgia.**

**Building a  
Resilient Georgia.**

## Links

[Resilient Georgia website](#)  
[Resilient Georgia Facebook](#)

[Resilient Georgia Instagram](#)  
[Resilient Georgia LinkedIn](#)

## Contact

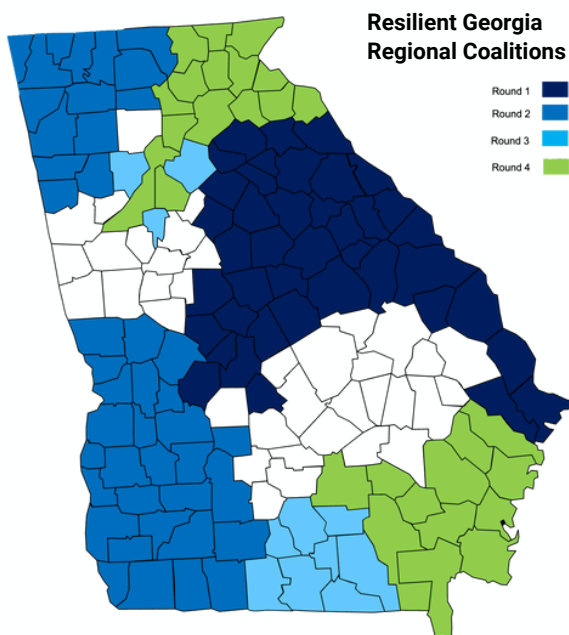
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# GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our mission at Resilient Georgia is to lead a **state-wide coalition** to develop a trauma-informed public and private network working toward a united vision to create a birth through 26-year-old **integrated behavioral health system**. This includes the use of essential tools such as education/teaching/ training, workforce development, policy strengthening, practice research, and evaluation using the collective impact framework.

Resilient Georgia has been working with 16 regions across Georgia to provide an emphasis on trauma-informed awareness and care, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and child sexual abuse prevention training as a basis to transform systems and procedures crossing both public and private sectors.



Trauma-informed care, ACEs and child sexual abuse prevention can be the basis for systemic changes in a community. Each region has identified how one or more of these content areas are delivered to diverse community members through formal training, education, marketing and communications.

- **Round 1:** Awarded in November 2019, to regional coalitions based out of Athens, Augusta, Macon, Savannah, and surrounding areas.
- **Round 2:** Awarded in July 2020, to regional coalitions based out of Albany, Columbus, Rome, Thomasville, and surrounding areas.
- **Round 3:** Awarded in March 2021, to regional coalitions based out of Clayton, Cobb, Gwinnett, Valdosta, and surrounding areas.
- **Round 4:** Awarded December 2021, to regional coalitions based out of Atlanta, Brunswick, Gainesville, Waycross, and surrounding areas.

In their third and fourth years of partnership with Resilient Georgia, coalitions have bolstered their work to create bold, systemic, sustainable change in consistent ways across statewide issues, to affect policy, systems and environmental (PSE) change and incorporated a Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) lens in their action plans. In their fifth year of partnership, coalitions continue to deepen their efforts to effectively engage partners across all regional counties, ensuring comprehensive representation and participation, particularly in under-resourced and historically underserved areas.



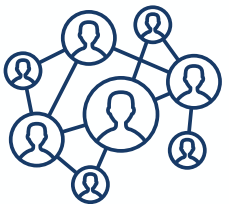
The Resilient Georgia Regional Team tirelessly supports all 16 Regional Coalitions through convening and connecting, celebrating their innovations, and working to remove barriers:

To increase alignment, share replicable successes, and problem solve challenges, the team facilitates a robust peer learning collaborative across all 16 coalitions. The team works to foster a kind, intentional and supportive peer learning collaborative community that is rooted in deep listening, empathy, and mindfulness to bolster learning, growth, and innovation.



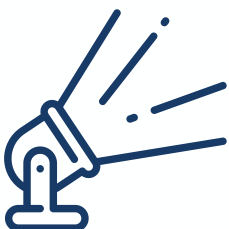
- The team leads over 60 peer collaborative technical assistance touchpoints/opportunities annually across monthly calls, lunch and learns, strategic planning days, and workgroups. The team has recently launched monthly curbside consulting office hours as an optional space for coalitions to receive one-on-one support and provides technical assistance in the new peer-to-peer networking calls that are led by coalition leaders.
- Coalition leaders lean on and learn from each other as they share the challenges that they are facing as well as what has worked in their communities. Coalitions benefit from best practices, lessons learned, strategies and collective insights gleaned from Resilient Georgia's regional peer learning collaborative that can be adapted to their specific contexts and tailored to their community's needs.

To support catalytic change in Regional Coalition communities, the Regional Team connects coalitions to relevant funding, partner, policy building, and professional development opportunities.



- The Monday Memo is a curated list of resources, updates, and funding application announcements that goes out to 250+ inboxes every week. The Monday Memo and the Regional Coalition network effectively brings vital information to partners in 120 counties and in urban, suburban, and rural areas, allowing information to reach communities that might have not otherwise accessed it.
- Through one-on-one introductions, lunch and learns, the Speakers Bureau and much more, Resilient Georgia and the Regional Team lifts up the nuanced expertise needed to facilitate deep systems change in communities and makes this expertise accessible to all Regional Coalitions.

To celebrate the incredible work, achievements, and innovations of Regional Coalitions, Resilient Georgia and the Regional Team strives to spotlight their successes amongst peers AND with key funding, legislative, and policy decision makers and statewide partners.

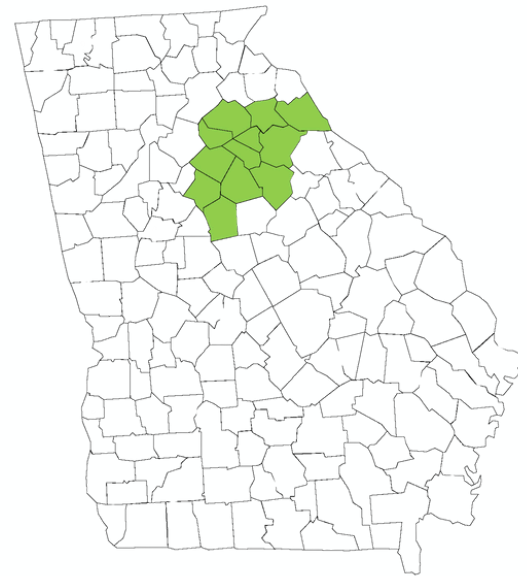


- Just as regional coalitions learn from each other, partners and decision makers have the opportunity to learn from coalitions and their experiences in diverse communities to inform the development of effective statewide solutions.
- Communication channels and activities that help call attention to coalition work include Resilient Georgia General Meeting Regional Showcases, testimony to the Resilient Georgia Board and the Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission (BHRIC), and Resilient Georgia newsletter and social media channels.
- This Regional Coalition Summary Report serves as a celebration and an update of how coalitions are working towards bold, systemic, sustainable change across statewide issues – creating a more collaborative and resilient Georgia.

# RESILIENT NORTHEAST GEORGIA

Resilient Northeast Georgia is a strategic, sustainable, and specialized collaboration that exists as a partnership between the Athens Area Community Foundation, Georgia Family Connection Partnership Region Five, and the Athens Wellbeing Project. RNEGA is building cross-sector partnerships within each county in the coalition's region of service, working to create a collaborative, interdependent, and innovative network of partners that unites existing and emerging regional resources and initiatives under a common direction.

As a coalition, they are dedicated to building a stronger, healthier community by advocating for a trauma-informed behavioral health continuum of care. They believe that addressing trauma is essential for the wellbeing of their region and are committed to raising awareness, fostering collaboration, and driving change to ensure that every individual in northeast Georgia has access to the care and support they need. Through authentic collaboration, they believe that creating a trauma-informed community is not just a priority, but a tangible reality.



## Mission and Broad Goals

- Cultivate a better awareness of trauma, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and the role of resilience across northeast Georgia to create a common language and easy ways for communities and individuals to engage with the coalition.
- Grow and sustain partnerships to ensure clear and connected paths to addressing community needs through trusted local leaders.
- Expand partnerships in new sectors, using the Resilient Georgia training roadmap as a blueprint for providing access to trainings and resources to meet the needs of the region.

## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton

## Links

[Resilient Northeast Georgia](#)  
[Athens Area Community Foundation](#)  
[Athens Wellbeing Project](#)



| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy   | Trainings   | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Annual Regional Summits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2023: Brought together 245 attendees from 12 counties for a day focused on teen resiliency and trauma-informed collaboration.</li> <li>• 2024: Rise &amp; Lead Summit brought together 75 attendees to learn about building and sustaining trauma-informed communities through resiliency-infused leadership practices.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resiliency Corner Toolkit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toolkits can be implemented in the home, office, or school that help support self-regulation and stress reduction in a way that is non-distracting, easy to access, and physically safe.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Workplace Wellness Training Pilot:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership with Better Communities Collaborative to provide connection to 2 employee training sessions focused on mental health and stress management for 30 staff</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Georgia Family Connection Partnership (GAFCP)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in GAFCP's State Policy and Advocacy Committee (SPAC) meetings with Family Connection to advocate for increased state funding.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Economic Impact of ACEs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AACF created this advocacy tool highlighting the financial impact of addressing ACEs through trauma-informed policies and initiatives</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Resiliency Model (CRM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained 800+ participants.</li> <li>• Delivered a CRM workshop session to Piedmont Athens Regional graduate medical education students in partnership with CISP as an initial pilot to explore partnership with Piedmont residency program, incoming UGA medical school, and other medical education programs locally.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained 114 parents, caregivers, teachers, and other adults who regularly interact with young people</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connections Matter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided training on ACEs, brain development, and resiliency-building skills to 45 parents and community members.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>True Grit: Resilience in Food Banking</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia at their annual member conference to teach 200 participants about self-care and client skills they can apply to their work in food banking.</li> <li>• The conference included representatives of 211 distribution agencies, garnering a presence that spanned all 14 counties served.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trauma-Informed Lens Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with Georgia Family Connection Partnership Region 5 to integrate a trauma-informed approach into the annual operating plans</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resource Development and Delivery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acted as a conduit for resources to be delivered through each county's Family Connection collaborative.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Trauma-Informed Mentor Program Under the DECAL Community Transformation Grant:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership with Athens Wellbeing Project, Athens Area Community Foundation, and Clarke County Mentor Program to train UGA Psych student mentors in CRM and pair with elementary students with social-emotional concerns.</li> <li>• Funds 2 school social workers and 2 trauma specialists to be CRM facilitators.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Partner Listening Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted annual in-person listening sessions with key stakeholders to better understand community needs, the state of the partnership, and opportunities for growth.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mind and Muscle Merge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program aims to enhance the mental and physical well-being of students in Walton County.</li> <li>• The session emphasized resilience and the benefits of screen-free activities to improve well-being. Reached 200 Walton County K-12 students.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>In Memory and Support: MH Funding for UGA Wellbeing</b> <p>In total, \$100,000 was committed in support of UGA wellbeing through <a href="#">Athens Area Community Foundation</a> mobilizing quickly to help get much needed mental health services to the UGA and Athens community. The funds include support for UGA's Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) Program via the RNEGA Fund as well as support for the Sunshine Fund at UGA via the <a href="#">Spencer Bradley Foundation</a> for Mental Health.</p> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners

- Athens Area Community Foundation
- Athens Wellbeing Project
- Barrow County Family Connection
- Center for Interrelational Science and Pediatrics
- Clarke County Mentor Program
- Clarke County Schools
- Community Partnership of Elbert County
- Family Connection- Communities in Schools of Athens
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership
- Greene County Family Connection Commission
- Hope Givers
- Jackson County Family Connection Council
- Jackson County Mental Health Taskforce
- Jasper County Family Connection
- Madison Area Resource Team
- Morgan County Family Connection
- Oconee Area Resource Council
- Oglethorpe County Family Connection
- Piedmont Athens Regional Hospital Foundation
- Piedmont Athens Regional Hospital Graduate Medical Education Department
- The Partnership for Families, Children, and Youth (Walton County Family Connection)
- Spencer Bradley Foundation
- University of Georgia Extension Office
- University of Georgia College of Public Health
- University of Georgia School of Psychology
- Walton Youth Project

# RESILIENT COMMUNITIES OF EAST GEORGIA

The Resilient Communities of East Georgia (RCEGA) coalition focuses its efforts on educating the community on the impacts of trauma and strengthening support for programs and services serving teens in the east central region of Georgia, which includes rural, urban, and suburban areas of the 14-county catchment area. The coalition includes 14 Family Connection County collaboratives, Wellstar MCG Health, Augusta University, Child Enrichment and the Prevent Child Abuse Council of Greater Augusta. The East Georgia coalition created and successfully implemented a Resilient Teen program to address ACEs during the pandemic. Since then two virtual cohorts are taught annually, bringing the total served to 507 teens. This program also engaged 201 medical students to deliver the curriculum and guide the teens in the program, impacting the way future physicians will treat their patients. Each of these future doctors will bring a trauma-informed lens to the estimated 10,000 patients they will serve over their career.

RCEGA implemented a Resilient Teen summer program in partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice and hosted their first annual Resilient Teens Summit this year.

Their coalition continues to build strong partnerships throughout the region, collect data for future endeavors, and embolden their online presence with their website and social media channels. New for 2024, they added monthly blog resources to both their Resilient Communities of East Georgia and Resilient Teens website as well as a merchandise store for program participants, collaborative partners, and the community at large to support RCEGA.



## Mission and Broad Goals

**Mission:** Resilient Communities of East Georgia is to create a network of leaders trained on building resiliency in their regions to improve mental health and ACES awareness and resources. This network will empower people to improve the health and well-being across both public and private sectors and transform the East Central region of Georgia.

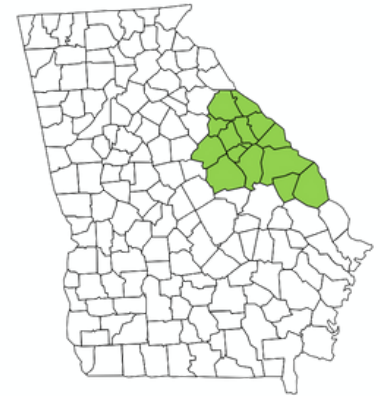
**Vision:** The vision of Resilient Communities of East Georgia is to give all people a voice in creating a resilient community across East Georgia so that every individual has the support and services they need to thrive and be successful.

### Values:

- **Compassion:** They will show care and concern for each person's challenges and help to alleviate those burdens.
- **Integrity:** They will be honest and hold steadfast in morals striving to do the right thing in a reliable way.
- **Diversity:** They will represent and respect everyone's uniqueness varying from racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds and various lifestyles, experience, and interests.
- **Empathy:** They will be aware of the feelings and emotions of all people showing kindness and a sincere interest in others.
- **Support:** They will provide comfort and support through resources, prevention, and advocacy to all people.
- **Respect:** They will listen and appreciate differences and admire each person's abilities, qualities, or achievements.

They are committed to respecting individuals' uniqueness varying from racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds and various lifestyles, experiences, and interests. To do so, the coalition is:

- Creating a network of leaders trained on building resiliency in their 14-county region. This will improve mental health and ACEs awareness and resources, helping to transform the East Central region of Georgia
- Including trauma awareness in their annual strategic plan and hosting annual summits
- Building a board of directors that represents their mission, vision, and values and allows them to impact Policy, Environment and Systems changes (PES)
- Advancing the workforce through recruitment, education, and development



## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington, Wilkes

## Links

[Resilient Communities of East Georgia website](#)  
[Resilient Teens website](#)  
[@resilient.teens Instagram](#)  
[Resilient Teens Facebook](#)



| Prevention/<br>Intervention  | Advocacy   | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Resilient Teens (RT)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 cohorts of an 8-week program that 500+ teens from 14 counties and over 200 medical students have participated</li> <li>• Established RT where over 80 teens and parents came together for a day of learning and activities</li> <li>• RT Ambassadors pinned at RT Summit, highlighting their commitment to serve</li> <li>• Partnered with a Juvenile Court Judge and DJJ to bring Resilient Teens to court involved youth</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Expanding programmatic development to cover all childhood and adolescent age groups (0-26)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnering with AU Occupational Therapists to support the CLIMBE program – sensory integration classroom, K – 3rd grade</li> <li>• Expanding RT program to middle school students through Hope Givers</li> <li>• Hope Givers LIVE scheduled in two middle schools –Richmond County and Burke County, both underserved &amp; under resourced</li> <li>• Working to establish Resilient Teens Clubs within the schools we serve. Partnering with Free Your Feels thematic toolkits for monthly club discussions. Hornsby Middle School in Richmond County to pilot</li> <li>• Exploring connections with athletic trainers (sports medicine program) to serve as sponsors/adult allies of Resilient Teens Clubs in schools</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Public Awareness Campaigns</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raised profile through expansion of communication efforts through printed collateral social media, website, and community presentations.</li> <li>• Guest interview on WRDW The Morning Mix news program highlighting the RT Program and Summit</li> <li>• New marketing push with Hope Givers Live programs scheduled for January 2025</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Legislative Luncheon</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The coalition organized a legislative luncheon for all legislators from the 14 counties in the region.</li> <li>• Jon Burns, Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives delivered the keynote address. His speech emphasized healthcare, mental health, and the wellbeing of children and families. He encouraged attendees to keep their legislators informed on the conditions and issues facing their counties.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Annual Child Abuse Prevention Conference in Augusta</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Led by Child Enrichment</li> <li>• 120 attendees</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Training Collaboration with Child Enrichment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 420+ community members, collaborative partners, educators, medical students and other professionals have received Mandated Reporter, Darkness to Light, Safe Sanctuaries and/or Connections Matter training</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Children's Hospital of Georgia PACEs Orientation Training:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained 62 pediatric residents and primary care pediatricians</li> <li>• Since implementing this training, patient experience scores in the general pediatrics division have risen from an average of 3.9 out of 5 to 4.6 out of 5 stars between December 2023 and March 31st, 2024</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Diversify RT Coordinators and Facilitators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding process to incorporate college students from varied disciplines as facilitators as number of teens increases</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>JEDI Integration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporated JEDI principles into all coalition building activities, decision-making processes, partnerships, and service delivery</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resilient Teens Long-Term Impact on Healthcare</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the inception of this program, the coalition has aimed to influence the future of medical students incorporating trauma-informed care into their practices</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Harrisburg Family Medicine and Child Enrichment, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. April Hartman is serving on both Board of Directors</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Resilient Teens Survey's</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The coalition collects pre- and post-program surveys from teens and facilitators to assess the effectiveness of the program.</li> <li>• 92% of teen participants agreed that they feel better prepared to manage issues after participating in the program.</li> <li>• 91% of teens report a better understanding of mental health care.</li> <li>• 72% of teens now talk to a trusted adult when feeling anxious or upset.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resilient Teens Curriculum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established partnership with Hope Givers to roll out HG curriculum January 2025</li> <li>• Standardized curriculum to ensure fidelity with expansion and includes Facilitator and Participant Guide</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Georgia Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission Involvement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. April Hartman is serving on the Medicaid and Determinants of Health Workgroup for Georgia's BHRIC.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>The HUB for Community Innovation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with HUB leadership for inclusion as one of the non-profits housed within their center as part of an expansion that is planned</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners

- 100 Black Men of Augusta
- Augusta Locally Grown
- Augusta Partnership for Children
- Augusta Technical College
- Augusta University: Medical College of Georgia, Department of Social Sciences
- Boys and Girls Club of CSRA
- Burke County School-Based Health Clinic
- Child Enrichment – Child Abuse Prevention Council
- Columbia County Community Connections
- Columbia County Fire and Rescue
- Columbia County Juvenile Court
- Communities in Schools of Burke County – Family Connection
- CSRA Community Foundation
- Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
- Department of Public Health
- Family Connection
- Family Y (YMCA of Greater Augusta)
- Georgia Power
- Glascock County Fire and Rescue
- Glascock Communities in Schools and Family Connection
- Hancock County School-Based Health Clinic
- Hancock Communities in Schools and Family Connection
- Intellisystems
- Jefferson County Family Connection
- Jefferson SHIPS for Youth
- Jenkins County Enrichment Center
- Jefferson County Fire and rescue
- Lincoln County Community Partnership
- M3 Agency
- McDuffie County Partners for Success
- Medical College of Georgia Foundation
- Queensborough National Bank
- Regional Education Services Agency (RESA)
- Resourced Augusta
- Richmond County Family Connection
- Richmond-Burke Department of Juvenile Justice
- Safe Homes
- Screven County Community Collaborative
- Taliaferro Family Connection
- The Community Foundation of CSRA
- The Jesse Parker Williams Foundation
- The Pittuloch Foundation
- Toombs Judicial Circuit
- Warren County Family Connection
- Washington County Chamber of Commerce
- Washington County Family Connection
- Wellstar MCG Health
- Wilkes County Community Partnership

# RESILIENT COASTAL GEORGIA

The Resilient Coastal Georgia coalition concentrates its efforts in a three-county region including urban and rural areas. The coalition focuses its evidence-based endeavors on targeted populations, including elementary-high school students and teachers/counselors in public school settings, behavioral health professionals, residents in recovery, and those seeking mental health counseling. Primary partners include Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council, Coastal GA Indicators Coalition (Chatham Family Connection Collaborative), Gateway Behavioral Service Board, and Loop it Up Savannah. Resilient Coastal Georgia (Savannah) coalition developed workgroups to implement the Collective Impact Framework in- and out-of-school networks to develop trauma-informed models and capacity building across judicial systems. The coalition consists of over 200 community partners from diverse fields within the surrounding counties and has trained over 6,800 individuals since 2019.



## Mission and Broad Goals

The Resilient Coastal Georgia coalition aims to improve community well-being and increase the mental well-being of children and young people through:

- Engaging and leading the community to work collectively
- Developing a strategic school-based collaborative model of a trauma-responsive team as well as a trauma-informed and sensitive out-of-school network
- Assisting the region in systems change and capacity building to support resiliency in children and families experiencing trauma
- Developing a robust and consistent model of response across behavioral health providers

## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Bryan, Chatham, Effingham

## Links

[Resilient Coastal Georgia](#)

[Chatham Safety Net](#)

[Safety Net Youtube](#)

[Safety and Resilience Facebook](#)

## Coalition Partners

- 912 Liberation Crew
- Acts 120 Group
- Amerigroup
- Building Bridges Academy
- Bulloch County Commission on Human Services, Inc.
- Charles Ellis Montessori Academy
- Chatham County EMS
- Chatham County Juvenile Court
- Chatham County Parks and Rec
- Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council
- Chatham EMS
- City of Savannah
- Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition
- Coastal Health District
- Deep Center
- Edna Lewis Foundation
- Family Connection Partnerships
- Family Promise
- First Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church
- Formey Early Learning Center
- Gaslight Group
- Gateway CSB
- Georgia Southern University
- Greenbriar Children's Center
- Healthy Savannah
- Keller Williams Realty
- Live Oak Public Libraries
- Loop It Up Savannah, Inc.
- Mediation Center of Savannah
- Mercer University School of Medicine
- Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, City of Savannah
- Next Step Evaluation
- Otis J. Brock
- Overcoming by Faith Ministries
- Parent University
- Park Place Outreach
- Recreation and Leisure Services, City of Savannah
- Savannah Black Chamber of Commerce
- Savannah Chatham County Public School System (SCCPSS)
- Savannah Police Department
- Savannah State University
- Savannah State University
- Savannah/Chatham CASA
- St Joseph's Candler
- The Front Porch
- The Tiny Beet
- Upward Bound, Savannah State University
- Urban Hope
- Ware Children's Initiative
- WTOC
- YMCA of Coastal Georgia
- Youth Intercept Program, Chatham County



| Prevention/<br>Intervention  | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts  |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>School Garden Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with Big Green and SCCPSS, RCG helped establish school gardens in 40 schools as outdoor classrooms that promote wellness.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mediation Center's Prevention Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Mediation Center hosted "positive peace" events, restorative justice, and trauma-awareness sessions to reduce conflicts, support youth, and foster resilience.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Suicide Prevention Task Force</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working to implement universal mental health screenings in schools to normalize mental health conversations, gather data, and connect youth to resources.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mindfulness and Wellness Initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide mindfulness resources, staff training, and promote self-regulation and communication skills in public schools.</li> <li>• Mindful Monday reached 16 schools, engaging around 7,000 students and training over 500 teachers in mindfulness practices, with plans to expand to 20 schools.</li> <li>• Mindfulness zones are expanding, with ongoing teacher training and program assessments.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Partnership with Front Porch ACTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Front Porch Improv provides workshops to children to build resilience through Trauma Drama</li> <li>• Engaged 518 children/youth across five schools and four summer camps</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Suicide Prevention Sessions (SuicideTALK, SafeTALK)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory Annual Suicide Prevention Training to all Chatham County School Employees</li> <li>• Additionally 437 community participants in 17 classes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Out-of-School Network Advocacy Efforts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workgroup that advocates "Trauma-Informed" designation for agencies and encourages trauma-informed training for agency staff</li> <li>• Savannah Solutions brings together agencies monthly to solve complex cases that require multiple interventions, providing a coordinated approach to support families in crisis.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Deep Center's Youth Participatory Action Research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presented a report on burnout and well-being to state educational leaders and organized "Justice Day" in Atlanta to address criminal justice reforms tied to ACEs</li> <li>• Their Healing Schools Initiative supports restorative and trauma-informed practices in schools.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resilience Enhancement and Leadership Model (REALM) with Savannah PD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officers trained in Community Resiliency</li> <li>• Training is mandated for all officers in SPD</li> <li>• Reached 308 first responders in 19 sessions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Resiliency Model (CRM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 580 participants in 30 sessions in 2024</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>In-School Training:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Support System Training: 203 teachers (1st and 3rd-year teachers)</li> <li>• Trauma-Sensitive Mindfulness: 171 teachers across two conferences</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Facilitator Trainings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration with the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, the Mediation Center 2-3 individuals will engage in a cohort process to become future Restorative Practice trainers.</li> <li>• RCG supported the mentorship and certification of two CRM trainers, including a Spanish-speaking facilitator.</li> <li>• Gateway CSB staff to become certified in Mindful Self-Compassion for Young People</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained 94 participants across 9 classes</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mindful Self Compassion (MSC) Workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council facilitated a workshop for International Paper's Savannah Mill's Supporting Women in the Mill (SWIM) group</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Fierce Self-Compassion for Educators Workshop Series</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adapted from Mindful Self-Compassion curriculum, with a focus on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) considerations provided by the Deep Center.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Handle with Care Initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This program integrates trauma-informed care into emergency response by training first responders and embedding trauma support tools in police, fire, and EMS data systems in Chatham County, building a community-wide network of trauma-aware responders.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Gateway CSB Trauma-Informed School and Court Collaborations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSB collaborated with court and school staff to create trauma-responsive environments, removed zero-tolerance language from policies, and provided various trainings on ACEs, resilience, and trauma-informed care.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>TBRI with Judicial and First Responder Systems:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chatham County Juvenile Court is implementing Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) training for all agencies interacting with the court</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Savannah-Chatham County Public School System (SCCPSS):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborated with SCCPSS to incorporate restorative practices, restorative conferencing, and peer mediation into its Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Process</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>City of Savannah Employee Training:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Savannah Support System (S3) resilience training program was developed for all city employees, with the REALM 1 training provided to 80 managers and directors to raise awareness of ACEs and trauma-informed responses.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Loop It Up's Whole School Mindfulness Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collected data through teacher and student surveys in SCCPSS.</li> <li>• Results showed improvements in students' self-regulation, self-awareness, and leadership skills.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Trauma-Sensitive Yoga by Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 516 participants in over 162 classes</li> <li>• CCSNPC partnered with Loop It Up to offer trauma-sensitive yoga within the public schools</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Road to Resilience and Brake the Stigma</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Car Show and mental health symposium</li> <li>• Organized by partners at Gateway CSB</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Out-of-School Network:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborated with Chatham county to introduce trauma-informed language in funding contracts with recommendations for agencies to engage in trauma-focused trainings.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

# RESILIENT MIDDLE GEORGIA

Resilient Middle Georgia is one of the 16 regional coalitions supported by Resilient Georgia. Their primary mission is to increase awareness of trauma-informed care by fostering a regional coalition of resilience in Middle Georgia! The coalition consists of 40+ organizations and community partners from diverse fields within the surrounding 11 counties. Their vision is to inspire long-term healing, build resilience, and empower community champions to join the trauma-informed care movement.



## Mission and Broad Goals

Resilient Middle Georgia seeks to empower the cities and counties in Middle Georgia to face adversity and trauma with empathy and bravery. They have listed the following goals to build a resilient community:

- Systems
  - Accessible Trauma-Informed Services
  - Thriving Trauma-Informed Workforce
  - Coordinated Trauma-Informed Organizations
  - Collaboration Across All Sectors
- Community
  - Sense of Belonging
  - Civically Engaged Community Members
  - Safe & Inclusive Neighborhoods
  - Involved & Trained Communities
  - Social Determinants of Health are Addressed
- Family
  - Financial & Emotionally Secure
  - Connected to Each Other & Their Community
  - Welcomed & Supported when Receiving Services
  - Knowledge & Skills to Address Positive & Adverse Childhood Experiences (PACES)

## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs, Wilkinson

## Links

[Resilient Middle Georgia](#)  
[Resilient Middle Georgia Facebook](#)

## Coalition Partners

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ABC Breathe</li> <li>• Amedisys Hospice</li> <li>• Atrium Health Navicent – Healthy Communities</li> <li>• Atrium Healthy Families</li> <li>• Atrium Navicent</li> <li>• Baldwin County Family Connection</li> <li>• Baldwin County Schools</li> <li>• Bibb Community Partnership-Family Connections</li> <li>• Bibb County School District</li> <li>• Bibb County Sheriff's Office</li> <li>• Bibb Mt. Zion Baptist Church</li> <li>• BOE Campus Police</li> <li>• Bright from the Start DECAL</li> <li>• Central Georgia Technical College</li> <li>• Child Care Resource &amp; Referral of Southeast Georgia</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cirrus Academy</li> <li>• Community Health Works</li> <li>• Community Healthcare Systems, Inc.</li> <li>• Community in Schools of Central Georgia</li> <li>• Council on Drugs and Alcohol</li> <li>• Crawford County Family Connection</li> <li>• Crescent House, Navicent</li> <li>• Crisis Line &amp; Safe House of Central GA</li> <li>• Division of Family &amp; Children Services (DFCS)</li> <li>• DSTO Photography</li> <li>• Family Counseling Center of Central Georgia</li> <li>• Family Health Center</li> <li>• Family Justice Partnership</li> <li>• First Baptist Church of Christ</li> <li>• First Choice Primary Care</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fort Valley State University</li> <li>• Georgia Child Abuse Prevention</li> <li>• Georgia Department of Labor</li> <li>• Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH)</li> <li>• Georgia Family Connection Partnership</li> <li>• Georgia Rural Health Innovation Center</li> <li>• Girls Dig Deeper Initiative</li> <li>• Griffith Family Foundation</li> <li>• Habitat for Humanity Macon</li> <li>• Hancock County Family Connection</li> <li>• Hancock County Schools</li> <li>• Healthy Communities Navicent</li> <li>• Hospice Care Options</li> <li>• Houston County Health Department</li> <li>• Houston County Project AWARE</li> <li>• Houston Family Connections</li> <li>• In The Door, Workforce Georgia</li> <li>• Jasper County Family Connection</li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|



| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Awareness Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnered or facilitated 56 events and reached 6,101 people through presentations and discussions on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACEs 101 Presentation: 3 events</li> <li>Compassion Fatigue Presentations: 2 events</li> <li>Resilience Documentary Screenings: 2 events</li> <li>Other Awareness Presentations: 3 events</li> <li>Community Resource &amp; Awareness Fairs: 46 events</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Partnering with Diverse Partners to Drive a Policy Agenda:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informed by Community and Focused on Sustainable Systems Change</li> <li>Strengthening partnerships with One Safe Place Macon and DA</li> <li>Educating policymakers, leaders, &amp; businesses</li> <li>Providing CRM training to professionals &amp; community</li> <li>Advocating for embedding PACEs in all coalition organizations</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Cultivating a Culture of Transformational Leadership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Coalition Satisfaction Survey by RMG evaluates how effectively RMG promotes transformational leadership</li> <li>Feedback from members will guide enhancements to leadership, empowerment, support systems, and trauma-informed care in the region</li> <li>Will shape future projects and improve collaboration aligned with its mission.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Resiliency Model (CRM) Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>103 attendees trained to be trauma-informed and resiliency-focused</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connections Matter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>119 attendees from Head Start and a GaFCP Family Support Cohort from 12 counties trained on ACEs</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Becoming a Resilient Parent</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31 attendees trained on responding to stress and PACEs</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Strengthening Families Georgia (SFG) Workshop Series</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47 attendees learned to apply 5 protective factors in their everyday work</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connect Now</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>470 attendees provided with an overview of ACEs and a glimpse into Connections Matter Georgia</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trauma-Informed Practice Survey</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collected and shared data about TI organizational practices</li> <li>Conducted every 6 months with coalition members and partners</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>One Safe Place Macon (OSPM) Family Justice Center</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involved in essential 2 work groups</li> <li>Planning to embed trauma and healing informed trainings with staff, partners, and volunteers</li> <li>Promoting Strengthening Families Georgia PD</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Region 6 Family Connections Partnership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed 3 cross-county meetings to build engagement across all 11 counties</li> <li>RMG and PACEs related activities are currently embedded in GaFCP annual plans for Houston, Putnam, and Macon-Bibb Counties. Pulaski and Twiggs Counties have plans to incorporate RMG into their 2025 annual planning.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Bibb County District Attorney's Office</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnering with DA's office to promote series of professional trainings from Strengthening Families Georgia</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Demographics Survey</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Began collecting demographic data in April 2024 to ensure inclusivity and understanding the diverse perspectives of coalition members</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Evaluation Plan &amp; Implementation Survey</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnered with Community Evaluation Solutions to develop an evaluation plan measuring regional impact.</li> <li>Includes an implementation survey for coalition members and community partners</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Cross Regional Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnering with Community Evaluations Solutions</li> <li>Held 3 cross-regional meetings with a total of 90 attendees</li> <li>Created 13 maps detailing family needs, essential systems, and proposed changes to overcome system barriers</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Coalition Listening Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered 33 listening sessions for new coalition members</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners (continued)

- Jones County Family Connection
- Juvenile Court
- Loaves and Fishes Ministry
- Macon AIM
- Macon Bibb Economic Opportunity Council, Inc
- Macon Headspace and One World Link
- Macon Housing Authority
- Macon Public Defender Office
- Macon Volunteer Clinic
- Macon-Bibb County Health Department
- Medical Center Navicent Health
- Mercer Family Therapy Center
- Mercer University School of Medicine
- Middle GA Regional Library
- Middle GA State University
- Middle Georgia Community Action Agency
- National Incarceration Association
- Navicent Health
- North Center Health District
- Office of Congressman Sanford Bishop
- One World Link
- OneMacon Program Director for Region 6
- PACE Center for Girls
- Peach County Family Connection
- Primary Pediatrics
- Project Aware-Bibb County Schools
- Pulaski Family Connections
- Pulaski School District
- Reflections Psychotherapy
- River Edge
- River Edge Behavioral Health
- School Justice Partnership, DA's Office
- Solicitor General-Victim Witness Advocate
- Southern Center for Choice Theory
- The Center for Collaborative Journalism at Mercer University
- The Comfy Place, LLC
- The Council on Drugs and Alcohol
- The Methodist Home
- The PEACH Pit
- Twiggs Family Connections
- Unite Us
- United Way of Central Georgia
- VECTR- Georgia Veterans Education Career Transition Resource Center
- Washington County Family Connections
- WellCare
- Women's Interfaith Alliance

# RESILIENT CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY

Resilient Chattahoochee Valley is comprised of 12 counties and guided by the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley. RCV seeks to improve outcomes for children and families within the region through the implementation of 3 equity-based strategies: Resilient Chattahoochee Valley, The Basics Chattahoochee Valley, and Community Schools United. Collectively, these strategies aim to foster a resilient community where children enter school ready to learn, are supported academically, emotionally and socially, and graduate high school on time ready for college or career.



## Mission and Broad Goals

- **Coordinated Trauma-Informed Practices:** They work with community partners to develop trauma-informed approaches that tackle the root causes of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in high-poverty and underserved communities. This includes training local professionals, creating a common understanding around trauma and resilience, and building a network of support to provide targeted interventions. Through these efforts, they aim to prevent, reduce, and address ACEs, ultimately creating a safer, more supportive environment for all.
- **Developing Full-Service Community Schools:** Through **Community Schools United**, they create schools that serve as hubs for transformative resources, following four evidence-based pillars: Collaborative Leadership and Practice, Family and Community Engagement, Expanded Learning Time, and Integrated Student Supports. These schools eliminate barriers to success, ensuring each child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.
- **Proliferating "The Basics" Initiative:** The **Basics Chattahoochee Valley** is a community-wide initiative focused on the earliest years of life, enhancing children's social, emotional, and cognitive development through five foundational principles: Maximize Love, Manage Stress; Talk, Sing, and Point; Count, Group, and Compare; Explore through Movement and Play; and Read and Discuss Stories. This work, involving partners across early childhood education and healthcare, aims to give every child a healthy start and a strong foundation for future success.

## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Schley, Stewart, Talbot, Taylor, Webster

## Links

[Resilient Chattahoochee Valley](#)  
[The Basics Chattahoochee](#)  
[United Way Chattahoochee Valley](#)  
[CV Basics Facebook](#)  
[United Way CV Facebook](#)  
[CV Basics Instagram](#)

## Coalition Partners

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 211: United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley</li> <li>• Art of Yoga</li> <li>• Boys and Girls Clubs of the Chattahoochee Valley</li> <li>• Boy Scouts of America</li> <li>• Bradley-Turner Foundation Chattahoochee Council</li> <li>• Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club of Columbus, Georgia</li> <li>• Business, Inc</li> <li>• Chattahoochee County Family Connection</li> <li>• Chattahoochee Valley Episcopal Ministry</li> <li>• Chattahoochee Valley Library</li> <li>• Chattahoochee Valley Imagination Libraries</li> <li>• Clay County Family Connection</li> <li>• Columbus Alliance for Battered Women - Hope Harbour</li> <li>• Columbus Consolidated Government</li> <li>• Columbus Health Department – West Central Health District Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley</li> <li>• Columbus Housing Authority</li> <li>• Columbus Pediatric Associates</li> <li>• Columbus Pediatrics Georgia</li> <li>• Columbus Wellness Center</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Columbus York-Rite Men of Distinction</li> <li>• Communities in School</li> <li>• Cure Violence - Columbus</li> <li>• DBI Broadcasting</li> <li>• Dr. Jaketra Bryant, Inc.</li> <li>• Easter Seals West Georgia</li> <li>• Empowered youth of Columbus</li> <li>• Enrichment Services Program, Inc./Head Start, Early Head Start</li> <li>• First Baptist Church-Columbus, Georgia</li> <li>• The Family Center</li> <li>• Feeding the Valley Food Bank</li> <li>• Ferst Readers, Inc. of Muscogee County</li> <li>• Food Mill</li> <li>• Georgia Center for Adolescent Power and Potential</li> <li>• Georgia Center for Child Advocacy</li> <li>• Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice</li> <li>• Georgia Department of Public Health West Central Health District</li> <li>• Georgia Family Connection – Region 8</li> <li>• Gigi's Pearls</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Girls Scouts of Historic Georgia, Inc.</li> <li>• Girls Inc. of Columbus and Phenix-Russell Greater Columbus</li> <li>• Georgia Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Goodwill Industries of the Southern Rivers</li> <li>• Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Harris County Family Connection</li> <li>• Home for Good: A Program of United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley</li> <li>• Love Like Lexi Project</li> <li>• Marion County Family Connection</li> <li>• Marion County School District</li> <li>• Men Act This Way</li> <li>• Mercer University School of Medicine</li> <li>• MercyMed of Columbus</li> <li>• Micah's Promise</li> <li>• Mill District Studios</li> <li>• Muscogee County Family Connection</li> <li>• Muscogee County School District</li> <li>• New Horizons Behavioral Health</li> <li>• Open Door Community House, Inc</li> </ul> |
|---|---|--|

| Prevention/<br>Intervention  | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts  |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Baby Shower</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connected 77 families to essential resources, baby supplies, and The Basics, promoting healthy childhood development</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>I-SPY Jars</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers created I-SPY jars for emotional self-regulation in school</li> <li>• Engaging community members in building trauma-sensitive environments</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Columbus Book Festival</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,000+ attendees</li> <li>• 300 families received info on child development principles</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Teen Summit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with Boys and Girls Club</li> <li>• Education and career development</li> <li>• workshops, financial literacy, and wellness</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Summer Learning Experience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with Muscogee County School District</li> <li>• Engaging students in hands-on activities and community interaction</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Youth Podcasting Project - Shaw High School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student-led podcasts focused on advocacy, conflict resolution, and personal development</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Efforts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UWCV joined the ALICE network to help communities better understand family hardships and advocate for policy changes</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Columbus Changemakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing Handle With Care in Muscogee County</li> <li>• Composed of educators, law enforcement, social workers, mental health professionals, and elected officials</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Prosper Chattahoochee Valley</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received a \$500,000 Strategy Development Grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration Recompete Program</li> <li>• Advancing employment opportunities and economic mobility through partnerships with schools, workforce agencies, and nonprofits</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Coalition Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established monthly communications to 70+ partners</li> <li>• Advocacy resources and policy updates at local and state level</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>RCV Book Club</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Carson McCullers' <i>The Heart is a Lonely Hunter</i> to explore historical and contemporary challenges through a sociological lens, focusing on ACEs</li> <li>• Empowering participants to support trauma-awareness and community change</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Training Efforts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 training sessions to an estimated 642 participants, as well as 41 workshops to an estimated 1,777 parents/caregivers</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connections Matter Workshops</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 sessions for 277 participants</li> <li>• Focused on school-wide training</li> <li>• Full participation from Stewart County School District and parts of Muscogee County School District</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Brain Architecture Game sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 sessions for 369 participants</li> <li>• Interactive game illustrates how experiences affect early brain development</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Youth Mental Health First Aid Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained educators and school counselors</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Skills Building &amp; Parent Workshops</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 41 workshops across 4 different schools with 1,777 participants.</li> <li>• Financial literacy, navigating the education system, and communication</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Schools United Strategy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource rooms in elementary schools, offering social-emotional learning tools, behavioral interventions, and referrals to community resources.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Pastoral Institute H.O.P.E. Initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Pastoral Institute's H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Endure) fund expanded access to mental health services for ALICE households by lowering income eligibility, reducing copays, and increasing free counseling sessions, supported by UWCV Community Investment grant funding.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Teen Advisors:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mini grant was issued to train staff and teens in Teen Mental Health First Aid.</li> <li>• Efforts are ongoing to integrate the mental health curriculum into Muscogee County School District.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Teddy Bear Clinics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborated with Mercer School of Medicine medical students for 5 Teddy Bear Clinics.</li> <li>• Aims to reduce the level of fear and anxiety children experience when they go to the doctor, while ensuring trauma informed care is instilled into medical students future practices</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Parent, Student, and Community Voice in Community Schools</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57% of students cited lack of transportation as the main cause of tardiness</li> <li>• 86% of families highlighted the need for better access to affordable housing, healthy food, and healthcare</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Week of the Young Child</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening the documentary <i>No Small Matter</i> to raise awareness about the importance of early literacy and equitable access to quality education for young children.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>National Community Schools and Family Engagement Conference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spotlit RCV's trauma-informed care and community school development initiatives</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>CHIPS4CHIPS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported the growth of the domestic semiconductor industry</li> <li>• Creating a talent pipeline for students</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners (continued)

- Overflo Outreach
- Parents as Teachers
- Pastoral Institute
- Piedmont Columbus Regional
- Piedmont Physicians Pediatrics
- Prevent Child Abuse Georgia
- Quitman County Family Connection
- Rivertown Pediatrics
- St. Anne Community Outreach
- St. Francis-Emory Healthcare
- St. Mary's Road United Methodist Church
- Stewart County Family Connection
- Stewart County School District
- Talbot County Family Connection
- Taylor County Family Connection
- Taylor County School District
- The Brain Center
- The Salvation Army
- Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services, Inc.
- United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley
- Valley Healthcare System
- YMCA of Metropolitan Columbus
- Youth in Action Family and Children's Services



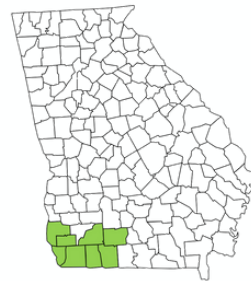
# RESILIENT COMMUNITIES OF SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

Resilient Communities of Southwest Georgia (RCSWGA) faces significant challenges due to pronounced health disparities and poverty, common in many rural areas. In Southwest Georgia, these issues are exacerbated by a critical shortage of mental health providers and limited access to transportation, particularly public transportation.

The RCSWGA coalition is comprised of 9 counties in Southwest Georgia and guided by The Vashti Center. RCSWGA is dedicated to mitigating these barriers by raising awareness of health disparities and providing essential resources to integrate trauma-informed care, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) education, resilience-building strategies, and mental health first aid within youth-serving organizations.

Since August 2020, the coalition has successfully trained 3,500 individuals through collaborations with key partners, including the Georgia Family Connections Partnership, the Boys & Girls Club of Thomas and Grady Counties, the Thomasville Community Resource Center, foster parents & caregivers, social workers, and the Philadelphia College of Medicine (PCOM) South Georgia staff, faculty, and medical students.

Through these efforts, RCSWGA aims to foster a trauma-informed community that supports the mental health and well-being of children and youth, ensuring a healthier and more resilient future for the region.



## Mission and Broad Goals

Resilient Communities of Southwest Georgia (RCSWGA) aims to lead a regional coalition dedicated to building a trauma-informed community by addressing health disparities and poverty. Their mission is to train and empower individuals across all sectors to identify and prevent at-risk situations for children, foster resilience, and enhance mental health awareness through evidence-based practices in their region with the goal of:

- Promoting trauma-focused training across different sectors
- Advocating for change through a JEDI lens
- Building a common language around trauma
- Advancing and developing the workforce
- Promoting and raising awareness for children's mental health
- Creating a sustainable model for regional collaboration and action

## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Brooks, Colquitt, Decatur, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas

## Links

[Vashti Center Website](#)

[Vashti Center Instagram](#)

[Vashti Center Facebook](#)

## Coalition Partners

- Adele Creative
- Adoption & Foster Parent Association of Georgia
- Bainbridge Police Department
- Bainbridge United Methodist Church
- Bainbridge United Methodist Church Parents
- Boys & Girls Club of Thomasville
- Cairo-Grady Chamber of Commerce
- Calhoun County Schools
- City of Thomasville
- Colquitt County Schools
- Community Evaluation Solution
- Decatur County Regional Library
- Dental Associates of Southwest Georgia
- Early County Family Connections
- Early County Schools
- Family Connections Partnerships
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)
- Foster Parent Associations
- Future Farmers of America Club
- Georgia Center for Child Advocacy
- Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) Region 4

- Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
- Georgia Department of Education
- Georgia Department of Family & Children Services Region 10
- Georgia Pines CSB
- Grady County Family Connections
- Grady County Police Department
- Grady County Schools
- GSU Child Welfare Training Collaborative
- Halcyon Home
- Hands & Hearts for Horses
- Healthcare Georgia Foundation
- HEARTS for Families
- Iglesias Palabra de Vida Parents
- Iglesias Palabra de Vida (World of Life Church)
- Imagine Thomasville (Chamber)
- J. Dell Advancement Group
- J.M. Consulting
- Joshua's Place
- Juvenile Justice
- J. Dell Advancement Group
- J.M. Consulting
- Kate's Club

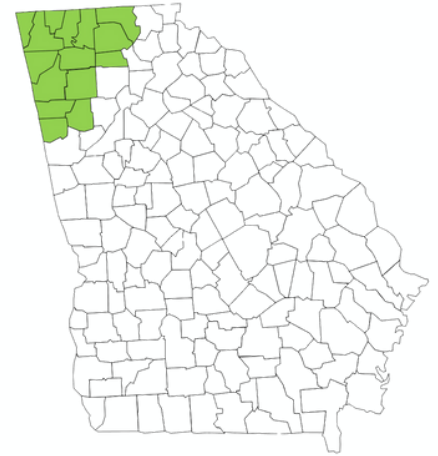
- Kiwanis Club of Grady County
- Kiwanis Club of Thomas County
- Migrant Education & Head Start Services
- Miller County Family Connections
- Miller County Schools
- Mission Vision Foundation
- NAMI Moultrie
- Never Lost (CASA)
- Olive Orchard Lab
- Open Door Adoption Agency
- Parents City of Thomasville
- PCOM South Georgia Campus
- Renaissance Center
- Resiliency Clubhouse Parents
- Roddenberry Memorial Library
- Rotary Club of Cairo
- Rotary Club of Thomasville
- Second Harvest of South Georgia
- Serenity House
- Southern Regional Technical College
- Southwest Georgia RESA
- STEP UP (Grady, Colquitt, and Thomas Counties)

- SWGA Community Action Council
- Teens Have Visions 2
- The Bookshelf
- The Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education
- The Heritage Foundation
- The Yellow Elephant
- Thomas County Schools
- Thomasville Center for the Arts
- Thomasville Community Resource Center
- Thomasville Fire Department
- Thomasville Police Department
- Thomasville University
- TreeHouse Child Advocacy Center
- UGA Extension Office
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (Southwest GA)
- Vashti Residential Youth
- Williams Family Foundation
- Young Life

| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy   | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Children's Mental Health Awareness Month (May 2024)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500+ green ribbons placed on downtown benches in Colquitt, Grady, Decatur, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, and Thomas</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>DFCS Region 10 Mini Summit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided 30+ Foster Parents with resources and information on resiliency skills building, ACEs, and being trauma informed</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Handle with Care (HWC)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This initiative is in its early stages of being implemented in local school systems to provide early intervention and support to children exposed to trauma</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Pilot Program: Youth Advisory Council</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Onboarded 11 teen advisors to inform coalition programs and help de-stigmatize mental health within local school systems through awareness raising</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Suicide, Opioid, &amp; Lethal Means Prevention: Decatur County Community Resource Fair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnership with <u>ROTA-RC</u> and Department of Veterans Affairs, provided resources and education to over 20 community members, law enforcement, and service providers</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Migrant &amp; Latinx Community Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnership with Colquitt County's <u>Migrant Head Start program</u>, contributed to their first annual community resource fair, distributing over 100 Spanish translated ACEs, PCEs, and Healthy Brain Development learning cards and MH resources. Families were able to receive health screenings and dental checks</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Thomas County Resource and Referral Task Force</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aims to improve access to services in the community.</li> <li>Developing a trauma-informed referral system</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mental Health Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-led by Thomas County Family Connections to de-stigmatize childhood trauma, mental health, and suicide</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>SWGA Veteran &amp; Families Alliance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Led by Dept of Veterans Affairs to educate counties around Veteran suicide rates, safety opioid use, and workforce re-entry in Decatur, Grady, and Thomas Counties</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Find Help Georgia Initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnership with <u>Leadership Thomas Class 40</u>, the group spread awareness at multiple community events to spread knowledge of the resource finder and referral platform reaching 200+ individuals</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Addressing Food Insecurity &amp; the Impact on Mental Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RCSWGA was a part of multiple feeding events in Grady, Decatur, and Thomas counties, distributing over 800 hot meals to individuals and families. RCSWGA spoke to orgs involved about local resources and handed out information on ACEs, child sexual abuse and suicide prevention</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Adult Mental Health First Aid</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>74 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Becoming a More Resilient Parent</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>164 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connections Matter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>260 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connect Now</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>159 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Kate's Club Workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>99 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (MDCANI) Workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>66 professionals trained</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Path to Becoming Trauma Informed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Stewards of Children</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Teen Mental Health First Aid</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>64 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Embracing Healthy Thoughts Pilot Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A resiliency skills building workshop for teens</li> <li>8 teens from the Bainbridge Methodist Church youth group attended, where all of them reported they would change the way they interact with peers as an outcome of the workshop</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (MDCANI)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>60+ child welfare professionals attended across the region.</li> <li>MDCANI focuses on systemic change within the child welfare legal system by providing comprehensive training on best practices.</li> <li>Aims to ensure effective collaboration among stakeholders to improve outcomes for children in dependency cases</li> <li>Key Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of the Thomas County Quarterly Court Improvement Partnership, which aims to strengthen collaboration among child welfare partners</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Partnership with Colquitt Regional Medical Center &amp; PCOM South Georgia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipped 50+ family physician residents, psychiatry residents, pediatric unit nurses, and administrative staff with knowledge on ACEs, PCEs, the impact they have on healthy brain development, and how to integrate TI care into their practice</li> <li>Integrating Tuft's <u>"The 4 Building Blocks of HOPE"</u> for medical providers and other ways they can incorporate this preventative measure into their practice</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Georgia School Counselor Association Partnership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In February 2024, presented to school counselors across GSCA <u>Region 6</u> on ACEs, PCEs, its impact on brain development, and how it can effect behaviors in the classroom, along with Trauma Informed intervention practices to incorporate into classrooms</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Point in Time Count</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In January 2024, RCSWGA co-led a Point in Time count in Grady, Decatur, and Thomas counties, aimed at understanding homelessness in each community. 50 surveys were collected and over 300 meals distributed</li> <li>This initiative has sparked more conversations and effort to address homelessness and mental health services in the region</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Regional Impact Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RCSWGA has partnered with Dr. Ann Price of Community Evaluation Solutions (CES)</li> <li>CES has helped develop a standing coalition meeting, the regional action plan, goals, and capacity building</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Thomas County Resource Mapping Initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In February 2024, 50+ community partners from 27 different organizations convened to map resources and services. A key outcome has been the development of a resource &amp; referral task force working together for a coordinated referral system</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Thomas County Mental Health Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convened and led a monthly collaborative of service providers to address barriers and challenges to care, highlighting their resources, and to provide CEU opportunities. 11 meetings held in 2024, with an average of 20 partners present</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

# BUILDING A REGION OF RESILIENCE NORTHWEST GEORGIA

Building a Region of Resilience Northwest Georgia (BRR NWGA) is comprised of 15 counties in Northwest Georgia and guided by Georgia Family Connection collaborative organizations in the region. Building a Region of Resilience Northwest Georgia is working on evidence-based approaches to build the capacity of partners and promote trauma and poverty-informed strategy development and implementation. The region has higher rates of reported child abuse and neglect, child poverty, mental health issues, and youth risk behaviors compared to others areas in the state. Additionally, the region has been impacted by increased substance abuse and overdoses, which is the main cause of the removal of children from their homes. Building a Region of Resilience Northwest Georgia seeks to increase community awareness of the effects of trauma on children and communities, support positive youth development, and influence systems change by increasing awareness of the Strengthening Families framework. This year, BRR NWGA collaboratives planned and attended over 700 events and activities, with more than 100,000 touchpoints to individuals and families in our communities. Their network now encompasses over 200 partners.



## Mission and Broad Goals

Building a Region of Resilience Northwest Georgia advocates for system changes that eliminate the barriers and inefficiencies standing in the way of progress and positive outcomes for the well-being of kids and families. They accomplish this by:

- Implementing a Theory of Change focused on capacity building of coordinators and key collaborative partners to advocate for trauma/poverty-informed strategies and systems change
- Utilizing evidence-based programs and practices that promote systems change and increase awareness of the Strengthening Families framework throughout the region
- Evaluating services and programs to understand successes and determine the impact of approaches and sustainability of the coalition's work

## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, Whitfield

## Links

[Building a Region of Resilience NW Georgia](#)  
[Building A Region of Resilience Facebook Group](#)  
[Floyd County Family Connection](#)

## Coalition Partners

- Action Ministries - Haralson
- Advocates for Children
- Bartow Collaborative, Inc.
- Bless Coalition
- Carroll County Child Advocacy Center
- Catoosa Citizens for Literacy
- Catoosa County Family Collaborative, Inc.
- Catoosa County Schools
- Catoosa Prevention Initiative
- Cedartown Rec Dept Dream League
- Cedartown/Rockmart Libraries
- Cedartown United Fund
- Chattahoochee Technical College
- Chattooga County Collaborative
- Chattooga County Library
- Children and Families First Community Partnership for Dalton/Whitfield



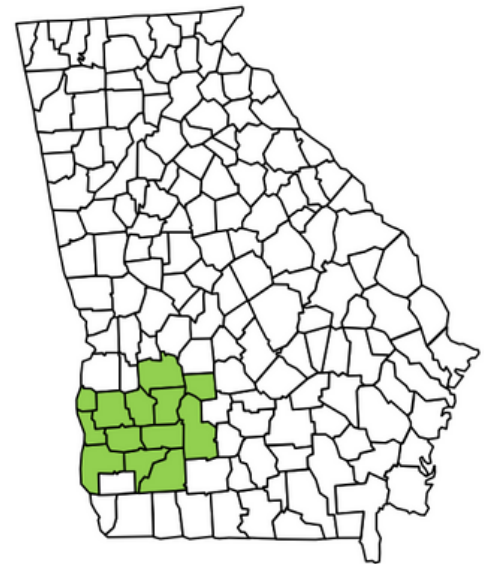
| Prevention/<br>Intervention  | Advocacy  | Trainings   | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Basic Needs Initiatives</b></li> <li>• <b>Floyd Community Garden:</b> Families receive fresh food at no cost</li> <li>• <b>Helping Hands Ending Hunger:</b> donates excess food to the community</li> <li>• <b>Family Resource Center:</b> health services, support groups &amp; appt transportation</li> <li>• <b>Food security:</b> Many collaboratives organized food drives, weekend feeding programs, and food pantries to address food insecurity, especially for families struggling due to rising food costs. Catoosa and Dade County Food Distribution events.</li> <li>• <b>Other resource distribution include:</b> Care Closets, Backpack Blessings</li> <li>- <b>Early Brain Development</b></li> <li>• The Murray/Whitfield Journey to Action 2.0 event focused on educating the community on early brain development through the “Basics” program. This initiative is set to take full shape in 2025.</li> <li>- <b>Camps for Vulnerable Populations</b></li> <li>• <i>Camp A.I.M.:</i> A camp for victims of sexual abuse, which provides a safe and therapeutic environment for healing.</li> <li>• <i>Camp High Hopes:</i> Focused on children experiencing homelessness, offering therapeutic and recreational activities.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mental Health Task Force</b></li> <li>• The Paulding County Mental Health Task Force has been actively identifying resources and addressing mental health barriers, raising awareness, and improving access to services in the community.</li> <li>- <b>Affordable Housing Efforts</b></li> <li>• Collaboratives have addressed housing instability through innovative solutions such as Civic Dinners and the Crisis Housing Coalition in Haralson County</li> <li>• Gilmer County has been one of the lead partners for the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH), which focuses on the need for more affordable housing. GIOCH secured a location for 55 affordable housing units</li> <li>- <b>Vocabulary Cards</b></li> <li>• Developed vocabulary one-pagers for Trauma and Poverty workshops</li> <li>• Establishes a shared language that facilitates effective collaboration among partners and communities</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trauma-Informed Trainings Offered</b></li> <li>• 56 total training courses covering a variety of topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 1 Sexual Exploitation of Children Awareness</li> <li>◦ 18 Trauma 101</li> <li>◦ 9 Poverty 101</li> <li>◦ 4 Reality Store and Quick Books workshops</li> <li>◦ 1 CPR/AED/First Aid Courses</li> <li>◦ 1 QPR</li> <li>◦ 3 Sharing is Caring</li> <li>◦ 6 Teen Maze events</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 5 Journey to Action 2.0</li> <li>• 4 Self saver videos (BYOLS)</li> <li>• 2 – Strengthening Families</li> <li>- <b>Teen Maze</b></li> <li>• Experiential learning to help teens make positive life choices by navigating real-life scenarios</li> <li>• 375 10th grade students in Polk County were impacted by this supportive and confidence building simulation, instead of focusing solely on negative outcomes of life's choices</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Journey to Action: Driving Forward Systems Change</b></li> <li>• 5 events with 150+ community stakeholders</li> <li>• Discussed barriers and solutions for families in need.</li> <li>• Deepened understanding of systems changes with an interactive activity breaking down intention, action, and stakeholders needed to move forward transformational change efforts</li> <li>• Each county developed action plans</li> <li>- <b>Youth Advisory Councils</b></li> <li>• Mental Health advisory councils were created for middle and high school students as part of the effort to incorporate trauma resources into program delivery</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Evaluation</b></li> <li>• Community Evaluation Solutions conducted interviews and focus groups to assess impact of BRRNWGA</li> <li>• Some respondents shared that they are shifting toward a more targeted, action-oriented strategy. Their goal is to address systemic barriers more effectively and ultimately drive systems change</li> <li>- <b>Mental Health Awareness TV and Radio Broadcasts</b></li> <li>• Throughout Fannin and Polk Counties</li> <li>- <b>Risk Reduction Team</b></li> <li>• Haralson County Family Connection helped establish group. It aims to put services and resources in place before families become involved in the juvenile court system.</li> <li>• Includes emergency resources and long-term services such as counseling and mentorship</li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners (continued)

- Children in Need of Services
- Dade County Schools
- DADE First – Family Connection
- Dalton Public Schools
- DFCS
- Exchange Club Family Resource Center
- Family Alliance of Paulding
- Fannin County Family Connection
- Gilmer County
- Four Points, Inc.
- Georgia Center for Child Advocacy
- Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
- Georgia Division of Family and Children Services
- Haralson Coalition for Children, Youth and Families, Inc.
- Helping Hands Ending Hunger
- High Society special needs parents
- LIFT Youth Center Inc.
- LMO Pregnancy Care Center
- Murphy Harpst Children Center
- Murray County Family Connection
- Murray County Schools
- Northwest District GA Department of Public Health
- NWGA Crisis Center
- NWGA RESA
- Our House Battered Women's Shelter
- Paulding Family Connection
- Polk Family Connection
- Pickens County Family Connection (Lead Partner)
- Pickens County Schools
- Polk Family Connection
- Polk/Haralson CASA
- Polk DFCS
- Polk Sheriff Dept
- Polk School District
- Recovery Bartow
- Restoration Rome
- TBRI Georgia Collaborative
- Rome-Floyd County Commission on Children and Youth (Fiscal Agent)
- Walker County Board of Education
- Walker County Family Connection
- Whitfield County Schools

# RESILIENT SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

Resilient Southwest Georgia, comprised of United Way of Southwest Georgia and 30+ coalition partners, seeks to raise awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the toll they take on their community, increase collaboration across sectors, bring a trauma-informed approach, and promote resiliency in families and communities. The coalition's aim is to prevent ACEs and their intergenerational transfer as it is the greatest opportunity to improve the well-being of Southwest Georgia. They recognize that ACEs are a root cause of regional issues, including structural racism in society. Across Southwest Georgia, their partners are fostering resilience in various ways to develop a closely aligned and trauma-informed public and private network, working toward a united vision to create a Birth-26-year-old pathway to child well-being.



## Mission and Broad Goals

The Resilient Southwest Georgia coalition is an upstream move to tackle the root cause of the many challenges faced by the community. The goal is to dramatically improve the health and well-being of our community by addressing ACEs issues. The coalition is working to raise awareness of the effects of trauma, reduce its incidence and impact, and build resilience in individuals, families, and our community. These priorities are as follows:

- Promoting coordinated trauma-informed practices across systems and providing services for raising healthy children in safe, stable, nurturing environments
- Building awareness and a common language around adversity and resilience
- Creating a sustainable model for the organization and the trauma-informed movement

## Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Baker, Calhoun, Crisp, Clay, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Sumter, Terrell, and Worth

## Links

[Resilient Southwest Georgia Website](#)  
[United Way of Southwest Georgia Website](#)  
[United Way of Southwest Georgia Facebook](#)  
[United Way of SW Georgia Instagram](#)

| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>- Common Language Campaign</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A region-wide effort that included suicide prevention, mental health awareness, and bullying prevention campaigns to promote trauma-informed care reaching 13 counties</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>- Sandy Hook Promise</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our STOP School Violence Project, in partnership with Sandy Hook Promise seeks to increase school safety using evidence-based solutions to prevent violence against schools, staff, and students and ensure a positive school climate. This is currently implemented in Dougherty and Terrell Counties.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>- Youth Engagement Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You Matter, a mental health glow party, the suicide prevention theater project, Silence the Shame COPE Clinics, teen summits, sports clinics and youth field days were held providing trauma-informed activities for over 400 youth in the region</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>- Suicide Prevention Month</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A series of community events, including a play production and teen care summit, engaged over 300 participants and raised trauma and ACEs prevention awareness.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>- Youth Mentoring Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnered with local schools and youth organizations to mentor 67 at-risk youth</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>- United Way of Southwest Georgia's Capitol Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met with legislators advocating for policies requiring trauma-informed training for educators and healthcare providers</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>- Youth United</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launched awareness campaigns aimed at destigmatizing mental health issues among teens</li> <li>Established peer support networks in several high schools</li> <li>Organized community events and workshops</li> <li>Collaborated with the SWGA Performing Arts Academy to produce a play</li> <li>Engaged with local policy makers and elected officials</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>- Evidence-Based Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners include BHDD, NAMI, local school districts, Phoebe Putney Health System, Albany Area Primary Health Center, and community organizations</li> <li>500+ participants from education, healthcare, law enforcement, social services, and community organizations.</li> <li>This has led to 42% increased community involvement in the coalition's broader initiatives</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>- Trainings offered include</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building Resilience (Best Practices for Trauma-Informed Care and Learning)</li> <li>Connections Matter</li> <li>Community Resiliency Model (CRM)</li> <li>Mental Health First Aid</li> <li>Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>- Environmental Changes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Redesigned waiting areas in healthcare facilities to be more trauma sensitive</li> <li>Created calming spaces in schools to provide therapeutic environments for students</li> <li>Established community gardens to offer a therapeutic setting for residents affected by trauma</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>- Trauma-Informed (TI) Practice Integration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 10 schools have now implemented TI practices, resulting in reduced disciplinary actions.</li> <li>7 healthcare facilities have now implemented TI practices, resulting in improved service delivery and outcomes, including increased patient satisfaction.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>- Key Findings from the COPE Clinic/Covid-19 Impact Study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caregivers experienced heightened stress from increased responsibilities and financial uncertainty</li> <li>Youth struggled with social isolation and academic difficulties caused by virtual learning</li> <li>School Based Mental Health care is limited due to administrative demands, need for training, and shortages of school counselors</li> <li>Caregivers viewed school as a key setting where youth mental health needs should be addressed</li> <li>Findings from this study were used to educate community groups, nonprofits, and government agencies on transforming systems</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

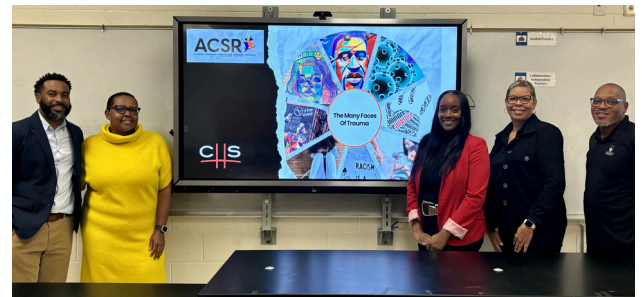
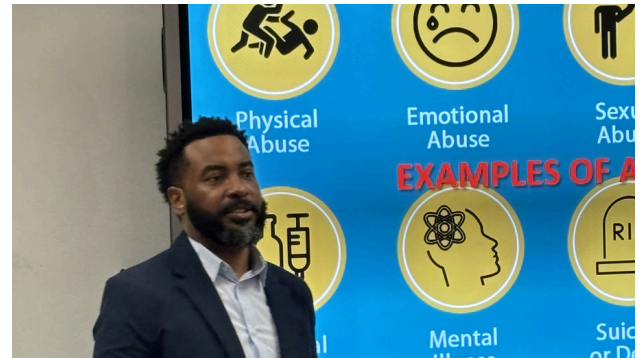
## Coalition Partners

- Albany Area Primary Health Care
- Albany Area YMCA
- Albany Housing Authority
- Albany State University
- Albany Technical College
- Andrew College
- ASPIRE Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Services
- Augusta University
- Black Child Development Institute (BCDI)– Atlanta
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Albany
- Calhoun County School District
- Center for Nonprofits Georgia Division of Family & Children Services, Region 4 & 5
- Childcare Resource & Referral Center of SWGA
- Dougherty County School System
- Early County School District
- Family Literacy Connection
- Family Wellness Outreach Center of Georgia
- Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
- Georgia Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities
- Georgia Budget & Policy Institute
- Georgia Center for Child Advocacy
- Georgia Center for Nonprofits
- Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
- Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice CSO
- Georgia DFCS Regions 4 & 5
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership Regions 8 & 10
- Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network
- Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia
- Kate's Club
- Liberty House
- Lily Pad
- Lorio Psych Group
- Mental Health America of Georgia
- Mt. Zion Baptist Church
- National Alliance on Mental Illness
- Phoebe Putney Health System
- Sandy Hook Promise
- Southwest Georgia Community Action Council
- Southwest Public Health District
- Southwest RESA
- Terrell County School District
- The City of Albany - Dept Community and Economic Development
- The Sparrow Center
- United Way of Southwest Georgia



# ALIGNING COMMUNITY SYSTEMS FOR RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

The Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative (ACSRI) is a partnership between the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential (GCAPP), which works to build a more equitable and healthy generation of young people, and Community Health Solutions (CHS), a public health and social innovation consulting firm that works to address complex health and social issues in marginalized communities. ACSRI focuses its efforts on authentically engaging stakeholders from various sectors of the Clayton County community using culturally tailored tools and strategies to raise awareness of (and prevent) Adverse Childhood Trauma (ACEs). Together, the ACSRI Coalition works to develop and execute a Countywide Agenda for the prevention and remediation of ACEs by establishing shared goals, a common language and mutually reinforcing activities. The Coalition developed 'The Many Faces of Trauma' framework to characterize the many forms of trauma that minority youth and their families may experience daily. The coalition centers its work around creating spaces for honest discussions about the impact of racism, marginalization, and generations of familial trauma on youth and families. Collectively, their efforts are designed to respond to existing trauma and prevent future trauma.



## Mission and Broad Goals

ACSRI utilizes a multi-dimensional strategy to engage all sectors of the Clayton County community in the development of a trauma-responsive community ecosystem. Their mission is to catalyze and facilitate a multi-sector ACEs prevention and response strategy in Clayton County that empowers and gives agency to children and families. They raise awareness of past pain, challenges of the present and hope for the future. They believe through honest dialogue, awareness campaigns, training and education, communities will become stronger and more resilient, and they strive for the following:

- Creating community awareness and understanding of ACEs and their impact
- Developing and promulgating consistent trauma-informed care and evidence-based prevention strategies across Clayton County
- Engaging minoritized communities through intentional empowerment and celebrating their inherent resilience
- Engaging the judicial system and faith-based community to offer trauma-informed training and identify prevention strategies
- Collaborating with leaders and grassroots stakeholders to identify tailored prevention and remediation strategies that respond to the needs of their community as they evolve



## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Clayton

## Links

[Truth About Your Trauma](#)

[ACSRI Instagram](#)

[ACSRI Facebook](#)

[GCAPP Website](#)

[GCAPP Facebook](#)

| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy   | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Healing Circles and Restorative Spaces</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brave spaces for honest, non-judgemental dialogue to discuss unaddressed trauma and to promote healing</li> <li>• Supports educators in connecting their own experiences to the importance of protecting and supporting children in their care</li> <li>• 58 community members, 64 youth, 31 early childhood/K-12 educators</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Art Therapy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with Jonesy's Place</li> <li>• 500 youth and community members</li> <li>• Used art and creative practice as vehicles of expression and developing resiliency skills</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ACEs Training Refresher in Clayton County Public Schools</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy for a formal "ACES Training and Education Refresher" to be adopted as a policy for all educators in Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Community Violence and Trauma Response:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focusing efforts to address systemic issues like community violence, particularly gun violence, and codifying relationships with foster care providers and DJJ</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ACEs Training and Education Refresher</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 145 educators and youth development staff</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>ACES Education Workshops</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 workshops with Clayton County Public Schools, reaching youth and educators</li> <li>• 74+ parents and youth attended workshops at Atlanta Technical College's Clayton Campus</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connections Matter Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 110 community members</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with Georgia Department of Health</li> <li>• 27 participants</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>CCPS School System Partnership and Policy Influence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided 1,700 parents and caregivers with awareness tools and information through the parent liaison network</li> <li>• Advocating for a long-term policy change for the institutionalization of these training sessions across schools</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Trusted Messengers Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership with Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and US Attorney General's Office (SE Region)</li> <li>• Integrates trauma-informed care into the juvenile justice system to prevent recidivism and supporting at-risk youth</li> <li>• Lead healing circles with youth involved in the justice system or alternate education settings</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Connections Matter Data Collection</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implemented QR code surveys to gather feedback</li> <li>• The coalition is working to ensure that these tools are effective in capturing the necessary data to assess the quality and impact of their programming.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Growing coalition partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership grew from 12 members to over 40, showcasing their success in building community relationships and mobilizing stakeholders from education, healthcare, faith communities, and juvenile courts</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Adolescent Health Alliance Georgia (AHA-GA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCAPP is leading the development</li> <li>• Alliance of adolescent-serving organizations and professionals</li> <li>• Collectively educating, collaborating, and implementing positive youth-focused projects</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners

- Adversity University
- Airport Rotary
- Change for Hope
- Clayton Center Community Service Board
- Clayton County Chamber of Commerce
- Clayton County Commissioners
- Clayton County Department of Public Health
- Clayton County District Attorney's Office
- Clayton County Family Connections
- Clayton County Juvenile Court (CCJC)
- Clayton County Police Department
- Georgia Counseling Inc.
- Georgia Department of Health
- Georgia Family Connections
- Georgia State University Georgia Healthy Policy Center
- Goodwill
- Heart, Hand, and Soul Project
- Hearts to Nourish Hope
- Housing Authority of Clayton County
- Jonesy's Place
- Little Ones Early Learning Center
- Metro Atlanta Ministerial Alliance (MAMA)
- Ministry in Motion
- Morrow Middle School
- Mundy's Mill High School
- Restoration Theological Seminary
- Safe Queen
- Sisters Empowerment Network
- Solid Rock Academy
- Southern Crescent Sexual Assault
- The Clayton Collaborative Authority
- The Rock Church
- United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Walking in Authority Teen Council
- Youth Services Coordinator

# COBB COLLABORATIVE

The Cobb Collaborative's aim is for Cobb County to be a trauma-informed community by providing training and resources in collaboration with community partners to improve outcomes for children and families in Cobb. Cobb County is a densely populated suburban area within Metropolitan Atlanta. While Cobb County may have lower rates of children living in poverty than Georgia, there is still a significant number of children living in poverty within the county. Evidence also suggests that children of minority races and ethnicities in Cobb County are living in poverty at higher rates than White children. While poverty is not an indicator of trauma, it can make children more vulnerable to ACEs, which can negatively impact brain development and health outcomes. Thus, the Cobb Collaborative built a digital and tangible toolkit of resources and trainings for local stakeholders and community members to raise awareness, build capacity and work together to improve outcomes for children and families in Cobb County. Launched in 2019, the Mind your Mind mental health awareness campaign has brought trauma credentialed training programs, film screenings, panel discussions, digital and print resources and more to Cobb. Additionally, Cobb Collaborative advocates for equitable systems change to ensure the organizations and agencies supporting our community are designing and implementing programs or policies with a trauma-informed approach.



## Mission and Broad Goals

Their mission is to engage, educate, and empower the community to improve the well-being of children and families. The Cobb Collaborative seeks to make Cobb County a trauma-informed community through the following:

- Increasing the awareness, shared language, and understanding of trauma, ACEs, and the role of safe, stable, and nurturing environments
- Improving the capacity of providers, families, and community members by equipping them with the training necessary to improve outcomes for the children and families they serve
- Empowering advocates to address long-standing issues of healthcare equity, systemic racism, and social justice
- Advocating for agencies to embed practices and protocols into the implementation of their work and strategies

## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Cobb

## Links

[Cobb Collaborative](#)  
[Cobb Collaborative Instagram](#)  
[Cobb Collaborative Facebook](#)

## Coalition Partners

- Children & Family Programs at Kennesaw State University
- City of Powder Springs
- City of Austell
- City of Smyrna
- Cobb Community Alliance to Prevent Substance Abuse
- Cobb Community Foundation
- Cobb County Board of Commissioners
- Cobb County Community Services Board
- Cobb County District Attorney's Office
- Cobb County Division of Family & Children Services
- Cobb County and Marietta City K-12 Public School Systems
- Cobb County Public Library
- Cobb County School District
- Cobb Douglas Public Health (Healthy Start, Children First)
- Cobb Juvenile Court
- Cobb Magistrate Court
- Cobb Mentoring Matters
- Cobb Probate Court



| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The Basics Cobb County</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes 5 evidenced-based practices to support early childhood development</li> <li>• Reached 1,000+ parents and caregivers of young children in year 3 of the Basics</li> <li>• Expanded workshops to 11 new sites</li> <li>• 5-part training “Playground Palooza” series included tangible practices to support healthy relationships, emotional growth, and resilience</li> <li>• Basics on the Go is a partnership with the YMCA and Cobb County Public Library to bring summer reading, free books, and food to youth in high-need areas</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Prevent Child Abuse Cobb (PCA) Partnership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb Collaborative leads the local PCA Council</li> <li>• Hosts PCA convenings</li> <li>• Distributed PCA kits to 15 partners</li> <li>• Brought the “Lean on Me: Creating a Culture of Support” Training to Cobb in Aug</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mind Your Mind Campaign</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mental health awareness and resiliency campaign aimed at educating Cobb County on trauma’s effects and prevention strategies</li> <li>• Includes 71+ Podcast Episodes, 3 issues of the Mind Your Mind Magazine, newsletter, social media presence, and online resources</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Behavioral Health Connection Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with County Chairwoman</li> <li>• Meetings address behavioral health policies and priorities, focusing on advocacy, mental health funding, and community coordination</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Cobb Douglas Public Health’s Behavioral Health Work Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active participant in designated committee under the Community Health Improvement Plan - CHIP</li> <li>• Workgroup has a common assessment model that tracks progress under the various objectives</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Behavioral Health Advocacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-hosted meetings with county officials to prioritize mental health policies, including advocating for the Find Help GA portal and ARPA funding for behavioral health</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mental Health Trainings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 52 trainings from April to September 2024, covering trauma, resiliency, and suicide prevention</li> <li>• In partnership with Georgia State University’s Child Welfare Training Collaborative, 348 community individuals participated in 12 virtual trainings</li> <li>• Provided trauma informed workshop to 58 teachers/staff members</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Community Resiliency Model (CRM) Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 CRM trainings to 203 participants across multiple sectors, including mandatory training for Powder Springs Police Dept</li> <li>• Trained Housing Authority, City of Powder Springs, and DFCS</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Positive Parenting Program Workshops (Triple P)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Led a trauma-informed training event for 18 parents</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connections Matter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided Connections Matter training to 51 early education professionals</li> <li>• Delivered to Troup County Juvenile Court staff and to early education students at West Georgia Tech</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resiliency Week &amp; Summit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded from one-day Summit to a full week of activities, trainings, and convenings, focusing on mental health and resilience strategies</li> <li>• The coalition introduced the HOPE framework (Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences) to focus on prevention and emotional growth</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Early Learning Systems Change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing trauma-informed practices in early childhood classrooms and providing coaching and resources to early learning professionals</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Henry Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park goers will learn more about Basic Principles along the trail</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resilience Resource Stations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided 1,300+ students with journals and resiliency booklets</li> <li>• Established across Cobb County schools, courts, and advocacy centers to support well-being and mental health</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Partnership with Cobb Family Advocacy Center</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressing crisis cases under one roof with a coordinated intake process, referred to as “inverting the burden.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Partnership with West Georgia Technical College</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CRM and Connections Matter training to early education students representing a systems change in trauma-informed care education for future professionals.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trauma-Informed Micro-Credentialing at Kennesaw State University (KSU)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an Interprofessional Education (IPE) course to promote effective collaboration among students from various fields, such as social work, health, and education, integrating trauma-informed practices.</li> <li>• Plans to launch the program by Fall 2025</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connecting Cobb Veterans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3,459 veterans connected with meaningful interactions</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Coffee with the Collaborative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted six networking and engagement opportunities with 152 attendees</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Research Collaboration with KSU’s Children and Families Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducting trauma-informed workshops and gathering data on impact</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Evaluation Efforts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gathered 75 post-evaluation responses, indicating increased awareness and knowledge gained.</li> <li>• A 3/6-month follow-up survey is planned to assess the long-term impact</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners (continued)

- Cobb State Court
- Cumberland Counseling Center
- Department of Early Care & Learning
- District Attorney’s Office
- DFCS Cobb County
- DECAL
- First Christian Church of Mableton
- Georgia Department of Public Health
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership
- Highlands Rivers CSB
- HOPE Family Resource Center
- Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta
- Mableton Improvement Coalition
- Marietta City Schools
- Marietta/Cobb Continuum of Care
- Metro RESA
- Mission 1:27
- Paint Love
- Self Discovery: Pain, Positioning and Purpose
- Ser Familia
- Tommy Nobis Center
- United Way of Greater Atlanta

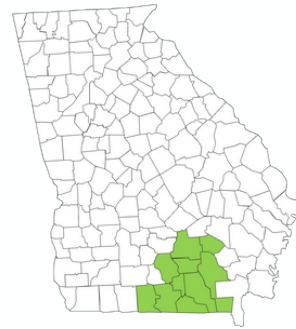
# RESILIENT AND UNITED COMMUNITIES OF SOUTH GEORGIA

Their mission is to bring together strong community partners to collaborate toward the destigmatization of mental health, prevention of ACEs, and to create a trauma-informed region. They aim to raise awareness, provide crucial mental health training throughout the region, improve access to care, advocate for effective programs and services, and find ways to streamline best practices.

Bringing Positive Change to South Georgia and Resilient and United Communities of South Georgia (RUCSG) joined forces as part of a regional coalition to bring about positive change and offer resources to prevent and lessen Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). ACEs are stressful and potentially traumatic events, such as violence, neglect, and household dysfunction.

Established in 2021, the RUCSG's work is focused on eight South Georgia counties. It includes the Greater Valdosta United Way (GVUW), Legacy Behavioral Health Services (LBHS), United2Prevent, U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, Valdosta State University's Health Promotions and Wellness Department, as well as various other community partners.

Within RUCSG's geographical footprint, there has been an increase in concern about adverse mental health, suicide, human trafficking, and ACEs. The coalition continues to collaborate to provide evidence-based training for non-profit staff, childcare providers, educators, law enforcement, first responders, and other community stakeholders to address these issues.



## Mission and Broad Goals

Resilient and United Communities of South Georgia's mission is to create positive change by bringing resources together to improve people's lives by mobilizing the caring power of community through:

- Continuing to develop mental health awareness throughout the region through training and education
- Focusing on suicide prevention in youth up to age 26
- Evaluating training outcomes to assess the impact on trauma-informed awareness and education
- Promoting resiliency in South Georgia through a unified trauma-informed response
- Investing in Education, Income, and Health and advocating for a good quality of life and strong community.

## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Atkinson, Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Clinch, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes

## Links

[Resilient and United Communities of South Georgia](#)  
[Greater Valdosta United Way](#)  
[GVUW Instagram](#)  
[GVUW Facebook](#)

| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>"We ALL Face Battles" Event with Tra Battle</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focused on youth mental health in Clinch County</li> <li>• 480 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Tackling Mental Health Event with Adrian Peterson for Youth Mental Health Awareness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,150 participants across multiple county schools</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Breaking Barriers Community Resource Fair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared mental health resources and employment opportunities to 300 people</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>World Mental Health Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An education event on October 10th with 250 participants focused on mental health awareness</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Veteran Suicide Prevention Training (V.A. S.A.V.E.)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 53 participants</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ALICE® (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Greater Valdosta United Way Initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating for assistance for households that earn income above the Federal Poverty Level—but less than what it costs to make ends meet</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Legislative Advocacy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GVUW CEO Michael Smith attended National Hill Day and advocated for the Help Act legislation, which aims to improve accessibility to 211 and 988.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>2-1-1 Initiative Efforts by GVUW</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal funding was secured to implement 211 starting with Lowndes County</li> <li>• Requests can include housing, food, transportation, and healthcare</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Policy Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting a Policy Day on November 7, 2024</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community-Minded Mental Health Summit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inaugural summit in Feb 2024</li> <li>• Featuring mental and rural health experts and introduced the Community Resiliency Model</li> <li>• Resource sharing and connected individuals, organizations, and agencies to address community needs</li> <li>• 120 attendees</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Community Resiliency Model (CRM) Trainings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained 67 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Echols County Suicide Prevention Training:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted by Legacy Behavioral Health, reaching 43 participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mental Health First Aid</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added two new trainers</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Trainings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trained 266 participants at Valwood School, Wiregrass Tech, and Raintree Village</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Soul Care Nonprofit Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided mental health training to nonprofit employees</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Calm Down Corner Echols County</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created a sensory area for a Special Education students in Echols County</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Camp Rock of Georgia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building a tiny house as a transitional space to be designated for at-risk youth who are unable to secure safe and immediate housing and are facing homelessness</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Moody Air Force Base Community Action Team</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating in planning committee to support suicide prevention</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Royal Minds Lowndes County</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing access to therapy within Valdosta Housing Authority</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Southside Recreation Center:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GVUW contributed \$100,000 to this facility offering after-school programs, summer camps, and support services to underprivileged neighborhoods</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Asset Limited, Income Restrained, Employed (A.L.I.C.E.) Data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortage of 200,000 affordable rental units in Georgia</li> <li>• 42% of families below the ALICE threshold in Georgia have emergency savings</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Rural Community Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed a survey to more effectively serve rural partners</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Scoutreach Program:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funded by GVUW</li> <li>• Provides scholarships, uniforms, and other necessary resources so all youth can participate in scouting</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Diversity and Inclusion Efforts:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Diversity Committee worked with minority-led nonprofits to support their prevention and resiliency building efforts</li> <li>• Included the Latin Association and South Street Food Pantry</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners

- Atkinson County Family Connection
- Battle Solutions
- Berrien County Family Connection
- Beautiful Creations by Chanel
- Boys and Girls Club
- Brooks County Family Connection
- Camp Rock of Georgia
- Children's Advocacy Center
- City of Valdosta
- Clinch County Family Connection
- Coffee County Family Connection
- Cook County Family Connection
- DECAL
- Department of Community Supervision
- Echols County Family Connection
- Family Connections Region 11
- Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
- Georgia Department of Public Safety
- Georgia Power
- Georgia Southern University
- Girls on the Run
- Greater Valdosta United Way
- Jacob's Ladder
- Know Your Worth
- Legacy Behavioral Health Services
- Lowndes Associated Ministries of People
- Lowndes/Valdosta Commission for Children & Youth (LCCY)
- Lowndes County Schools
- Mayor Scott James Matheson
- Miracle League of Valdosta
- Moody Air Force Base
- Partnership Health Center
- Russ Goodman, District 8 State Senator
- Scott James Matheson
- Second Harvest of South Georgia
- Soul Care of South Georgia
- South Georgia Medical Center
- South Georgia Regional Library
- The Haven
- The Salvation Army
- Turner Center for the Arts
- United 2 Prevent
- U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
- Valdosta City Schools
- Valdosta State University
- Vince Miller, Valdosta State University Dean of Students
- Wiregrass Technical College
- YMCA
- Youth Impact Center



# RESILIENT GWINNETT

Resilient Gwinnett is dedicated to building a stronger, more resilient Gwinnett County by fostering a collective understanding of trauma, promoting resilience, and driving systems change to enhance community well-being. By equipping individuals, organizations, and community leaders with the tools and knowledge to support mental and behavioral health, Resilient Gwinnett works to create a trauma- and resilience-informed environment where all residents can thrive.



## Mission and Broad Goals

### 1. Build Community Capacity

Foster a shared understanding of the impact of Positive and Adverse Childhood Experiences (PACES) and equip a broad network of community leaders, service providers, and residents, including those in youth-serving organizations, schools, faith communities, and local government through evidence-based trainings and resources.

### 2. Increase Awareness and Engagement

Promote a unified language around resilience and trauma-informed practices. Provide accessible resources, toolkits, and communication products to increase public awareness and encourage a collective commitment to resilience across Gwinnett.

### 3. Drive Systems Change

Advocate for and engage key stakeholders, policymakers, and influencers to create sustainable, trauma-informed systems and policies that support community resilience and address the root causes of trauma in Gwinnett County.

By achieving these goals, Resilient Gwinnett will lay the foundation for a healthier, more connected, and more resilient community.



## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Gwinnett

## Links

[Resilient Gwinnett](#)

[@GwinnettCoalition Instagram](#)

[@GwinnettCoalition Facebook](#)

| Prevention/<br>Intervention  | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Insight to Collaborative Action Team (ICAT)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared ACEs prevention and trauma-informed care training opportunities at events</li> <li>GCPS Spring into Health Saturday Festival, School Social Work Resource Fair, Silence the Shame's Cope Clinic and Gwinnett Building Babies Brains' Impact Lab</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>"Hope Thru Soap" Mobile Outreach Initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided hot showers, meals, school supplies, and clothing to Gwinnett residents experiencing homelessness or poverty</li> <li>Shared mental health resources and prevention information</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Wholeness Collective</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mosaic Georgia's initiative to address the psychological impacts of trauma while promoting resilience and mindfulness among clients</li> <li>Restorative and Trauma-Informed Yoga, the Hiking Club, and the I Am B.E.A.U.T.I.F.U.L. Self-Talk Workshop</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Enhanced Outreach in Multiple Languages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resources and trainings are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Chamber of Commerce Engagement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presented economic impacts of child abuse to promote resilience within the business community</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Prevention Action Collaborative of Gwinnett (PAC-G)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signed a letter to policymakers in February 2024 to address Public Safety and Public Health Concerns Related to Cannabis</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Youth Safety and Mental Health Community Discussions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by GUIDE, GCPD, the District Attorney's Office of Gwinnett, GNR Public Health, the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office, and Jared's Heart of Success</li> <li>Included conversations regarding reducing access to lethal means and promoting firearm safety and medication disposal</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trauma-Informed Trainings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80 Trainings with 1,421 Gwinnett residents (April-Sept 2024)</li> <li>Youth Mental Health First Aid to 87 teachers from Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS).</li> <li>Mandated Reporter training to 43 Gwinnett County Animal Welfare employees</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Gwinnett County Police Department (GCPD) QPR Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>833 staff members participated in QPR training</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mosaic Georgia Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered 7 trauma prevention and intervention training sessions to middle and high school students, school counselors, and social workers</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>GUIDE, Inc. Partnership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) and Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Trainings</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>New Pilot Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launched new training programs including Human Trafficking, Circles of Safety, and Becoming a More Resilient Parent</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>KINSHIFT Leadership Implementation Collaborative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnering with KINSHIFT to engage organizations in trauma-informed and anti-racist policy strategies</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Handle With Care (HWC) Pilot Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In discussions with Buford City Schools and Gwinnett County Public Schools to implement a pilot HWC program in partnership with local law enforcement to alert schools if a child has experienced a trauma</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Rowen Foundation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploring integrating trauma-informed practices into development of a potential community project, aiming for a trauma-informed environment</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>GUIDE and Gwinnett County Public Schools Partnership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added trauma-related questions to student surveys</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Insight to Collaborative Action Team (ICAT)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convenes monthly</li> <li>Agencies and partners will establish and maintain nimble, effective, and coordinated processes to integrate data for individual and collective impact, managing data with integrity and transparency</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Public Awareness Campaigns</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launched an updated and expanded version of the website</li> <li>Highlights the 7 Cs of resilience, types of trauma, three Es of trauma, and realms of ACEs</li> <li>The Exchange, Gwinnett Coalition's weekly digest to 870+ community members</li> <li>42 social media posts highlighted resilience-related content and training initiatives.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Gwinnett Nonprofit Coalition</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launching in January 2025, aims to strengthen nonprofits serving under-resourced communities</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners

- Adults Protecting Children
- CASA
- Catalyst Coalition
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- Chris 180
- Families First
- Family Ties
- Freedom Church
- Georgia Bureau of Investigation Cybersecurity Initiative
- Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential (GCAPP)
- Georgia Cares
- Georgia Center for Child Advocacy
- Georgia Health Policy Center
- Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce
- Gwinnett County Child Advocacy and Juvenile Services
- Gwinnett Building Babies Brains
- Gwinnett County DFCS
- Gwinnett County Police Department
- Gwinnett County Public Schools
- Gwinnett District Attorney Office
- Gwinnett Newton Rockdale Health Department GUIDE
- Hearts for Families
- Hudgens Center for Art and Learning
- Impact 46
- Jared's Heart of Success, Inc.
- Lawrenceville Police Department
- Love Box Foundation
- Lilburn Women's Club
- Magdalene's Gate
- Mosaic Georgia – Children's Advocacy Center
- Neighborhood Nexus
- Partnership Against Domestic Violence
- People's Empowerment Through Advocacy, Counseling, and Education
- Positive Impact International
- Primerica Foundation
- Rainbow Village
- Research Institute for Counseling & Education (RICE)
- Revolution Teen Center
- Revved Up Kids
- Salvation Army of Gwinnett
- Sapphire Youth Development
- Ser Familia
- Silence the Shame
- State DFCS Board
- Still Waters International Academy
- Street Grace
- StreetWise Georgia
- Tapestri
- The Mental Health Alliance America
- The Starr Institute
- United Way of Greater Atlanta
- View Point Health
- Wellness and Trauma Recovery Center
- Wellroot Family Services

# ATLANTA REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE FOR HEALTH IMPROVEMENT (ARCHI)

The Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI) emphasizes the need for a trauma-informed network of coordinated connections to services for communities with disproportionate access, namely Atlantans of color, in an honoring and healing manner. By addressing the needs of Atlantans through holistic streamlining of access and eligibility across services, ARCHI will invert the burden individuals face when seeking access to care services. ARCHI began with national research on models and designs relevant to its coordinated system of care, along with local stakeholder identification. ARCHI supports several collaborative efforts among its partners to build, coordinate and support person-centered networks. These networks share data, streamline service access, and track the impact on individual community members. At the core of their work is ARCHI's goal to address underlying health inequities by standardizing quality trauma-informed care across their collaboratives through training with community health workers and those providing client support.



## Mission and Broad Goals

The Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI) is a collaborative of over 110 partners committed to addressing health inequities in metro Atlanta by inverting the burden away from individuals or families seeking support and creating coordinated, person-centered systems of care. Their mission is to invert the burden from those in health distress, engaging a broad network of intersectional partners to sustainably change the system and solve health inequities in metro Atlanta.

ARCHI's efforts support a wide range of communities across the Metro Atlanta area, including Fulton and Dekalb Counties, in a variety of health-related areas, including housing. The current *Invert the Burden* initiatives that support systems change in the metro Atlanta area include:

- Streamlining access to services in all areas related to health equity including social services, behavioral health, physical health, affordable housing, criminal justice services, etc.
- Designing, implementing and promoting trauma-informed systems
- Reducing inefficient administrative work and data collection
- Shifting from crisis reduction to anticipating and preventing Atlantans' needs
- Evaluating and building on best practices for a continuum of coordinated services
- Promoting lived expertise in system design and decision making



## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Dekalb, Fulton

## Links

[ARCHI Collaborative](#)

[ARCHI Instagram](#)

[ARCHI LinkedIn](#)



| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy   | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ARCHives Equity Stories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnership with Global Dialogues, Partners for Home, Partnership for Southern Equity, and the Annie E. Casey Foundation</li> <li>Sharing lived expertise to center community voice and inform policy and process development</li> <li>Previous stories focused on unhoused individuals</li> <li>Next set will focus on coordinated care network partners and users</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ARCHI Quarterly Breakfasts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gathers local leaders and organizations to discuss relevant topics including preparing youth to thrive, Gun Violence as a Public Health Crisis, and Reimagining Atlanta's health care landscape</li> <li>Summer Quarterly Breakfast had 150+ attendees</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Community Health Workers (CHWs)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosted drafting a memo focused on national CHW reimbursement efforts</li> <li>Hosted a CHW-focused quarterly breakfast</li> <li>Supported the establishment of CHW network and annual forum</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>2024 CHW Awareness Day at the Georgia capitol</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>150+ attended to advocate for CHW reimbursement and promote awareness of their crucial role in healthcare</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Crisis and Respite Beds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successfully advocated for 150 more crisis and respite beds throughout the metro area to the Behavioral Health Reform Innovation Commission (BHRIC)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>2024 CHW Summit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convened CHWs, employers, and allies</li> <li>Networking, peer learning, updated on policy developments, and best practices</li> <li>Trained and educated nearly 100 community health workers</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Georgia Department of Human Services Forensic Special Initiatives Unit Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trained 30 healthcare workers to increase awareness on crimes against disabled adults and elderly people</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Metro Atlanta Cities Wellbeing Initiative (MACWI)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnership with Georgia Municipal Association, National League of Cities and University of Georgia School of Public Health</li> <li>Leaders from 6 metro Atlanta cities are learning wellbeing metrics</li> <li>Learning to build capacity to apply data for policy change</li> <li>Provides training on how to analyze data and identify strategies to collect community insight</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ARCHI Community Resource Hub</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Created to promote interoperability and closed-loop referrals between relevant social service agencies and health care systems</li> <li>Workgroups include housing/eviction prevention and Community Health Worker initiatives</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Rent, mortgage and utility relief portal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitates the distribution of nearly \$3 million in aid</li> <li>Simplifies the application process</li> <li>Has received 30,000+ applications</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Care Coordination Teams</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convening eight health systems in metro Atlanta on a biweekly basis</li> <li>New partners include Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Kaiser Permanente</li> <li>Tackles emerging issues connecting patients with community services/supports,</li> <li>Improves the health systems' understanding of community services</li> <li>Establish connections and referral protocols to community services/supports</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Technical Expert Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Telegy and TechBridge assist with assessment and design</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Working to replicate Resource Hub Model</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share successful resource in other communities to reduce hospital readmissions</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>News Coverage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AJC highlighted Community Resource Hubs</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Community Systems Mapping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted four sessions with ARCHI partners and community members to increase knowledge of systems thinking to identify regional issues and potential interventions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners

- Annie E Casey Foundation
- Atlanta Center for Self Sufficiency
- Atlanta Community Food Bank
- Atlanta Regional Commission
- Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation
- BCM Georgia
- Catholic Charities of Atlanta
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- City of Atlanta
- Cobb Community Foundation
- Crossroads Community Ministries
- Emmaus House
- Emory Healthcare
- Entryway
- Families First
- First Step Staffing
- Gateway Center
- Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network
- Georgia Center for Nonprofits
- Georgia Charitable Care Network
- Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- Georgia Health Policy Center
- Grady Health System
- Gwinnett Coalition
- HOPE Atlanta
- Inspiritus
- Intown Collaborative Ministries
- Kaiser Permanente
- Latin American Association
- Latino Community Fund Inc
- Midtown Assistance Center
- Neighborhood Nexus
- Northside Health System
- Open Doors
- Open Hand Atlanta
- Parents Prosper
- Partners for HOME, Inc.
- Partnership for Southern Equity
- Piedmont Healthcare
- Pontifex Consulting
- Quality Care for Children
- Ser Familia
- St. Joseph's/Mercy Care Health System
- St. Vincent de Paul
- TechBridge
- Ujima Way
- United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Urban League of Greater Atlanta
- Voices for Georgia's Children
- WellStar Health System
- Zion Hill CDC

# RESILIENT COMMUNITIES OF SOUTHEAST GEORGIA

Resilient Communities of Southeast Georgia aims to strengthen the southeast Georgia region by creating a shared understanding of adversity and resilience, promoting trauma-informed practices, and advocating for policy and systemic change. Comprised of a diverse set of community stakeholders, partners are committed to raising awareness of the unacceptable prevalence and enduring harmful effects of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and developing equitable solutions that will create a stronger, more resilient region in which all individuals have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. The public-private coalition includes local municipalities, law enforcement and judicial systems, regional health systems, social services organizations, higher education institutions, and local businesses.



## Mission and Broad Goals

The mission of Resilient Communities of Southeast Georgia is to create a resilient and responsive community with economic, social, and emotional supports for all. The initiative aims to create lasting change through a combination of education, innovation, service provision, and collaborative action. Focusing its efforts on strengthening communities in southeast Georgia, partners are working to create a shared understanding of adversity and resilience, promote trauma-informed practices, and advocate for policy and systemic change.

Broad goals include:

- Building awareness and a common understanding of adversity and resilience through the training of partners, community leaders, and practitioners in racial equity, trauma-informed practices and ACEs prevention, and reduction/intervention strategies.
- Promoting coordinated trauma-informed practices across systems to address the systemic causes of ACEs in high-poverty communities, particularly those of color.
- Preparing future professionals to enter the workforce with knowledge of and skills in trauma-informed practices by providing training opportunities to students at College of Coastal Georgia, Schools of Education, Nursing, and Criminal Justice.

## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Camden, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Wayne

## Links

[United Way of Coastal Georgia](#)  
[UWCG Facebook](#)  
[UWCG Instagram](#)

## Coalition Partners

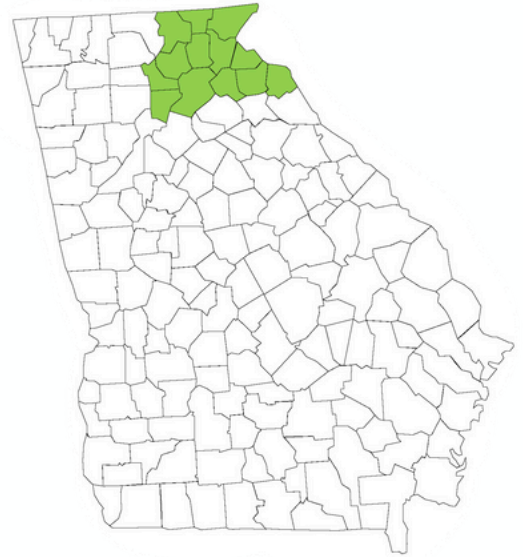
- A Better Glynn
- America's Second Harvest
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia
- Camden Connection
- Camden Community Family Center
- CASA Glynn
- City of Brunswick
- City of Brunswick Police
- Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council, Inc.
- Coastal Coalition for Children
- Coastal Community Health Services
- Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority
- Coastal Outreach Academies
- College of Coastal Georgia
- Communities in Schools
- Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation
- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)
- Department of Early Childhood and Learning (DECAL)
- Department of Juvenile Justice - Family Court Circuits
- District Attorney for the Brunswick Judicial Circuit
- Faithful Love
- Faithworks Ministry
- Family Connection Region 12
- Family Connection of Glynn County
- First Tee of Glynn County
- Gateway Behavioral Health
- Georgia Family Connection Partnerships
- Glynn Community Crisis Center
- Glynn County EMA
- Glynn County Department of Family and Children's Services
- Glynn County Police
- Glynn County School District
- Glynn County Sheriff's Office
- Grace House
- Golden Isles College and Career Academy
- HeadStart
- Hope 1312 Collective
- HopeGivers
- Safe Harbor Center
- Share Health Southeast Georgia
- Southeast GA Health System
- STAR Foundation of Coastal Georgia
- The Salvation Army
- United Way of Coastal Georgia
- YMCA of Coastal Georgia

| Prevention/<br>Intervention  | Advocacy  | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>DECAL Community Transformation Grant program – Expansion of Coastal Georgia Nurturing Parenting Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanded program to all Glynn and McIntosh County families. Promoting healthy parenting skills and recognition of child's emotional needs</li> <li>Removes barriers for resources needed for healthy development of children ages 0-5</li> <li>In partnership with UWCGA, Safe Harbor, Coastal Coalition for Children, and YMCA of Coastal Georgia</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Kate's Club Partnership and Expansion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successfully advocated to be included in the expansion</li> <li>6 SE counties served by the coalition to receive bereavement services to youth and their families</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>9-8-8 Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotes the crisis-line and suicide prevention resources throughout the community</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Awareness and prevention workshops, discussions and activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Including local/ regional partners with a focus on healthcare providers, childcare providers, K-12 school system staff, college system staff, youth development providers and mentors, foster parents &amp; kinship care guardians, etc</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Gang Prevention</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnered with the District Attorney's office to address and mitigate gang-related challenges in the community.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Charlton County 4H Summer Camp Sponsorships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RCSEGA funded 32 low-income Charlton County 4-H students to attend a skill-building summer camp and provided "Resilience Bags" for campers and "Inspiration Bags" for volunteers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Home Visitation Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy efforts for early intervention services given recent funding cuts from DPH</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Coastal Georgia Homeless Coalition</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing housing concerns in the growing homeless population – many include single parents with children</li> <li>Advocating for Continuum of Care</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Stakeholder discussions on trauma and poverty and how our community's systems can support resilience for children and families.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building capacity to advocate for trauma and poverty informed practices and systems change, and to embed these practices and protocols into the implementation of their work and strategies</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Planning for annual symposium for elected local officials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discusses the economic impact of trauma and ACEs on the community</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Resiliency Model (CRM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided CRM training to HeadStart staff across the 6-county region</li> <li>Offered to all Georgia-based United Way Impact staff in 2023</li> <li>CRM training implemented in biannual Community Emergency Response Team trainings</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Trauma Module included in Community Emergency Response Team Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning Fall 2023, Community Emergency Response Team training biannually</li> <li>Engages community members and organizations to prepare volunteers to respond safely, and effectively in emergency situations</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Lunch and Learn trainings for all Glynn County employees in the following departments:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administration</li> <li>Sherriff's Office</li> <li>Public Safety</li> <li>Parks and Recreation</li> <li>Public Works</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>College of Coastal Georgia, School of Education, Nursing, and Criminal Justice Trainings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trust-based Relational Intervention Training (TBRI)</li> <li>Youth Mental Health First Aid</li> <li>Child Sexual Abuse Prevention</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Other ongoing community trainings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Connections Matter</li> <li>Mandated Reporter Training</li> <li>Mindful Self-Compassion (MSC)</li> <li>Prevent Now! Workshop</li> <li>Stewards of Children</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>VIA Connects Radiate Conference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RCSEGA sponsored this event and provided scholarships for nonprofit staff, participated in a panel on collective change.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Resilience Enhancement and Leadership Model Training (REALM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In partnership with the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council, RCSEGA hosted two trainings, engaging first responders and school personnel in resilience-building strategies to reduce stress and promote well-being through mind-body principles and self-leadership.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Handle With Care Advocacy for all local school districts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alerts schools if a child has experienced a trauma so there are appropriate interventions</li> <li>Glynn County Schools launched in November 2023</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>School-Based Mental Health Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborated with partners to address mental health service gaps in McIntosh County, culminating in plans for the Tiger Clinic's launch.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Educational Training Integration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared future professionals in Education, Nursing, and Criminal Justice at the College of Coastal Georgia to implement trauma-informed practices.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Systemic Advocacy Goals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoted trauma-informed practices and policies across education, healthcare, and justice systems.</li> <li>Supported community-led solutions to systemic challenges through collaborative efforts.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Tiger Clinic Launch:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Announced in December 2023 as McIntosh County's first school-based health clinic.</li> <li>Part of ongoing efforts to improve access to mental and physical health services for students.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Infant/Toddler Court and Mental Health Court Programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently exploring these programs to bring to the community-</li> <li><b>Digital Toolkit</b></li> <li>For collaboratives, partners, and community leadership to raise community awareness that includes landing page with resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Coordinated the regional strategy development, implementation, and evaluation of a trauma-informed community model</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates lasting change and raises awareness of trauma, reduces its impact, and builds resilience in individuals, families, and community</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Conducted a focus group with HeadStart staff regarding staff recruitment and retention</b></li> <li>- <b>DECAL Stakeholders Focus Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated with Civitas Strategies to address community needs and plan initiatives.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Neighborhood Ambassador Initiative (Planned for 2024):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designed to engage community members, amplify their voices, and address neighborhood concerns.</li> <li>Goals include building community leadership, influencing systemic change, and fostering coalition participation.</li> <li>Meetings will provide meals, childcare, and stipends or gift cards for participants.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |



# RESILIENT NORTH GEORGIA

Resilient North Georgia seeks to increase community understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and advocate for prevention and mitigation within North Georgia. Additionally, training focuses on parental support, including foster parents, community sector training for first responders, teachers, and direct service organizations. Resilient North Georgia is strategically building upon work that has already begun in the community, focusing on equipping youth serving professionals, and providing a continuum of family preservation services. Evidence-based practice and program development are being utilized to bolster efforts to keep families unified, prevent trauma, and foster a resilient North Georgia community.



## Mission and Broad Goals

Resilient North Georgia (RNG) aims to use evidence-based practices and program development to bolster efforts to keep children out of the foster system, prevent trauma, advocate for prevention, and foster a resilient North Georgia community. Building a collaborative community, RNG builds bridges between public and private partners. They envision a world where every child is raised in a loving, compassionate, and nurturing home, and surrounded by a resilient community.

Resilient North Georgia is integrated into the continuum of care of Wellroot Family Services that provides support for families throughout the region. Their programs include:

- Providing skill training, coaching, and therapeutic care with Healthy Families America (HFA), Positive Parenting Program (Triple P), and Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
- Foster Care placement and support
- Housing and services for youth aging out of foster care
- Increasing access to mental and behavioral health care in rural counties in North Georgia

## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Hall, Hart, Habersham, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White

## Links

[Wellroot Facebook](#)  
[Wellroot Family Services](#)

## Coalition Partners

- |                                     |   |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| • Amana School                      | • Community Foundation for Northeast Georgia              | • DBHDD Match Committee                            | • Forsyth County                       |
| • Bethlehem United Methodist Church | • Conference of the North Georgia United Methodist Church | • Department of Family and Children Services       | • Forsyth County DFCS                  |
| • Brenau University                 | • Criminal Justice Coordinating Council                   | • Emory University Rollins School of Public Health | • Forsyth County Juvenile Court        |
| • Browns Bridge Church              | • Dawson County   | • Family Promise of Forsyth County                 | • Forsyth County Schools               |
| • Center Point Counseling           | • Dawson Hall CASA  | • Family Resource Center for NE Georgia            | • Forsyth Family Promise               |
| • Clayton County Rotary Club        |   |  | • Foster Parent Association of Georgia |
| • Clayton County Sheriff's Office   |   |  | • Gateway Domestic Violence Center     |

| Prevention/<br>Intervention   | Advocacy   | Trainings  | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change  | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Community Health Fairs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tabled and promoted training and education with Family Connections partners</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Functional Family Therapy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offered through Wellroot Family Services</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 cohorts with 8 sessions each</li> <li>• 140 parents completed at least 1 session and 23 parents completed the program, positively impacting 74 children</li> <li>• 98 hours of parent education offered in English and Spanish</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Policy Advocacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating for House Bill 1013, Senate Bill 480, House Bill 1839 and for changes to the provider enrollment process for Medicaid</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Hall County Resiliency Conference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted event in collaboration with Hall County Family Connections</li> <li>• Fostering a shared language consisting of resilience, trauma and trauma informed care, adverse childhood experiences, positive childhood experiences</li> <li>• Reaching Teens, Triple P, and CRM to 32 parents, caregivers, youth, and professionals</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Region 2 Family Connection Event</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co sponsored and reached 75+ agencies</li> <li>• 135+ participants in attendance</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) Advocacy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating for the implementation of SBHCs in Dawson and Hall Counties in collaboration with Family Connections and local school systems</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Reaching Teens</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Model developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics consisting of Positive Youth Development, Resiliency Focused, Restorative Practices and Trauma-sensitive Practices</li> <li>• Scheduled 7 one-day virtual trainings throughout 2024. Additional place based trainings bring number of trainings to 41 with 941 trained.</li> <li>• Offered a “train the trainer” event to increase trainers from two to six.</li> <li>• Secured CEU’s through Georgia Society for Clinical Social Work</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Community Resiliency Model (CRM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Held 6 CRM trainings for 177 individuals including DJJ, DFCS, and CASA staff</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Connections Matter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted 7 trainings for 75 Head Start childcare staff in 20 counties in partnership with Georgia Center for Child Advocacy</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) Workshops</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reached 6 counties and partnered with 12 organizations to provide parent workshops</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with University of North Georgia</li> <li>• Skills-based training discusses mental health and substance-use</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Systemic Change in Juvenile Courts:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embedding trauma-informed care into court operations by providing Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) Level 4 and Functional Family Therapy (FFT) for families involved with the CHINS (Children in Need of Services) panel in the Hall County Juvenile Court system</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Partnerships with Learning Institutions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with University of North Georgia to provide faculty and staff with Reaching Teens training and Mental Health First Aid.</li> <li>• Partnered with Brenau University to provide Connections Matter training to faculty, staff, and students</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>One Hall Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A committee advocating for mental health policy reform, and they report feedback to state policymakers through this initiative</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Handle With Care Advocacy for Gainesville City Schools and Police</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alerts schools if a child has experienced a trauma so there are appropriate interventions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Alternative School Pilot Project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Piloted a holistic model by training staff on Reaching Teens, providing parents with Triple P and additional supports such as Family Functional Therapy if needed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Reaching Teens Model Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tested a series of curriculum with four organizations</li> <li>• Academic research and developing an assessment tool for individuals and organizations</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>National Conference Presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presented the Reaching Teens model at the United Methodist Association Conference in Greenville, SC.</li> <li>• Presenting statewide at additional conferences at Together Georgia, Knowledge to Action, and The Summit</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners (continued)

- Forsyth County
- Forsyth County DFCS
- Forsyth County Juvenile Court
- Forsyth County Schools
- Forsyth Family Promise
- Foster Parent Association of Georgia
- Gateway Domestic Violence Center
- Gainesville City Schools
- Gainesville First United Methodist Church
- Gainesville Housing Authority
- Georgia Center for Child Advocacy
- Georgia Health Policy Center
- Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education
- Georgia State University
- Georgia Mountains YMCA
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- Gwinnett County Give West Alternative School
- Habersham County
- Habersham EMC
- Hall County
- Hall County DFCS
- Hall County Juvenile Court, Judge Lindsay Burton
- Hall County School System (Project Aware)
- Hall County Treatment Court, Jessie Emmett
- Jackson EMC
- Lumpkin County
- Lumpkin County School System
- Ninth District Opportunity
- Northeast Georgia Medical Center
- Oakwood United Methodist Church
- Region 2 Family Connections
- Stephens County
- The Council of Juvenile Court Judges
- The Hub of Habersham
- Towns County
- Union County
- United Way of Hall County
- University of Georgia
- University of North Georgia
- White County
- White County Juvenile Court

# WAYCROSS AREA RESILIENT GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP

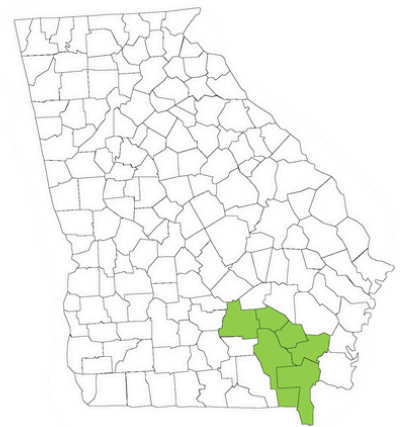
Waycross Area Resilient Georgia's mission is to build a trauma-informed community by strengthening its awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and their impact. This includes empowering victims of family violence through advocacy, community partnerships, and providing safe and hopeful environments that promote economic and family stability. Like many areas of rural Georgia, Waycross understands the importance of mental health and suicide prevention services and plans to develop training and programs to address both. In providing these trainings through our service providers and community partners, youth, parents, law enforcement, and first responders, the coalition will be able to promote resiliency in the Waycross Judicial Circuit through a unified trauma-informed response. They will continue to expand their work through the newly opened, Waycross Family Justice Center, a multi-agency, cross-sector service center that will facilitate care for survivors of interpersonal violence in one location. Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse will be connected quickly and confidentially to a full range of services provided by participating agencies. The Waycross Family Justice Center is a community that works together and believes survivors. They believe a Family Justice Center grounded in inclusion and choice will empower all human beings to find pathways to hope, healing, and transformation.



## Mission and Broad Goals

Waycross Area Resilient Georgia's goal is to create a community response through cross-sectored partnership throughout six counties to provide a trauma-informed response to ACEs. The Partnership is empowering victims of family violence through advocacy, building community connections, and providing safe and hopeful environments that promote economic and family stability through the following:

- Partnering with the Family Justice Center, judicial sectors, law enforcement officers, parents, and school systems.
- Addressing the effects of substance abuse on families through prevention and awareness opportunities.
- Developing programming in schools to prevent and address suicide through training with the Waycross police department, Ware County Sheriff's Office, and other county Law Enforcement agencies within our coverage area.
- Offering behavioral health services to sexually exploited children and children who have been exposed to other violence such as Domestic Violence, abuse, and neglect.
- Providing a trauma-informed approach to families for raising healthy children in safe, stable, nurturing environments.
- Educating and engaging community members, raising awareness of intergenerational ACEs, and working towards being a more trauma-informed community.



## Coalition Geographic Service Area

Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Coffee, Pierce, Ware

## Links

[Magnolia House](#)

[Magnolia House Facebook](#)



| Prevention/<br>Intervention  | Advocacy  | Trainings   | Policy, Systems,<br>Environmental Change   | Research/Evaluation/<br>Other Efforts   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Child Abuse Prevention</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clothesline display and Lunch and Learns in five counties, educating on child abuse prevention</li> <li>• Support groups to Survivors and Victims.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Teen Maze Educational Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted awareness sessions on dating violence with 700 youth.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Awareness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaged communities in 3 counties and 1,300+ participants through a 3-day tour with Tra Battle</li> <li>• <i>Let's Chalk About It:</i> promoted 988 Suicide Prevention Hotline and distributed crisis support resource pocket cards</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Youth and Community Outreach Events:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in over 70 events to raise awareness on topics including domestic violence, child abuse, mental health, and suicide prevention.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Suicide Prevention Campaign</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with Greater Valdosta Way for billboards promoting "Help is on the Way" and prevention resources</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Empowering Voices and Inspiring Change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empowering victims and families through advocacy, skills training, and activities</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Building Community Understanding of Mental Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fostered mental health awareness through monthly meetings and educating numerous community partners and families</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Task Force Involvement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active member of Waycross Domestic Violence and Brantley County Sexual Violence Task Forces</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Partnership with Trust, Recovery, Unite, Share, and Transcend (TRUST) and the Department of Public Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting substance abuse recovery and prevention</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>DPH Teen Impact Center Engagement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating for prevention education on teen suicide, substance abuse, and violence for youth.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Understanding our Youth and Healthy Ways to Assist</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with Ware County Board of Education, and Director of Student Services and Counselors</li> <li>• Developed and delivered school counselor training to develop awareness and understanding about youth mental health, and abuse.</li> <li>• Topics included destigmatizing of Anxiety, Depression, and Suicide</li> <li>• 18 counties represented with 100+ attendees</li> <li>• CEUs offered</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Suicide Prevention Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embedded in the 3-day tour in Charlton, Coffee, and Ware with retired NFL player and mental health advocate Tra Battle</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Community Advocacy and Support</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnered with multiple local support groups, including Diva Dawgs and Courageous Voices, to deliver trainings and enhance community resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Training and Development Initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing training programs for law enforcement, first responders, and the Community Resiliency Model</li> <li>• Provide education on the Family Justice Center Services</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Waycross Family Justice Center Opened 08/01/2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The most rural family Justice Center in the U.S. opened its doors in August 2024</li> <li>• Partnership with DPH will help provide healthcare services at Magnolia House and the Waycross Family Justice Center.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with the Waycross Judicial Circuit Domestic Violence Task Force to look at policies for the development of an FVIP</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Micro Grant Initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing 15 microgrants to strengthen trauma-informed practices in rural communities</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Waycross Area Shelter QR Code</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working to place a dynamic/ trackable QR code in emergency vehicles for first responders</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Magnolia House:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted a Community Resource Fair at the Waycross Family Justice Center for the community during October's Domestic Violence Month.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Increased Participant Recruitment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grew from 12 participating agencies in 2022 to 16 by November 2023, focusing on building a trauma-informed community</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Focus on ACEs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committed to raising awareness about ACEs and their impact on community health</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Social Media</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnering with Brave Stage Productions on their social media engagement</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Collaboration with Educational Systems:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting trauma-informed care, including training staff on how to recognize and address trauma, bullying, and cyberbullying to shift policy toward more mental health support for students, leading to a safer and more supportive school environment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Flowers on the Fountain Event</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with Waycross PD and the Ware County Sheriff's Office to honor the 193 victims of domestic violence who lost their lives in Georgia in 2022 and raise awareness about domestic violence.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## Coalition Partners

- Action Pact
- Brantley County Board of Education
- Brantley County Family Connections
- Charlton County Family Connections
- Coffee County Family Connections
- Crossroads Christian Academy
- Georgia Family Connections Region 12
- Magnolia House
- Okefenokee Miracle League
- Pierce County 4-H Department
- Pierce County Family Connections
- Southeast Georgia CASA
- Southeast Health District/CDC
- Unison Behavioral Health
- Ware County 4-H Department
- Ware County Board of Education
- Ware County Family Connections
- Ware County Sheriff's Office
- Waycross Housing Authority
- Waycross Family Justice Center
- Waycross Police Department
- YMCA

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND TRAININGS

**ALICE** stands for *Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed*, and represents the growing number of working families who struggle to afford the basics of housing, childcare, food, transportation, healthcare, and technology. The United Ways of Georgia and United for ALICE published their first *ALICE in Georgia: A Study of Financial Hardship* report in 2023. Please visit [UnitedforAlice.org/state-overview/Georgia](https://UnitedforAlice.org/state-overview/Georgia) for more information.

**Becoming a Resilient Parent** is a training for caregivers to learn resilience-building skills, self-advocacy, and Positive and Adverse Childhood Experiences (PACES) education. It aims to strengthen the relationship with families and service providers that offer resources to address family needs.

**Community Health Workers (CHWs)** are a type of behavioral health support specialist who works as a liaison between the community, healthcare, and social services. They help people access care, address health concerns, and improve the quality of care. CHWs are often trusted members of the community they serve and share similar life experiences, ethnicity, language, and socioeconomic status.

**Connections Matter Georgia** is an interactive discussion-based workshop that can be taken in either two days (2 hours each day) OR one day (4 hours) via virtual Zoom format. Participants learn about adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), trauma, and resiliency. Some coalitions also provide "Connect Now" training in their communities, which is a condensed 1-hour presentation on Connections Matter content.

**Handle With Care (HWC)** is a program that supports children exposed to trauma and violence through improved communication and collaboration between law enforcement, schools/childcare agencies and mental health providers, and connects families, schools and communities to mental health services. If a law enforcement officer encounters a child during a call, that child's name and three words, HANDLE WITH CARE, are forwarded to the school/childcare agency before the school bell rings the next day. The school implements individual, class and whole school trauma-sensitive curricula so that traumatized children are "Handled With Care". If a child needs more intervention, on-site trauma-focused mental healthcare is available at the school.

**Mental Health First Aid** is a skills-based training course that teaches participants about mental health and substance-use issues. This training is available in both adult and youth curriculum.

**Mindful Self Compassion** is a 1-day evidence-based skills-building workshop that teaches participants the fundamental concepts and skills of mindfulness and self-compassion. This training equips participants with the ability to use self-compassion to handle difficult emotions with greater ease.

**Path to Becoming Trauma Informed** is a 2-hour training designed by the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy and Prevent Child Abuse Georgia as a next step to Connections Matter. The Path to Becoming Trauma-Informed outlines the 6 principles of trauma informed care designed by SAMHSA and leads participants through creating specific strategies to bring back to their workplace.

**Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)** provides strategies for parents and caregivers for managing children's behavior, preventing future problems, and fostering healthy relationships. It offers practical tips to handle issues like disobedience, fighting, and aggression, as well as advice on creating bedtime routines and managing children's emotions, such as anger and anxiety.

**Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)** is an innovative, practical and proven suicide prevention training that empowers participants, regardless of their background, to make a positive difference in the life of someone they know.

**Stewards of Children** training is the only adult-focused, evidence-informed curriculum proven to increase knowledge and attitudes about child sexual abuse and change behaviors promoting protective factors. The one-time 2 1/2 hour Stewards of Children program is available through a group session led by an authorized facilitator as well as online.

**Trauma-Sensitive Yoga (TSY)** is designed for individuals who have experienced trauma. It helps trauma survivors to develop a greater sense of mind-body connection, ease physiological experiences of trauma, learn to regulate their nervous system, and improve overall wellbeing.

**Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®)** is an attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention that equips caregivers with skills needed to meet the needs of their children. This training uses Empowering Principles, Connecting Principles, and Correcting Principles to address physical needs, attachment styles, and behaviors.

# REGION 1 CONTACTS

| Grantee Coalition                     | Counties   | Name              | Title  | Organization                                      | Phone Number | Email                              |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|---|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Resilient Northeast Georgia           | Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton                                 | Meredith Lysaught | Strategic Philanthropy Program Manager                                     | Athens Area Community Foundation                  | 404.971.8071 | mlysaught@athensareacf.org         |
|                                       |  | Sarah McKinney    | President and Chief Executive Officer                                      | Athens Area Community Foundation                  | 706.357.7148 | smckinney@athensareacf.org         |
|                                       |  | Grace Bagwell     | Associate Professor, College of Public Health                              | University of Georgia                             | 706.713.2701 | grace.bagwell@gmail.com            |
|                                       |  | Sonya Hope        | Regional Manager   | Georgia Family Connection Partnership             | 404.538.6611 | sonya@gafcp.org                    |
| Resilient Communities of East Georgia | Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Wilkes, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington | Julie Miller      | Regional Manager   | Georgia Family Connection Partnership             | 706.829.7868 | juliem@gafcp.org                   |
|                                       |  | Kathryn Martin    | Associate Dean for Regional Campuses                                       | Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University    | 706.721.2812 | katmartin@augusta.edu              |
|                                       |  | Rebecca Best      | Executive Director, RCEGA  | Resilient Communities of East Georgia             |              | rebecca@resilientcommunitiesga.org |
|                                       |  | Kim Vess          | Assoc. Dean, Learner Well-being, Professor, Psychiatry and Health Behavior | Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University    | 706.721.6110 | kimberlyannvess@gmail.com          |
|                                       |  | Melissa Bemiller  | Associate Professor, Criminal Justice and Sociology                        | Department of Social Sciences, Augusta University | 706.737.1710 | Mbemiller@augusta.edu              |
|                                       |  | April Hartman     | Vice Chair for DEI, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics          | Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University    | 706.721.2456 | ahartman@augusta.edu               |
|                                       |  | Kari Viola Brooke | Executive Director   | Child Enrichment                                  |              | kviola@childrenrichment.org        |
|                                       |  | Caitlyn Brantley  | Prevention Services Director   | Child Enrichment                                  | 706.737.4631 | cbrantley@childrenrichment.org     |
| Resilient Coastal Georgia             | Bryan, Chatham, Effingham  | Lizann Roberts    | Executive Director   | Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition              | 912.651.1478 | director.cgic@gmail.com            |
|                                       |  | Maureen McFadden  | Licensed Clinical Social Worker  | McFadden Therapy and Consulting, LLC              | 912.349.9645 | mcfaddenmaureen2@gmail.com         |
|                                       |  | Molly Lieberman   | Executive Director   | Loop It Up Savannah Inc.                          | 912.660.2812 | molly@loopitupsavannah.com         |
|                                       |  | Vira Salzburn     | Executive Director   | Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council        | 912.661.0577 | virasalzburn@chlink.org            |
|                                       |  | Tara Jones        | Wellness Programming and Administration                                    | Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council        | 912.658.9145 | tarajones@chlink.org               |
|                                       |  | Chrissy Ruehl     | AmeriCorps Vista   | Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition              | N/A          | chrissy.resilientschools@gmail.com |
| Resilient Middle Georgia              | Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs, Washington, Wilkinson              | Amanda Juarez     | Project Coordinator  | Resilient Middle Georgia                          | 478.973.0402 | amanda@resilientmiddlegeorgia.org  |
|                                       |  | Jill Vanderhoek   | Executive Director   | Bibb Community Partnership                        | 478.219.2447 | jill@bibbcommunitypartnership.org  |
|                                       |  | Debra Jackson     | Public Health Member   | AmeriCorps  |              | Debra@resilientmiddlegeorgia.org   |
|                                       |  | Darice Oppong     | Organizational Development Consultant                                      | Resilient Middle Georgia                          | 770.743.6065 | darice@resilientmiddlegeorgia.org  |



# REGION 2 CONTACTS

| Grantee Coalition                    | Counties  | Name                | Title                                    | Organization                                       | Phone Number          | Email                             |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Building a Region of Resilience NWGA | Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, Whitfield | Laura Beth Newsom   | Coordinator                              | Walker County Family Connection                    | 423.595.2221          | laurabethnewsom@walkerschools.org |
|                                      |   | Tiffany Watson      | Executive Director                       | Gilmer County Family Connection                    |                       | Gilmerfc@outlook.com              |
|                                      |   | Jacqueline Elwarner | Coordinator                              | Pickens County Family Connection                   | 706.253.2319          | pickensfamilyconnection@gmail.com |
|                                      |   | Jennifer Dobbs      | Coordinator                              | Haralson Coalition for Children Youth and Families | 770.328.1736          | harfamcon1@gmail.com              |
| Resilient Chattahoochee Valley       | Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Schley, Stewart, Talbot, Taylor, Webster                       | Ben Moser           | President and Chief Executive Officer    | United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley             | 706.887.7440          | bmoser@unitedwayofthecv.org       |
|                                      |   | Pam Romero          | Vice President, Community Schools United | United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley             | 706.327.3255          | promero@unitedwayofthecv.org      |
|                                      |   | Sidney Houck        | Director, Community Schools United       | United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley             | 706.327.3255          | shouck@unitedcv.org               |
|                                      |   | Imani Jones-Pugh    | Manager of The Basics/RCV                | United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley             | 762.246.7804          | ijones@unitedcv.org               |
|                                      |   | Rachel Chambless    | Director of Engagement                   | United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley             | 762.250.0642          | Rchambless@unitedcv.org           |
| Resilient SWGA- Albany               | Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Sumter, Terrell, Worth                       | Jade Ragin          | Special Projects Manager                 | United Way of SWGA                                 | 229.883.6700          | jade.ragin@unitedwayswga.org      |
|                                      |   | Shaunae Motley      | President and Chief Executive Officer    | United Way of SWGA                                 | 229.883.6700 ext. 128 | shaunae.motley@unitedwayswga.org  |
| Resilient Communities of SWGA        | Brooks, Colquitt, Decatur, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas   | David Sofferin      | Executive Director                       | The Vashti Center                                  | 229.226.4634          | davids@vashti.org                 |
|                                      |   | Amanda Manard       | Coalition Coordinator                    | The Vashti Center                                  | 229.226.4634 ext. 115 | amanard@vashti.org                |
|                                      |   | Quandolyn Grant     | Director of Outreach and Training        | The Vashti Center                                  | 229.226.4634 ext. 101 | quandolyng@vashti.org             |
|                                      |   | Kamini Ramcharran   | Associate Director                       | The Vashti Center                                  | 229.226.4634 ext. 117 | kaminir@vashti.org                |

# REGION 3 CONTACTS

| Grantee Coalition                                    | Counties   | Name                   | Title  | Organization                                      | Phone Number | Email                                |
|--|--|------------------------|--|---|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative | Clayton  | Angel Young            | Director, Community Based Initiatives              | Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential | 404.475.6027 | angel@gcapp.org                      |
|  |  | Jevon Gibson           | Principal Advisor                                  | Community Health Solutions                        | 404.457.2008 | jgibson@chsinnovates.org             |
|  |  | Michael Armstrong      | Chief Operations Officer                           | Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential | 404.475.6046 | michael@gcapp.org                    |
|  |  | Ronald McNeil          | President and Chief Executive Officer              | Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential | 404.475.6043 | ronald@gcapp.org                     |
|  |  | D'Lareg Lee            | Program Manager, Community Based Initiatives       | Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential | 404.475.6048 | dlareg@gcapp.org                     |
|  |  | Shay Peoples           | Project Coordinator                                | Community Health Solutions                        | 404.457.2008 | speoples@chsinnovates.org            |
| Cobb Collaborative                                   | Cobb   | Irene Barton           | Executive Director                                 | Cobb Collaborative                                | 678.766.5574 | ibarton@cobbcollaborative.org        |
|  |  | Kaitlyn Ball           | Director of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships | Cobb Collaborative                                | 678.765.9632 | kball@cobbcollaborative.org          |
|  |  | Lesleigh Sanders       | Mental Health Coordinator                          | Cobb Collaborative                                |              | lsanders@cobbcollaborative.org       |
| Resilient & United Communities of South Georgia      | Atkinson, Berrien, Brooks, Clinch, Cook, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes | Michael Smith          | President and Chief Executive Officer              | Greater Valdosta United Way                       | 229.242.2208 | msmith@unitedwayvaldosta.org         |
|  |  | Susan Nebel            | Community Impact Director                          | Greater Valdosta United Way                       | 229.242.2208 | snebel@unitedwayvaldosta.org         |
| Resilient Gwinnett                                   | Gwinnett   | Jennifer Hibbard       | Counselor & Chief Executive Officer                | View Point Health                                 | 678.360.5200 | jennifer.hibbard@vphealth.org        |
|  |  | Jessica Andrews-Wilson | Executive Director                                 | GUIDE Inc.  | 706.740.0782 | jessica@guideinc.org                 |
|  |  | Kamesha Walker         | Community Health Program Manager                   | Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services  | 770.288.9201 | kamesha.walker@gwinnettcoalition.org |
|  |  | Renee Byrd-Lewis       | President and Chief Executive Officer              | Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services  | 770.625.7917 | rbyrd.lewis@gwinnettcoalition.org    |
|  |  | Shannon Hervey         | Director of Community Health Programs              | Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services  | 770.625.7922 | shannon.hervey@gwinnettcoalition.org |

# REGION 4 CONTACTS

| Grantee Coalition   | Counties   | Name               | Title                                      | Organization  | Phone Number | Email                          |
|---|--|--------------------|--|---|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Resilient Communities of Southeast Georgia                    | Camden, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Wayne  | Janelle Harvey     | Director of Community Impact               | United Way of Coastal Georgia                         | 912.265.1850 | janelle@uwcga.org              |
|   |  | Ang DeBosky        | CEO and President                          | United Way of Coastal Georgia                         | 912.265.1850 | Ang@uwcga.org                  |
| Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI) | Fulton, Dekalb   | Ashley Allen       | Project Associate                          | Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement | 850.607.3314 | aallen152@gsu.edu              |
|   |  | Aviva Berman       | Senior Innovation Manager                  | Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement | 404.819.5599 | aberman@gsu.edu                |
|   |  | Jeff Smythe        | Executive Director                         | Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement |              | jsmythe1@gsu.edu               |
| Resilient North Georgia                                       | Banks, Dawson, Franklin, Forsyth, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White | Allison Ashe       | President and Chief Executive Officer      | Wellroot Family Services                              | 404.610.0661 | aashe@wellroot.org             |
|   |  | Christina Lennon   | Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer      | Wellroot Family Services                              | 404.542.2660 | clennon@wellroot.org           |
|   |  | Kelly Hogan        | Community Partnership and Training Manager | Wellroot Family Services                              | 404.836.3492 | khogan@wellroot.org            |
| Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership                   | Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Coffee, Pierce, Ware  | Heather M. Flowers | Family Justice Center Site Coordinator     | Magnolia House Youth Center                           | 912-490-8962 | fjcc@magnoliahouse-shelter.com |
|   |  | Michelle Girtman   | Executive Director                         | Waycross Area Shelter for Abused Persons              | 229.300.0398 | mgirtman@valdostahaven.org     |





For more information, visit [resilientga.org](https://resilientga.org).

Questions or feedback?  
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