ResilientGEORGIA

REGIONAL GRANTEE SUMMARY REPORTS

SUMMER 2021

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

- Preventing ACEs
- Healing Adversity
- Promoting Resilience

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About ... 3

Regional Coalition Grant Program Overview ... 4

Round 1
Athens Northeast Georgia ... 5-6
Barrow, Clarke, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe

Augusta ... 7-8
Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Wilkes, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington

Coastal Georgia ... 9-10
Bryan, Chatham, Effingham

Resilient Middle Georgia ... 11-12
Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs, Washington, Wilkinson

Round 2
Resilient Chattahoochee Valley ... 13-14
Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Schley, Stewart, Talbot, Taylor, Webster

Resilient SWGA ... 15-16
Colquitt, Decatur, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas

Building a Region of Resilience NWGA ... 17-18
Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, Whitfield

United Way of Southwest Georgia ... 19-20
Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Terrell, Sumter, Worth

Round 3
Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative ... 21-22
Clayton

Cobb Collaborative ... 23-24
Cobb

Greater Valdosta United Way ... 25-26
Berrien, Brooks, Clinch, Cook, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes

Gwinnett Coalition ... 27-28
Gwinnett

Appendix
Glossary of Training ... 29
Philanthropic Grants Map ... 30
Grantee Contacts ... 31-32

HEALING ADVERSITY.

PROMOTING RESILIENCY.

PREVENTING ACES AND TRAUMA.

INTERVENING EARLY.

IMPROVING CARE.

INCREASING AWARENESS.

REDUCING STIGMA.

IMPROVING BRAIN DEVELOPMENT.

ABOUT

Resilient Georgia is a statewide coalition of more than 100 partners and over 600 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.

Links

resilientga.org
facebook.com/resilientga
@resilientgeorgia Instagram
Resilient Georgia LinkedIn

Building a Collaborative Georgia.

Building a Trauma-Informed Georgia.

Building a Resilient Georgia.

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

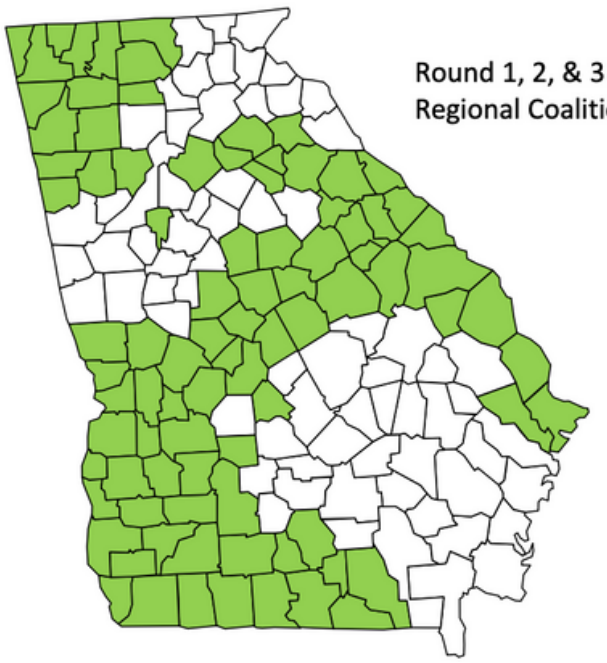
Contact

Email: info@resilientga.org
Phone: (678) 940-1431

GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our mission at Resilient Georgia is to lead a state-wide coalition to develop a closely aligned 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.

Resilient Georgia has been working with 12 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.



Resilient Georgia serves as a supportive and guiding resource during each region's planning and implementation process.

These regional action plans each address the behavioral health needs of individuals birth through 26 years old and families in the community and surrounding counties using the Collective Impact framework (a diverse, robust and well-planned public-private partnership).

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 grants were awarded in Nov 2019 to regional coalitions based out of Athens, Augusta, Macon, Savannah and surrounding areas. Round 2 grants were awarded in July 2020 to regional coalitions based out of Albany, Columbus, Rome, Thomasville and surrounding areas. Round 3 grants were awarded in March 2021 to regional coalitions based out of Clayton, Cobb, Gwinnett, Valdosta and surrounding areas.

ATHENS NORTHEAST GEORGIA

The Athens-Clarke County and the Northeast Georgia region prioritizes a trauma-informed behavioral health continuum of care. The Athens Area Community Foundation, Athens Wellbeing Project, Envision Athens, and the University of Georgia are the four cornerstones of institutional support that will ensure the stewardship and success of various objectives to improve birth to 26 trauma-informed practices in the Northeast Georgia region. The Athens coalition focuses its evidence-based efforts on urban, suburban, and rural areas. These partners have adopted five main aims and multiple targeted populations to align with the unique needs of the area. This coalition, among several efforts, has conducted multiple trainings on secondary trauma; has begun to evaluate behavioral health utilization, outcomes, and needs in the Northeast Georgia region; and has supported training related to motivational interviewing approaches for patients with risky or dangerous patterns of substance abuse.

Mission and Broad Goals

The Athens-Clarke County and Northeast Georgia region coalitions prioritize a trauma-informed behavioral health continuum of care. These partners include the Athens Area Community Foundation, Athens Wellbeing Project, Envision Athens, and the University of Georgia. The Athens coalition focuses its evidence-based efforts on urban, suburban, and rural areas in the Northeast Georgia region, with five main aims:

- Providing evidence-based training to service providers that builds capacity for youth aging out of juvenile justice services.
- Incorporating trauma-informed care into the supportive services for people living in recovery and foster care families.
- Providing trauma-informed training and capacity building to two-generation partners providing services to homeless and transitional youth.
- Offering Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), and other related trainings to Emergency Departments, local indigent care clinics, and pediatric practices in Athens-Clarke and contiguous counties.
- Engaging in a community behavioral health needs assessment and utilize data to address, critical gaps for Athens and the five continuous counties with a focus on birth to 26 years of age.

Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Barrow, Clarke, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- **Hosted two virtual Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) trainings**
  - SBIRT is an integrated, public health approach that leverages motivational interviewing techniques for early identification of and intervention with patients whose patterns of alcohol and/or drug use puts their health at risk.
- **Fund the purchase of Naloxone (Narcan) kits** to be provided to area recovery community organizations and other trained individuals.
- **Increase awareness and reach** through the development of a website or landing page dedicated to educating the public about trauma, trauma-informed care, and the work being carried out through this grant.

Links

Athens Area Community Foundation
Athens Wellbeing Project
Envision Athens

Advocacy/Policy

- Not currently and directly engaged in policy strengthening or advocacy activities yet.

Trainings

- **Trauma 101 and Secondary Stress Training** (3 hours)
  - Audience: Nonprofits and Community at Large
- **Trauma 101 and Secondary Stress Training Q&A Follow up**
  - Audience: Nonprofits and Community at Large
- **Goodwill of North Georgia Trauma 101 Training**
  - Audience: Career Services Division
- **Goodwill of North Georgia Secondary Stress Training (Train the Trainer)**
  - Audience: Goodwill Case Managers
- **Conducting TBRI Training at Restoration Rome**
  - Funding provided for two staff from Chosen for Life Ministries to be trained in Trust-Based Relational Intervention.
  - Opportunity provides future train the trainer potential as both staff members will be able to conduct TBRI training sessions.
- **Crisis Resiliency Model Training** in collaboration with Georgia Nurses Association (see Appendix)

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

- **Using behavioral health indicator data** from Athens Wellbeing Project and secondary data indicators from all counties in the region in combination with a Community Behavioral Health Needs Assessment to better understand behavioral health utilization and outcomes including the impact COVID-19 has had upon the supply of behavioral health services.
- **Collecting pre and post survey data from Athens Coalition's training opportunities** to gain insight into participant demographics, learning outcomes, what went well, and what needs improvement.

Coalition Partners

- Athens Area Community Foundation
- Athens-Clarke County Probation Services
- Chosen for Life Ministries
- Envision Athens
- Georgia State University
- Goodwill of North Georgia
- Sole to Soul Therapy & Consulting
- University of Georgia

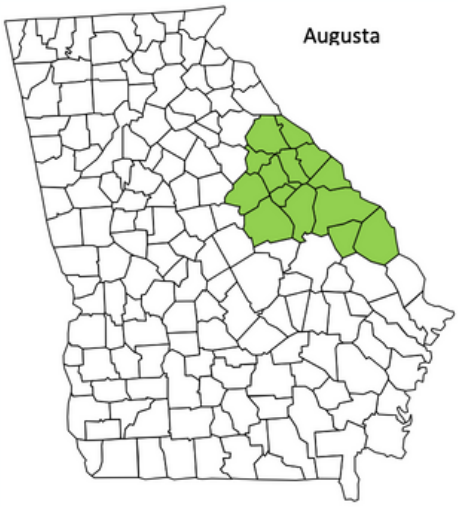
AUGUSTA

The Augusta coalition focuses its efforts on teaching and building resiliency skills among teens in the CSRA, educating the community on the impacts of trauma, and strengthening support for programs and services. Partners serve rural, urban, and suburban areas in the region, with targeted populations including teens 13-19 in rural, urban, suburban areas of the 14-county catchment area. Augusta's coalition includes eight community organizations and two departments at Augusta University, the CSRA Foundation, and the Medical College of Georgia Foundation. Current accomplishments include creating a Resilient Teen program with successful implementation during a pandemic, building a strong coalition of partners to advance the message of trauma and its impact on communities, designing an innovative way to involve medical students in the delivery of Resilient Teen curriculum, creating a logo, Instagram account, toolkit, and website; providing training on trauma and resilience to a variety of partners; collecting valuable data that will inform future work on trauma and resilience; informing and working with communities on the Handle With Care project; and formalizing work by including Family Connection annual strategic plans.

Mission and Broad Goals

The Augusta coalition aims to lead a regional coalition of collaborative, community-based partnerships to prepare Augusta and the surrounding counties to address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Trauma Informed Care and Resilience. The Augusta coalition is currently using partner engagement matrix to determine which partners are missing from our coalition and identifying ways to engage them in the process. As part of this effort, coordinators will include increasing trauma awareness as a goal in their annual strategic plan. Key components to be implemented by partners include serving teens 13-19 in the 14-county area include:

- Promoting coordinated Trauma-Informed Practices across Systems
- Advancing workforce through recruitment, education, and development
- Building awareness and a common language
- Understanding about adversity and resilience



Coalition Geographic Service Areas

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

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- **Resilient Teens** (6 weekly virtual sessions for teens age 13-19)
  - Program curriculum is adapted from three evidence-based sources: **5 Pillars of Resilience, 7 C's of Resilience, and QPR training**
  - Twenty teens from 13 of 14 counties in the area participated
  - Sessions are facilitated by medical students
  - Data collected suggests Resilient Teens meets an unfilled need in the catchment area
- **Resilient Teens 2.0 (Fall 2020)**
  - Revised program to include a larger group of teens and a better representation of teens from all areas
  - 43 teens participated
- **Resilient Teens 3.0**
  - Launched February 2021
- **A Resilient Teens Alumni Group** will engage past participants
- The ***Resilience* documentary** was screened live on the internet with more than 50 agencies in attendance

Advocacy/Policy

-The Handle With Care model alerts schools and daycare centers if a child has experienced a trauma so appropriate interventions can be implemented.

- Meetings with school officials and law enforcement
- A presentation explaining the program's history and efficacy will be presented to the Richmond County Board of Education

-**The Trauma Informed Care Summit 2021** will include a call to action for local leaders to implement trauma informed practices and encourage training for staff and the community at large.

-**Trauma and Resilience**

- Family Connection Regional Manager shared work Region 7 has done on trauma and resilience and advocated for including it on its annual strategic plan.

-**Partnerships for Healthy Communities (PHC**) is an evidence-based program for emergency service providers that focuses on child abuse intervention and prevention.

Trainings

-Trauma-Informed Care training will be provided to county leaders, law enforcement, and school personnel for the Handle With Care model.

-Working to get **community partners trained as Connections Matter facilitators** to be able to provide the trauma training to all 14 communities.

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

-Resilient Teens 2.0

- Teens and group facilitators were recruited and screened.
- **"How Are You Feeling" survey** was administered upon registration for Resilient Teens 2.0.
- Participants identified drugs, bullying, and abuse against children as the top three problems in their communities.

-**Survey was sent to partner's employees** and asked participants' demographics; to define TIC and ACEs in their own words; asked if they had heard of the Augusta Coalition; and where they learned the terminology. Participants were given a definition for ACEs and asked follow-up questions.

Links

Resilient Teens
@resilient_teens Instagram
@resilientteens Facebook

Coalition Partners

- 100 Black Men of Augusta
- Augusta University: Medical College of Georgia, Department of Social Sciences
- Boys and Girls Club of CSRA
- Child Enrichment
- The Community Foundation of CSRA
- The Community Foundation of CSRA Family Connection
- Family Y (YMCA of Greater Augusta)
- Medical College of Georgia Foundation
- Safe Homes

COASTAL GEORGIA

The Coastal GA STRONG coalition concentrates its efforts in a three-county region including urban and rural areas. The coalition focuses its evidenced-based endeavors with targeted populations including elementary, middle, and high school Students in public school settings; teachers and counselors in public school settings; behavioral health professionals; and residents who are 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.

Mission and Broad Goals

The Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalitions aims to improve community well-being by engaging and leading the community to work collectively in its development of strategic priorities that guide policy, programs and resource allocation. The charge of Coastal Georgia STRONG is to increase the mental well-being of children and young people 0-19 years of age by providing training and support for families, educators and providers who serve them.

Coalition Partners

- America's Second Harvest
- Bryan County Schools
- Chatham County Government
- Deep Center
- Effingham County Schools
- Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club
- The Front Porch
- Front Porch Improv
- Georgia Southern University – School of Public
- Health and Department of Education and Instruction
- Georgia State University – Child Welfare Collaborative
- Parent University
- Savannah/Chatham CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates
- Savannah Chatham County Public School System Savannah Feed the Hungry
- Savannah Police Department – Training/Professional Development and Behavioral Health Unit
- St. Joseph's/Candler Health System – the African American Health Information and Resource Center (HERO Database)
- Youth Intercept

Coalition Geographic Service Areas

Bryan, Chatham, Effingham

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- Partnered with Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) and the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) of Georgia to **provide statewide ASIST training to schools and communities** with limited access to prevention/intervention resources.
- Partnered with NAMI of Georgia and Mental Health America (MHA) to **offer multiple statewide MSC workshops** for over 400 people.
- **Established partnership with non-traditional partners** such as Front Porch Improv, providing improv workshops to children to build resilience and develop self- awareness skills, and offering "creativity boost" workshops to school teachers.
- Partnered with Parent University (a community collaborative that supports families) providing **multiple self-compassion and mindfulness workshops** to over 120 parents.
- **Collaborated with the Chatham County Division and Children Services (DFCS)** to train all of its employees in MSC90 and used the DFCS facility to offer in-person MSC workshops.

Advocacy/Policy

-**Working with the Chatham County Public School System** to strengthen policy for implementing suicide prevention training for all school staff.
- Chatham County Board of Commissioners recognized the **Prevent Suicide Program** with a proclamation
- Developing a policy for **Effingham County Schools** requiring staff to be trained in suicide prevention
- **Park Place Outreach**, a non-profit serving homeless and runaway youth, developed a policy requiring all staff be trained in suicide prevention, Mindful Self-Compassion, and Trauma Sensitive Interactions.
- CGIC's is engaged with:
  - **The Deep Center Action Policy** Team to identify policies that would make Savannah a safer place for working-class young people, youth of color, and other marginalized youth.
  - The Savannah Police Department - Behavioral Health Unit and SCCPSS to establish **"Handle with Care"**
- Gateway's accomplishments:
  - **TEENISH interview** with a school board member
  - TEENISH youth met with Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council to discuss bringing a dental clinic to the area.

Trainings

- CCSNPC
- **Prevent Suicide Today** (PST) is a community-based program working to prevent suicide by raising awareness and providing skills-based evidence-based suicide intervention and resiliency-building trainings.
- **Mindful Self Compassion** (see Appendix)

-Gateway Behavioral Health
- The **Teenish youth** have participated in training on topics of interest to them. Examples include the adultification of black females and soft skills related to obtaining and keeping employment from the Georgia Best curriculum

- **Loop it Up** is implementing mindfulness and yoga classes for students at Juliette Low Elementary school (working to expand to 2 more local schools). Offerings include:
  - **12-Month Mindfulness Zone Manual**
  - **Mindfulness Zone at Home**
  - **Mindfulness Zone at Home Tool Boxes**

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

- **Root Cause Analysis Summary Report**
  - Research on suicide rates in Savannah-Chatham County, Effingham County, and Bryan County
- **Mental Health and Wellness**
  - Table shows the rates of depression among the Medicare population in each target county
- **Georgia student health survey**
  - Collected annually in GA elementary, middle, and high schools. Some questions directly related to the risk of suicide.
- **Mental health service providers** within each county included
- **Substance Use Rates**
  - Target counties have higher age-adjusted death rates due to drug overdoses compared to state averages
- **Environmental Factors**
  - Each of the counties targeted have a significant population who are active duty military or veteran. Research shows individuals in rural areas are more likely to die of suicide than those in urban areas.
- **Report includes feedback from key stakeholders**

Links

Chatham Safety Net
Safety Net Youtube
Safety and Resilience Facebook

RESILIENT MIDDLE GEORGIA

The Resilient Middle Georgia Coalition is a trauma-informed, community-building organization, seeking to empower the cities and counties in the following counties: Macon-Bibb, Houston, Pulaski, Wilkinson, Putnam, Baldwin, Monroe, Jones, Crawford, Peach, Jasper, Washington, and Hancock. Resilient Middle Georgia partners with community organizations and agencies to help face their challenges with empathy and bravery, and in turn, to enact long-term change and build resilience in individuals, families, and the community. Resilient Georgia has successfully held four coalition meetings within middle Georgia, provided multiple training opportunities (including evidence- based training) for approximately 700 individuals, conducted and evaluated a community needs assessment, disbursed 5,000 resilience bags to community partners, completed six media deliverables, and participated in several partnerships (Middle Georgia Regional Library System, DFCS, Bibb County School System) to build awareness of trauma-informed care among community organizations.

Mission and Broad Goals

The Resilient Middle Georgia (RMG) Project aims to build a common language and understanding of adversity, trauma, and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) while also identifying and empowering community champions to join the trauma-informed care (TIC) movement. A key aspect of this project is empowering change from within the community while building a common language between stakeholders. Resilient Middle Georgia has six key steps to build resilience:

- Inform Communities about impact of ACEs: Understanding ACEs impact on the community's health and well-being
- Create a Network of Leaders: Identifying community barriers to resilience and developing partnerships for support
- Provide Evidence-Based Trainings and Resources: Offering training opportunities to promote trauma-informed care (TIC) approaches
- Build a Middle Georgia Coalition Group: Sharing resources and increasing momentum across community sectors (Education, Healthcare, Social Services, Law Enforcement, etc.)
- Empower Change from Within: Through identifying community champions, building awareness, and targeting specific needs of TIC
- Build a Common Language: Forming a robust network of resources to develop an inclusive language of resilience

Coalition Geographic Service Areas

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

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- **Offered resilience bags and bookmarks** to community members and organizations across the region. Included check-in notes, art supplies for children, and mindfulness articles for adults.
- Students from the Mercer Family Therapy Center program hosted a booth at a community event that included **resources on resilience, coping with stress, building family connections.**
- Drive-in Halloween event where 150 cars were given materials the included **information about resilience, how to cope with stress, and how to build connections during times of adversity.**
- **On the Table** is a community-wide event that encourages people of diverse experiences to come together and discuss important community topics. Two sessions focused on trauma-informed/resilience conversations.
- **Created individualized infographics** for each of the 14 counties.
  - Outreach focused on "**Pair of ACE's:** Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Community Environments (ACEs).
  - Individualized infographics compared local data with state data.

Advocacy/Policy

- **Meeting with Marc Whitfield & Andrea Cooke**
  - Both individuals are respected community members who are part of the newly-elected Mayor's transition team.
  - Provided a 30-minute presentation about ACEs, adversity, trauma, and resilience followed by a discussion about Resilient Middle Georgia.
- **Meeting with Jamie Cassidy,** Assistant Superintendent of Student Affair for Bibb County Schools
  - Provided a summary of goals and discussed possible collaboration. Specifically spoke about CRM Trainings and the Handle with Care approach.
- **Meeting with Community Champions and Trauma-Informed Systems**
  - Met with Poojah Mhatre from the San Francisco Department of Public Health to learn about their Trauma Informed Systems (TIS) model.
  - Led to commitment to provide TIS Training for community champions.

Trainings

- **Pediatric Grand Rounds**
  - Dr. Andrea Meyer Stinson presented and participants were polled at the end over various aspects of ACEs and Trauma Informed Care knowledge.
- **Foster Parents Training**
  - Dr. Andrea Meyer Stinson was invited to present at a foster parent monthly meeting. The topic of the presentation was "The Impact of ACEs on children".
- **Dr. Ross Greene Training**
  - "Collaborative & Proactive Solutions: Understanding and Helping Children with Social, Emotional and Behavioral Challenges."
- **Community Resiliency Model** (see Appendix) has been implemented in two formats:
  - Introductory sessions
  - 3-Hour in-depth sessions
- **Connections Matter** (see Appendix)
  - A group of community champions are now certified to facilitate the training.

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

- Developed and conducted a **community needs assessment** survey for participants to complete at the end of the following training events: Dr. Ross Greene Training, CRM Trainings.

Links

Resilient Middle Georgia
@resilientmiddlega Facebook
resilientmiddlega@gmail.com

Coalition Partners

- ABC Breathe
- Baldwin County Family Connection
- Bibb Community Partnership-Family Connections
- Bibb County School District
- Bibb Mt. Zion Baptist Church
- Bright from the Start DECAL
- The Center for Collaborative
- Journalism at Mercer University
- Central Georgia Technical College
- The Comfy Place, LLC
- Community in Schools of Central Georgia
- Community Healthcare Systems, Inc.
- Community Health Works
- Crescent House, Navicent
- Crisis Line & Safe House of Central GA
- DFCS
- Family Counseling Center of Central Georgia
- First Baptist Church of Christ
- First Choice Primary Care
- Georgia Rural Health Innovation Center
- Griffith Family Foundation
- Habitat for Humanity Macon
- Healthy Communities Navicent
- Hospice Care Options
- Houston County Health Department
- DPH
- Houston Family Connections
- Jones County Family Connection
- Loaves and Fishes Ministry
- Macon AIM
- Macon-Bibb County Health Department
- Macon Headspace and One World Link
- Macon Housing Authority
- Macon Public Defender Office
- Macon Volunteer Clinic
- Medical Center Navicent Health
- Mercer Family Therapy Center
- Mercer University School of Medicine
- Mercer University Middle GA Regional Library
- Middle GA State Navicent Health
- North Center Health District DPH Office of Congressman Sanford Bishop
- OneMacon Program Director for Region 6
- Pulaski Family Connections
- Pulaski School District
- Reflections Psychotherapy
- Resilient Georgia
- River Edge
- River Edge Behavioral Health
- School Justice Partnership, DA's Office Southern Center for Choice Theory
- Twiggs Family Connections Washington County Family Connections
- Women's Interfaith Alliance

RESILIENT CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY

Resilient Chattahoochee Valley seeks to improve outcomes for children 0-16 in the Chattahoochee Valley by increasing awareness and knowledge on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), trauma and resiliency through the efforts of three equity-based strategies: Resilient Chattahoochee Valley, The Basics Chattahoochee Valley and Community Schools United. This collaborative, a cross sector of key stakeholders and partners, work collectively to effectively address some of the barriers that exist for children in our community, preventing them from being able to thrive. The Basics Chattahoochee Valley educates partners on, and provides parents and caregivers with, five fun, free, simple tools that give children a great start to life. Community Schools United coordinates wraparound services into the fabric of schools to support the whole child to help students overcome barriers so they can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally by following the four-core evidence-based pillars; Collaborative Leadership and Practice, Family and Community Engagement, Expanded Learning Time, and Wellness and Integrated Supports. Resilient Chattahoochee Valley further supports and compliments these efforts by facilitating trainings and encouraging community collaboration on joint efforts that ultimately seek to decrease the prevalence of ACEs in our region and increase our community's level of resiliency against such adversity. United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley (UWCV) acts as the implementation agent for Resilient Chattahoochee Valley, and The Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley will act as the fiscal agent for the collaborative.

Mission and Broad Goals

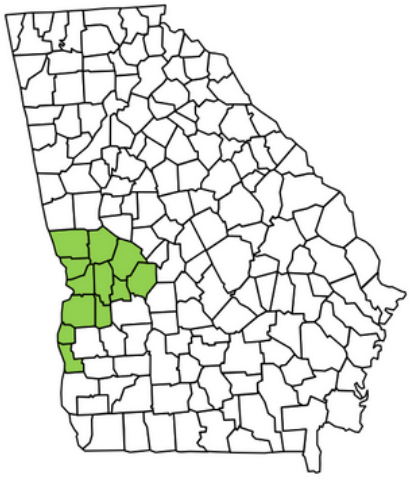
Resilient Chattahoochee Valley aims to:

- Build awareness and a common language/understanding about adversity and resiliency by increasing our community leaders, partners, practitioners and clients of Community Schools and The Basics Chattahoochee Valley knowledge of racial equity, trauma-informed practices and ACEs prevention, reduction and intervention strategies.
- Promote coordinated trauma-informed practices across systems to address the systemic causes of ACEs in high-poverty communities, particularly those of color, in the Chattahoochee Valley through three equity-based strategies: Resilient Chattahoochee Valley, The Basics Chattahoochee Valley, and Community Schools United.

Key Strategies

- Develop Full-Service Community Schools, establishing schools as the hub for community resources.
- Proliferate "The Basics Suggest" work across a cross-sector of community partners, with targeted focus on early childhood education and healthcare sectors, to saturate the community, grow awareness and increase utilization to ensure that every child has as healthy a start in life as possible.
- Create an online, on-demand training platform to establish new connections and support common goals between those in the community surrounding trauma-informed practices and ACEs prevention, reduction, and intervention.

Resilient Chattahoochee Valley



Coalition Geographic Service Areas

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

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- **The Basics** are parenting and caregiving behaviors that encompass what experts find is important for cognitive and social-emotional development of children from birth to age 3 (most important age range for brain growth)
- **The Basic 5 clusters of caregiver behaviors:**
  - Maximize love, manage stress
  - Talk, sing, and point
  - Count, group, and compare
  - Explore through movement and play
  - Read and discuss stories
- By practicing the Basic 5, parents and caregivers can maximize the positive family experiences that help to shield children from trauma.
- **Community Schools United** provides wrap-around services that increase access to community resources in the areas of physical, mental, social and emotional health, food insecurity, housing, clothing, hygiene, ACEs, trauma, safety, and literacy.
  - Implemented in Dorothy Height Elementary School and seeking expansion to two more schools

Advocacy/Policy

- Advocacy work primarily involves **growing community awareness** about ACEs, trauma, and resiliency through partner engagement and outreach.
  - Active in several cross-sector collaborations in our community
  - **Columbus 2025** (community strategic plan) included The Basics in the vision; all aspects of Resilient CVCEC are aligned with this plan.
  - **Home for Good** included a partnership with CVCEC in the community plan to end homelessness
  - **United Way** assists in networking with community partners and actively engages local, state, and federal elected officials and advocates for policies that advance equity in the region.

Links

United Way of Chattahoochee Valley
The Basics Chattahoochee Valley
@cvbasics Instagram
@cvbasics Facebook

Trainings

- **The Basics conducts continual outreach and training efforts** with members of the healthcare community, including local pediatric practices, to help reach families and encourage them to use The Basics.
- **The Basics has monthly educational meetings** with two hospital partners, as well as monthly meetings with local pediatric practices and children-and family-serving o**rganizations.**
- **Currently developing an on-demand training platform** in partnership with Village Creed. All sectors and members of the community will be able to access resources and trainings regarding:
  - ACEs
  - Trauma
  - Resiliency

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

Research
- **Conducting a survey of local physicians** in tandem with pediatric Basics Champions to collect baseline information on knowledge, skills, and abilities about families practicing The Basics for a Maintenance of Credit program.
- **Conducted a partner survey** about knowledge, skills and attitudes concerning The Basics. Invited to serve as a panelist for The Basics Learning Network meeting.
- **Plan to utilize the EWRS Dashboard**, a color-coded early warning and response system, to identify at-risk students for early intervention.

Evaluation
- **Physicians use a baseline survey** before implementing The Basics to collect quantitative data of parental knowledge and skills.
- **A training landscape evaluation** revealed a large gap in training on ACEs, trauma and resiliency in the community. Results are guiding the development of the CVCEC online learning platform.

Coalition Partners

- 211: United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the Chattahoochee Valley
- Bradley-Turner Foundation
- Chattahoochee Council, Boy Scouts of America
- Columbus Alliance for Battered Women dba Hope Harbour
- Columbus Consolidated Government Columbus GA 2025
- Columbus Health Department – West Central Health District
- Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley
- Easterseals West Georgia
- Enrichment Services Program, Inc./Head Start, Early Head Start
- The Family Center
- Feeding the Valley Food Bank
- Ferst Readers, Inc. of Muscogee County
- Georgia Department of Public Health West Central Health District
- Girls Scouts of Historic Georgia, Inc.
- Girls Inc. of Columbus and Phenix-Russell
- Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce
- Home for Good: A Program of United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley
- Mercer University School of Medicine
- MercyMed of Columbus
- Mill District Studios
- Muscogee County School District
- New Horizons Behavioral Health
- Open Door Community House, Inc
- Parents as Teachers
- Piedmont Columbus Regional
- Rivertown Pediatrics
- St. Francis-Emory Healthcare
- The Salvation Army
- Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services, Inc.
- United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley
- Valley Healthcare System
- YMCA of Metropolitan Columbus, GA

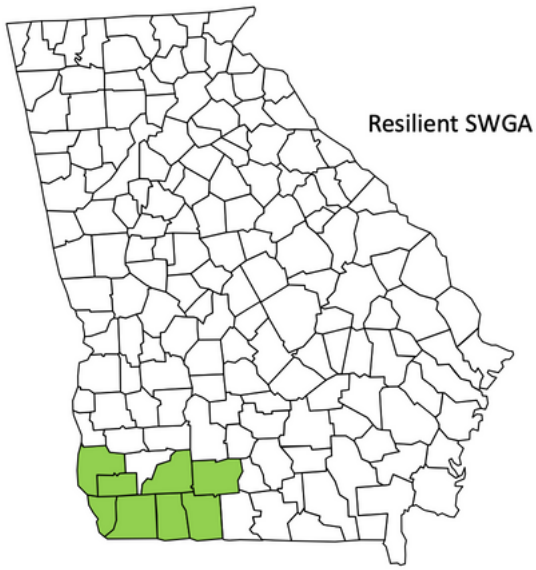
THOMASVILLE RESILIENT SWGA / THE VASHTI CENTER

The Thomasville Resilient SWGA/The Vashti Center coalition aims to increase awareness and provide needed resources to integrate trauma-informed care, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) education, resiliency, and mental health first aid across youth serving organizations. The coalition's location is in Southwest Georgia (SW GA) and includes the following counties: Colquitt, Decatur, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, and Thomas. Southwest Georgia, like many rural areas, is often more greatly affected by health disparities. The population carries higher burdens and rates of poverty, children in poverty, individuals feeling mental distress, and substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect when compared to the state, with fewer resources available to them. For context, while across the state of Georgia there are mental health provider shortages, these are more pronounced in rural areas such as in SW GA. 70% of the social workers in Georgia are employed in the metro Atlanta, meaning the remaining 30% of social workers covers the rest of the state. Another barrier to care in rural areas is the deficiency of access due to a lack of transportation, particularly public transportation. Anonymity and privacy can also often be challenging in small rural communities. The need in Southwest Georgia is immense for a more educated, engaged, and aware community on children's mental health, trauma-informed care practices, and resiliency initiatives for youth.

Mission and Broad Goals

Resilient SWGA aims to utilize a **tri-focused approach** for its mission to address health disparities affecting rural Southwest Georgia to develop more resiliency, increase awareness and improve access to mental health. Its areas of focus and goals for year one include:

1. To connect with child serving organizations across seven counties **to create and develop and offer a robust catalog of professional development and training opportunities** focused on the following topics: trauma-informed care, youth mental health first aid, child abuse and prevention, and adverse childhood experiences.
2. To **raise awareness and reduce stigma associated with mental health and trauma** among the seven counties.
3. To provide **advocacy efforts through education and in-services** to different sectors in the communities of the seven counties.



Coalition Geographic Service Areas

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

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- Raise awareness and reduce stigma associated with mental health and trauma among the seven counties by events to engage the public on importance of children's mental health, how it affects SWGA, and provide resources.
  - **The aim for this area is to reach 1,000 individuals+ in year one.**
  - Screening of the documentary *Resilience* and panel discussion in conjunction with the Covey Film Festival in Thomasville in January of 2021.
  - Series of events in May of 2021 as part of Children's Mental Health Awareness Month.
  - Events in discussion: lunch and learn with the local CASA organization in support of Child Abuse Prevention month, and events in October to spotlight Mental Illness Awareness Week.

Advocacy/Policy

- **Advocating for more trauma-informed language and services in the region** through education and in-services. These in-services seek to provide basic information about ACEs to organizations in the community that may have little to no knowledge regarding ACEs.
  - **The aim for this area of focus is provide 10 in-service presentations in year one.**
  - Organizations to be engaged for these advocacy efforts include but not limited to: churches, social clubs, libraries, police departments, fire departments, hospitals, etc.
  - The goal is to engage these organizations in the advocacy efforts, help them better understand how ACEs affect everyone, and have increased interest in receiving training.
  - Resilient SWGA has met twice with the Thomasville Police Department and had constructive conversations about a trauma-informed community.

Trainings

Training Goals: develop staff of child serving organizations. Improving the knowledge base is critical to providing organizations with additional tools to help them provide services that are trauma informed, trauma responsive, and make them more attuned to the child population they serve.

- Resilient SWGA aims to provide these trainings to at least 75% of the staff of the child serving organizations identified within two years.

Examples of trainings:

- **Child Welfare Training Collaborative** - Community training consisting of four modules focused on complex trauma, its impact on the brain, and how to build resilience.
- **Youth Mental Health First Aid**
- **Stewards of Children**
- **Connections Matter** (see Appendix)

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

- All evaluation activities are led and conducted by Dr. Debra Gresham, Associate Professor, Division of Social Work and Program Director of Social Work at Thomas University.
- Data collection will be utilized to provide understanding and assessment of the success and impact of the interventions, and inform Resilient SWGA on modifications to year two.

-Data collection and evaluation will be mixed methods in assessing the following outcomes:

Participant surveys
- Participation rates
- Number of events

-Attempting to engage with the Thomas University School of Social Work to assist with **data processing and evaluation** from post surveys completed at trainings.

Links

Vashti Center
@vashticenter Instagram
@VashtiCenter Facebook

Coalition Partners

- Adoptive and Foster Parent Association GA
- Colquitt County School System
- Colquitt County Family Connections
- GA Department of Behavioral Health &
- Developmental Disabilities
- Dental Associates of Southwest GA
- Hands and Hearts for Horses
- Mitchell County Family Connections
- Never Lost (CASA)
- Open Door Adoption Agency
- Southwest Georgia RESA
- Southwest Public Health District (Child Health Program staff)
- Thomas County DFCS
- Thomas County Family Connections
- Thomas County School System
- Thomas University School of Social Work
- Thomasville Community Resource Center
- Thomasville First United Methodist Church
- Thomasville Police Department
- Williams Family Foundation of GA

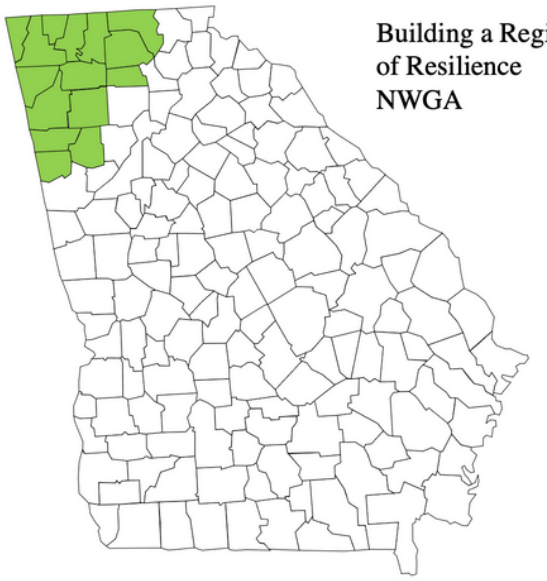
BUILDING A REGION OF RESILIENCE NWGA

Building a Region of Resilience NWGA seeks to build a common understanding of adversity, trauma, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), poverty, and toxic stress in order to improve the health and well-being of children. The coalition is comprised of 15 counties in Northwest Georgia including Rome-Floyd, and some of their key partners include: Rome-Floyd County Commission on Children and Youth, Global Impact, Georgia Family Connection Partnership, and more. Building a Region of Resilience NWGA is working on approaches and evidence-based programs to build capacity of partners/leaders to promote trauma/poverty-informed strategy development and implementation, increase community awareness of the effects of trauma on children and communities and support of positive youth development, and influence systems change by increasing awareness of the Strengthening Families framework. For context, the region has cited rates of child abuse and neglect, child poverty, mental health issues, and youth risk behavior that are on par with or higher than the state average. The region has also been significantly impacted by increases in drug overdose and the methamphetamine and opioid crises, with general substance abuse as the main cause of removal of children from their homes. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these crises, along with increasing food and housing insecurities. The prevention/intervention, advocacy, and training work and collaborations of the coalition are crucial to build a region of resilience for the well-being of children and families in Northwest Georgia.

Mission and Broad Goals

Building a Region of Resilience NWGA's mission drives them to advocate 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. Building a Region of Resilience NWGA has sought and seeks to accomplish this by:

- Building capacity of coordinators and key collaborative partners/leaders to support & promote trauma/poverty-informed strategy development and implementation through various activities.
- Increasing community awareness of the effects of trauma on children and communities and ways to support positive youth development to reduce the adverse effects of trauma. This increased awareness aids in building a common language and understanding across the region.
- Utilizing of evidence-based programs and practices like: Connections Matter, Darkness to Light, Bridges out of Poverty, the Prosperity Community Model, Mental Health First Aid - Question Persuade Refer (QPR), and other appropriate trauma/poverty activities.
- Influencing systems change by increasing awareness of the Strengthening Families framework and building the capacity of collaboratives & their partners to design and implement strategies and activities that align with the framework and protective factors and/or reflect understanding of poverty, trauma and adversity, and their effects on outcomes for children and families.



Coalition Geographic Service Areas

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

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Trainings	Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts
- **Hosting 5 viewings of the documentary: *Resilience*** with debrief discussions to engage the community in conversation & understanding of resilience - Polk County Family Connection participated with Mosaic Place Recovery Advocacy Center for multiple **awareness and client support events** - Local students viewed the **GEN Rx PSA** entitled "My Mom's My Drug Dealer" and participated in a round table discussion. - **Riley the Brave book** was placed in every pre-k to 2nd grade classroom in Cartersville City Schools, and "Stress Survival Kits" were given to all elementary school teachers. - **Building a Resilient Community Toolkit** for collaboratives, partners and community leadership to raise community awareness and drive systems change and sustainment of the movement.	- Use of Parent Cafés and 15 Civic Dinners to engage community members in efforts. • Themes: poverty, trauma, toxic stress, child abuse and neglect, etc., to build awareness and engage the community in conversations regarding needs and considerations for a **customized approach to systems change.** - **Georgia Reading stakeholder convenings and activities** to characterize the initiatives' work to build common language and community approaches to improving literacy and learning. - Four meetings were held with approximately 30 stakeholders and resulted in Whitfield county putting **more funds** in the Community Development Council to address homelessness. - Monthly meetings to strengthen identified areas of need, **advocate for policy and systems change**, and create a sustainable model for the region. Leveraging the experience of our Mentor Partner, Global Impact.	- Build understanding of the **Strengthening Families Framework** while supporting families to help improve outcomes for children. - Build capacity of collaboratives with **trauma- and poverty-informed professional development.** Examples include: • aha! Process – Bridges Out of Poverty • Connections Matter (see Appendix) • -Stewards of Children (see Appendix) - **Compassion fatigue trainings** for practitioners & providers to build a culture of self-care - **Trust-based Relational Intervention Training** for parents trying to reunify with their children - **Behavioral/mental health trainings for stakeholders**: • Mental Health First Aid (see Appendix) • Question, Persuade, Refer (see Appendix)	- Currently collecting monthly process data for capacity building and awareness activities participated in or facilitated by each collaborative: • Number of events • Number of participants -Will work with partners to identify two to three regional outcomes and the **indicators to track** to evaluate progress. • This process will begin at the first stakeholder meeting May/June 2021. • Identifying university support to assist in setting up a **data collection** infrastructure.

Links

Building a Region of Resilience NWGA
Bartow Collaborative, INC

Coalition Partners

- Bartow Collaborative, Inc.
- Catoosa County Family Connection
- Chattooga Family Connection
- DADE FIRST-Family Connection
- Fannin County Family Connection
- Gilmer County Family Connection
- Family Connection Gordon
- Haralson Family Connection
- Murray County Family Connection
- Paulding Family Connection
- Pickens County Family Connection
- Polk Family Connection
- Walker County Family Connection
- Whitfield Family Connection/Children & Families First
- DECAL – regional representatives/offices
- Department of Public Health: WIC, local health centers
- DJJ and Family Court Circuits in Region 1 – Formerly the Northwest System of Care
- GED and WIOA program providers
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership (GaFCP) • Georgia Highlands
- Georgia HOPE
- Global Impact
- Highland Rivers
- Local & Regional DFCS
- Local School Systems and Boards of Education (County, City) • North Georgia colleges and universities
- Primary Healthcare
- Regional Prevent Child Abuse Chapters & Prevent Child Abuse Georgia
- Rome-Floyd County Commission on Children and Youth
- United Way of Chattanooga
- United Way of North Georgia

UNITED WAY OF SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

The United Way of Southwest Georgia Success For Life Community Initiative (SFL) has stimulated a regional conversation across 13 counties in Southwest GA with a common goal to raise awareness of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and the toll they take on our community, increase communication and collaboration across community treatment and service sectors, bring a trauma-informed approach to treating people affected by ACEs, and "build resilience" to families and communities in order to break the intergenerational transmission of ACEs. The center of the project is based in Albany- Dougherty County and the catchment area includes: Baker, Calhoun, Crisp, Clay, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Sumter, Terrell, and Worth counties. According to the coalition, preventing ACEs and their intergenerational transfer is the greatest opportunity to improve the well-being of our communities' public health. The SFL Initiative's aims for Year 1 include a combination of education, innovation, service provision, and collaborative action. Across southwest GA, the coalition's 32 partners are fostering resilience in 32 different ways, but still while working on the shared agenda to ensure a brighter future.

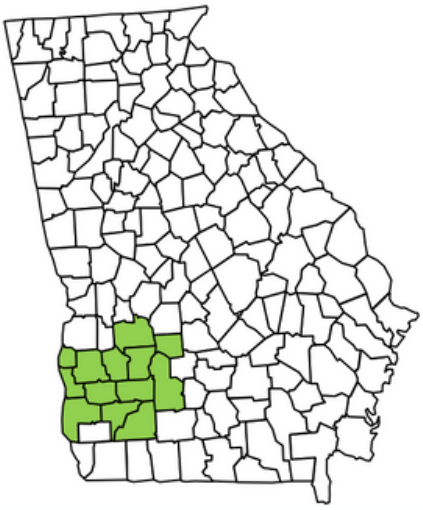
United Way of Southwest GA

Mission and Broad Goals

The Success for Life Community Initiative is the upstream move to tackle the root cause of challenges faced by many in the community. The coalition's goal is to dramatically improve the health and well-being of our community by addressing ACEs as a root cause of regional health issues, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the patterns of structural racism that endure in society. The SFL Community Initiative is a partnership of 30+ organizations and agencies throughout southwest Georgia working together to raise awareness of the effects of trauma, and to reduce its incidence and impact, as well as to build resilience in individuals, families, and our community. We all are connected, and we all win when a child succeeds in school, when families are financially stable, and when people are healthy. To "Live United" means being a part of the change. It takes everyone in the community working together to create a brighter future.

United Way of Southwest Georgia is working to advance the common good and strengthen systems that result in long-lasting changes in the following ways:

- Education – Helping children enter school ready to succeed
- Income – Improving financial literacy and career opportunities
- Health – Improving access to mental health services, decreasing alcohol misuse, preventing injuries and violence, and reducing chronic disease.
- • All sectors of southwest Georgia (including but not limited to healthcare, government, judicial and law enforcement, education, daycare, housing, employment, business, civic groups, religious groups and parent networks) will recognize the impact of trauma on health from preconception through age 26, and provide or support services for raising healthy children in safe, stable, nurturing environments.



Coalition Geographic Service Areas

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

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- **Adopt a shared language and understanding of ACEs, resilience, and safe, stable and nurturing environments.**
  - Hold quarterly community outreach and education opportunities.
  - Early Childhood Education Conference; Summit on Trauma and Resiliency
  - Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care Workshop
  - Diversity & Inclusion/Implicit Bias Workshop
  - Develop/disseminate local health care provider survey
  - Share talking points on ACEs.
- **Increase skills and services that help children and families develop resiliency.**
  - Share national resources on ACEs screening, trauma and resiliency.
  - Coordinate trauma-focused yoga workshops for early childhood educators and public school teachers.
  - Explore universal newborn home visiting models and financing options.
  - Implement social emotional curriculum in K-12 classes
  - Assess and implement post-partum anxiety. disorder support modalities.
  - Educate families/pregnant mothers about prevention and mitigation of ACEs.

Advocacy/Policy

- Coordinate with Prevention and Intervention elected officials' subcommittees to **advocate for government support for screening** and also consider opportunities for state-level advocacy.
- Educate city, county, state, federal elected officials on the need to address ACEs, in order to promote need for screening.
  - **Meetings have been held with members of city and county commissioners** discussing a detailed Resilient GA work plan and disseminating information and potential trainings that can benefit the community.
  - **Attended Mental Health Day at the Capitol on January 19, 2021** brought forth great information and resources to begin the process of educating city, county, state, federal elected officials on the need to address ACEs, in order to promote need for screening.
  - **Providing officials with informative materials** and a symposium/forum about ACEs and the need for screening; seeking a partnership with the MHA legislative breakfast.

Trainings

- Trainings are held for Executive Directors, Collaborators, Practitioners, Community Members, Stakeholders, & Coordinators.
- Description of trainings:
  - **The Empower Action Model:** Framework for Preventing ACEs by Promoting Health, Equity, and Well-Being Across the Life Span
  - **Outreach Wellness Learning** 1-hour seminars on general mental health including impacts of trauma and implementing effective coping strategies to manage wellness.
  - **Strengthening Families Georgia Framework** for childcare & other professionals to identify 5 protective factors that lower the risk of abuse/neglect and build family strength & a supportive environment
  - **Adult Mental Health First Aid** provided to first responders (see Appendix)
  - **Stewards of Children** (see Appendix)
  - **Connections Matter (**see Appendix)

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

-The data collection for the evaluation will be a combination of methods to include, but not limited to **quantitative approaches and qualitative approaches**. This information will be interpreted to determine progress towards achieving a more trauma- informed community.
- Outcome evaluations will measure changes in participant knowledge and awareness.

Research

- **Applied to be a part of the DASH mentorship program** to prioritize the Resilient GA data and outcomes to identify and implement data exchange and care coordination models, increase partnership and community engagement, navigate internal and external challenges, and align with United Way.
- **Identify and pursue funding opportunities for:**
  - Workshops with local, state and national experts
  - ACEs Liaison position; Secure funding in City/County executive budgets
  - Universal prevention efforts (ACEs screening, parent education)

Links

United Way of Southwest Georgia
@unitedwayswga Facebook
@unitedwayswga Instagram

Coalition Partners

- ASPIRE Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability Services
- Albany Area Primary Health Care
- Albany Area YMCA
- Albany Housing Authority
- Albany State University
- Albany Technical College
- Andrew College
- Augusta University
- Black Child Development Institute (BCDI)- Atlanta
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Albany
- Childcare Resource & Referral – Albany Dougherty County
- School System
- The City of Albany
- 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 Division of Family & Children Services, Regions 4 & 5
- Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership, Regions 8 & 10
- Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network
- Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia
- Liberty House
- Lily Pad
- Lorio Psych Group
- Mental Health America of Georgia
- National Alliance on Mental Illness
- Albany Phoebe Putney Health System
- Southwest Public Health District
- Southwest RESA
- United Way of Southwest Georgia

ALIGNING COMMUNITY SYSTEMS FOR RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

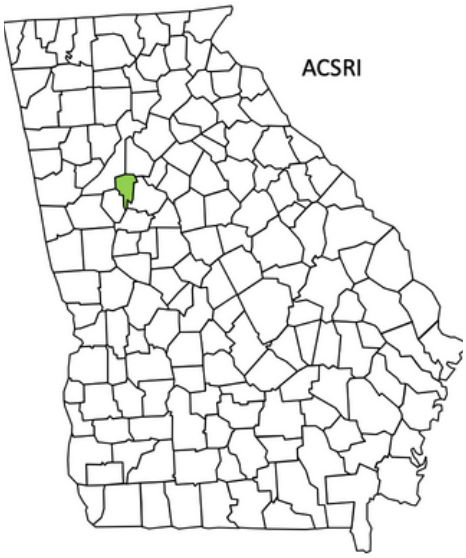
The Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative (ACSRI) is a partnership between the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential (GCAPP), a community capacity-building organization that works to build a more equitable and healthy generation of young people, and Community Health Solutions (CHS), a public health consulting firm committed to addressing complex social issues that produce disparate outcomes. Together, these organizations will work to create a more trauma-informed community and system of care in Clayton County. Children's exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) remains a driver for poor health and social outcomes. The impact of ACEs can be seen in all segments of society, but its affects are significantly more prevalent in marginalized communities like those in Clayton County. Recent community conversations uncovered common concerns such as violence, poverty, broken family systems, trauma, and lack of mentorship. To address these issues, the ACSRI will utilize a community-informed approach by engaging 200 targeted youth and 200 community stakeholders through listening sessions, trainings, and action planning and will reach 1,000 residents through a multi-media awareness campaign.

Mission and Broad Goals

The Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative (ACSRI) is a multi-dimensional strategy designed to engage all sectors of the Clayton County community in the development of a trauma responsive community ecosystem.

A trauma responsive community is defined as a community in which:

- All community stakeholders are aware of the impact of ACEs on health and wellness
- Trauma Informed Care is a normative practice in all sectors
- Evidence based/evidence informed ACE prevention strategies are embedded within the community and
- in all sectors
- Responsive systems of support grounded in culturally responsive developmental relationships exist (and
- are easily accessed) throughout the community
- Voice and agency are given to community stakeholders who model resilience and "overcoming"
- Sector leaders and grassroots stakeholders work collaboratively to identify tailored prevention and
- remediation strategies that respond to the needs of their community as they evolve



Coalition Geographic Service Area

Clayton

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Trainings	Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts
- Develop a culturally responsive awareness campaign that **defines and acknowledges trauma, but promotes hope and healing** in the community by lifting up the voices of resilient community members and community champions **- Parent Toolkit** - Launched in May 2020, the Parent Toolkit is available on GCAPP's website and offers medically accurate information and resources on a range of topics including healthy relationships and issues of consent to body image and nutrition. Includes tools and strategies for talking with children and conversation starters. **- TMI-Georgia App**, and its companion website provide teens a convenient source of information on sexual health. Teens can explore options for birth control and STD prevention, find out what to expect at clinical appointments and equip themselves with questions to ask during the visits.	- Not currently and directly engaged in policy strengthening or advocacy activities yet.	- **GCAPP's Sexual Violence Prevention Training** is offered for both school-based staff and youth-serving professionals. It includes a brief overview of various forms of sexual violence, including rape, sexual harassment, and stalking. The training also explores the importance of consent, how the media portrays sexual violence, and discusses general laws associated with sexual violence. - **Additional community stakeholder trainings will include** (see Appendix): • Youth Mental Health First Aid Training • Stewards of Children • Connections Matter Training	**Research** **-Needs Assessment** involving listening sessions: • Assess the Clayton County community's overall knowledge and awareness (across sectors) of ACEs and Trauma Informed Care (TIC) • Establish a baseline of knowledge and training needs by sector • Use the results to guide action planning **Evaluation** - An ongoing evaluation of programs and operations will occur comprehensively, examining both the **process and outcomes** associated with the implementation of curricula and culturally responsive adolescent health training & technical assistance. - GCAPP's measurement strategy will rely on a multi-component, mixed-methods approach to measure progress toward goals and objectives.

Links

GCAPP
CHS
@GCAPP Facebook
@CHS Facebook

Coalition Partners

- Clayton Center Community Service Board
- The Clayton Collaborative Authority (Georgia
- Family Connections)
- Clayton County Chamber of Commerce
- Clayton County Commissioners
- Clayton County Department of Juvenile Justice
- Clayton County Department of Public Health
- Clayton County District Attorney's Office
- Clayton County Family Connections
- Clayton County Public Library
- Clayton County Schools
- Clayton State University
- Department of Family and Children Services
- Housing Authority of Clayton County
- Flint River Boys and Girls Club
- GCAPP Youth Advisory Council
- Goodwill
- The Rock Church
- Solid Rock Academy
- United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Various non-profits: Hearts to Nourish Hope,
- Sisters Empowerment Network, & Rainbow House

COBB COLLABORATIVE

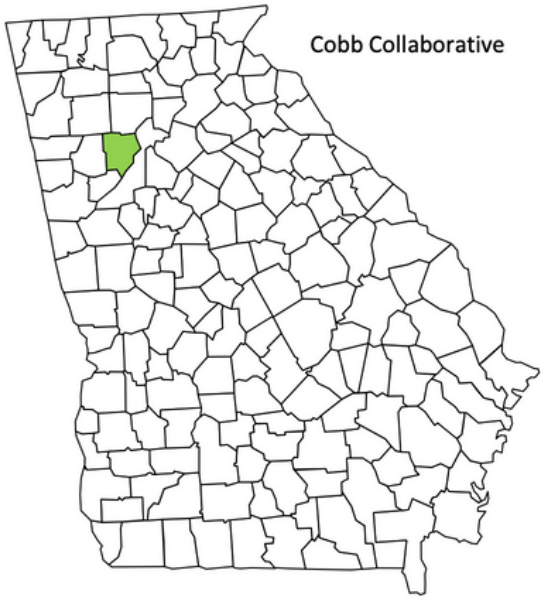
The Cobb Collaborative is working to create a trauma-informed community throughout Cobb County by providing trainings and resources to organizations that work with children who are at risk for adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). This includes children living in poverty, the foster care system, the juvenile justice system, and others who have endured traumatic events. Cobb County is a densely populated suburban area within Metropolitan Atlanta. The percentage of children living in poverty in Cobb County is about 9% lower than that of the Georgia population. However, there are still 20,394 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 in the county. 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 will focus on building a toolkit of resources and trainings for local stakeholders and community members to raise awareness and build capacity during Year 1. Then, during Year 2, in addition to facilitating ongoing trainings, the coalition will incorporate more policy/advocacy work.

Mission and Broad Goals

The Cobb Collaborative seeks to make Cobb County a place where community sector leaders and care providers (1) understand that trauma exists, (2) acknowledge its effects on children and families, (3) understand that trauma can have lasting impacts, and (4) learn that trauma can be prevented and resiliency can be built at the individual and community level.

The three main goals of the Cobb Collaborative include:

- Increase awareness and cultivate a shared language and understanding of trauma, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and the role of safe, stable and nurturing environments.
- Improve the trauma-informed capabilities of providers, families, and community members by equipping them with the training necessary to improve outcomes for the children they serve.
- Empower advocates to address long-standing issues of healthcare equity, systemic racism, and social justice and have agencies embed practices and protocols into the implementation of their work and strategies.



Coalition Geographic Service Area

Cobb

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- An advisory council of **community champions** will be formed to amplify the message about the importance of the Cobb Collaborative and the benefits to the community.
- The **Mind Your Mind** mental health awareness campaign is being implemented to raise awareness, promote resiliency and reduce stigma of behavioral health conditions. The campaign includes a website and social media accounts with:
  - Resources
  - Upcoming events
  - Featured partners
- The **Resilient Cobb Toolkit,** a digital resource, will be developed and made available to the community to assist with the adoption of a shared language and understanding of ACEs, resilience and safe, stable and nurturing family and community environments.
- **Resilient Cobb Summit**
  - Stakeholders and partners will be invited
  - The coalition will collaborate with a representative from the "Get Georgia Reading" campaign, which incorporates mental health and access to community resources as foundational elements for children being ready and able to learn

Advocacy/Policy

- Track bills moving through the Georgia General Assembly Session for 2022 that **impact youth and families.**
- Partner with the other metro-area Round 3 coalitions to address issues that impact **urban/suburban** communities specifically.

Links

Cobb Collaborative
@CobbCollaborative Instagram
@CobbCollaborative Facebook

Trainings

- **Trauma-informed Trainings** for system personnel working with youth and community members. (see Appendix):
  - Connections Matter
  - Stewards of Children
  - Community Resiliency Model
  - Mindful Self Compassion
- **Child Welfare Training Collaborative** educates community members about the basics of trauma and its impact on brain development.
- **Public screenings of *Resilience* and *Paper Tigers*** documentaries
- **Parent/Caregiver Discussions** are a 3-part series led by two trauma-informed therapists
- **Kennesaw State University Children & Family Programs** seek to align the family system, the school system, and the community system to better support children and families.
  - **Adapted Community Parent Education Program (based on COPE):** parents learn to navigate the school system and increase social capital.
  - **Social Skills for Children and Behavioral Parenting Training:** school staff and professionals become more equipped with tools to manage behaviors which arise from trauma and/or unstable environments.

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

- A **mixed-method approach** will be utilized to conduct an evaluation during year 1 and year 2 of the initiative.
- In partnership with Kennesaw State University, the coalition will utilize the **Community Integration Scale** to track participants' progress as they engage with various aspects of the initiative.
- **Quantitative** outcomes will include:
  - Number of newly trained individuals
  - Percentage of participants with increased knowledge
  - Percentage of participants with increased skills
  - Number of community members reached by PR campaign
  - Number of community members who utilized the digital toolkit

-Qualitative input will be collected throughout implementation to better inform the work of the Cobb Collaborative.

Coalition Partners

- Children & Family Programs at Kennesaw State University
- Cobb Community Alliance to Prevent Substance Abuse
- Cobb Community Foundation
- Cobb County Community Services Board
- Cobb County District Attorney's Office
- Cobb County Division of Family & Children
- Services
- Cobb County Library
- Cobb County School District
- Georgia Department of Public Health
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership
- Marietta City Schools
- Marietta/Cobb Continuum of Care
- Ser Familia
- United Way of Greater Atlanta

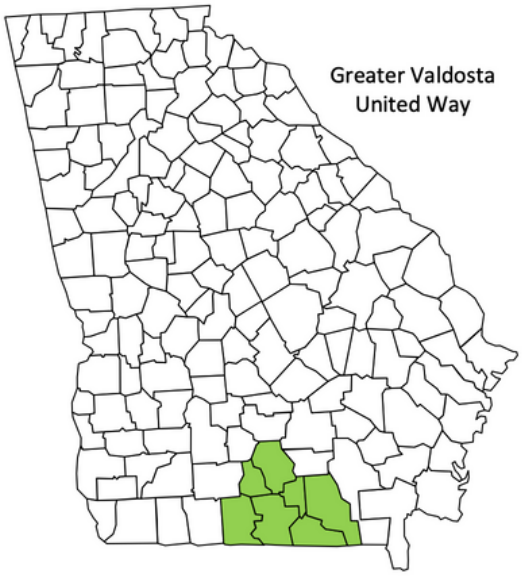
GREATER VALDOSTA UNITED WAY

Greater Valdosta United Way (GVUW) strives to be a hub for non-profit organizations in Berrien, Brooks, Clinch, Cook, Echols, Lanier, and Lowndes counties to provide a unified approach to human services in those communities. Although the Lowndes county area is considered the only metropolitan area in South Georgia, the other counties surrounding Valdosta consist of communities that contain a very diverse and rural population. GVUW serves populations that may have limited access to resources related to challenges with transportation, poverty, and/or lack of knowledge about available services. The communities in rural South Georgia have seen an increase in concerns related to mental health, suicide, human trafficking, and a growing number of children who struggle with adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). These experiences can cause chronic stress, behavioral issues, and altered brain development in children. Without intervention, ACEs can cause poor health outcomes as children mature into adults. To address these issues, GVUW will provide evidence-based training to parents, law enforcement, first responders, and those who work with children. GVUW will also provide local clinicians with youth mental health screening and referral information, and provide a local youth club with self-care, stress relief, and physical health education.

Mission and Broad Goals

Greater Valdosta United Way's mission is to create positive change by bringing resources together to improve people's lives in local communities.
The goal of this initiative is to develop and implement a plan focusing on awareness and education around mental health, suicide prevention, and human trafficking to promote resiliency in South Georgia through a unified trauma-informed response.
Areas of Focus

- Mental Health 101/Youth Mental Health 101
- Suicide Prevention
- Human Trafficking



Coalition Geographic Service Area

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

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

- **GVUW will partner with Legacy Behavioral Health Services** to provide the following support for patients:
  - An on-staff **health coach** will meet with patients to review educational material related to mental health and provide referral information for mental health services offered through Legacy.
  - **Screening** for social determinants of health and depression during all intakes.
  - **Resources** on ACEs, sexual abuse, etc. for parents, grandparents, and other caretakers.
- A campaign will be launched to **spread awareness** about the three areas of focus via the following mediums:
  - Billboards
  - Radio
  - Social media

Advocacy/Policy

- **Partnering** with the following elected officials is a solid step in advocating for a more resilient community:
  - **Scott James Matheson**, Valdosta City Mayor
  - **Russ Goodman**, State Senator, District 8

Trainings

- **First Responders Training**: Two separate one-day trainings on mental health 101, suicide prevention, and human trafficking for first responders. Trainings will take place in 2 areas within the community.
- **Community Awareness Training** for children and families, offered by the Monique Burr Foundation, covers the following topics:
  - Digital Safety
  - Physical/Emotional Safety
  - The Five Types of Abuse
  - Sex Trafficking
  - Mental Health/Substance Abuse
  - Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention
- **Mental Health 101** training sessions will be held on a quarterly basis for agencies in the community that work with children
- **Stewards of Children** (see Appendix)

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

- A one-year **evaluation** will help to determine if any modifications are needed for year 2 of funding.
  - Data collection will be pulled from audience reached.
  - Outcomes measured will be based on knowledge of ACE's and services available within the communities served.

-For events and trainings, the following data will be collected:
  - Number of people in attendance
  - Participant feedback

Links

Greater Valdosta United Way
@GreaterValdostaUnitedWay Instagram
@GreaterValdostaUnitedWay1 Facebook

Coalition Partners

- Boys and Girls Club
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Family Connections Region 11
- Girls on the Run
- Greater Valdosta United Way
- The Haven
- Legacy Behavioral Health Services
- Mayor Scott James Matheson
- Partnership Health Center
- Russ Goodman, District 8 State Senator Second Harvest of South Georgia
- Vince Miller, Valdosta State University Dean of Students

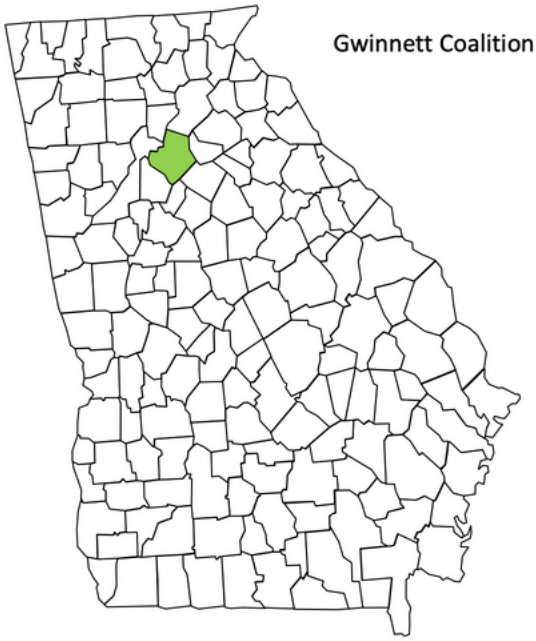
RESILIENT GWINNETT

The Resilient Gwinnett is a 30-year-old non-profit organization in one of the fastest growing counties in the country, Gwinnett County. This suburban community of 936,250 residents is also the most diverse community in the southeastern United States. Many families in the region face language and culture barriers, and 16.5% of Gwinnett residents do not have health insurance. This rate is double the nationwide average of 8.8% of citizens without coverage. Additionally, many adults in Gwinnett communities of color are employed in low-wage, unstable jobs with minimal education, and 15.1% of children age 18 and younger live in poverty. Children living in environments such as these are more vulnerable to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), which can be detrimental to long-term health and wellbeing. Therefore, Resilient Gwinnett is seeking to build a trauma-informed community through capacity building and systems change to benefit children and families across the county. Resilient Gwinnett will leverage its deep relationships with local nonprofits, agencies and service providers, and provide leadership for the development of a framework that moves the community along the continuum of trauma. This framework, along with a community needs assessment, will inform the work of Resilient Gwinnett.

Mission and Broad Goals

Resilient Gwinnett aims to:

1. Increase community awareness, implement a common language, and create understanding about adversity and resilience.
2. Build capacity by working with partners to train a wide variety of practitioners, community leaders, and community members on trauma-informed practices and ACEs prevention, reduction and intervention strategies.
3. Influence systems change by conducting a community needs assessment and using it as a catalyst for improving accessibility, accountability, and coordination among professionals and agencies in the Gwinnett County service delivery ecosystem.



Coalition Geographic Service Area

Gwinnett

EXAMPLES OF ACES-RELATED OBJECTIVES

Prevention/ Intervention

-**Increase community awareness and understanding** of ACEs and trauma-informed care by leveraging existing platforms and partnerships such as:

- **The Gwinnett County Department of Community Services** will distribute resource material and promote trainings and events that are open to the community.
- **The Center for Pan Asian Community Services** will help to overcome language and cultural barriers in the dissemination of resources and training.
- **Gwinnett County Communications, Live Healthy Gwinnett and the Gwinnett Daily Post** will disseminate information to the community on the adverse effects of childhood trauma, stigma related to trauma, and the value of trauma-informed practices.
- **Gwinnett Cares** virtual summits and webpage will be utilized to share messages across the community.

Advocacy/Policy

- **The Gwinnett County Human Services System Needs Assessment** will be used as a catalyst for improving the Gwinnett County service delivery ecosystem by informing the following:
  - The development of an **updated framework** that utilizes an equity lens and the principles of collective impact.
  - The identification of **priority issues and prevention strategies** to effectively address existing and future issues.
  - The development of a **collaborative and actionable plan** designed for strategic impact.

Trainings

- **The goal is to train 31,693 individuals or 5% of Gwinnett's population to reach a "tipping point."**
- Training will be delivered to community leaders, community members, practitioners, and those working and volunteering for youth-serving organizations. These include faith-based institutions, school and afterschool systems, juvenile court, and civic and fraternal organizations.
- Examples of Trainings (see Appendix):
  - **Question, Persuade, Refer**
  - **Youth Mental Health First Aid**
  - **Stewards of Children**

Research/Evaluation/ Other Efforts

- An ongoing **evaluation** will be conducted to assess the impact of the initiative.
- Evaluation activities will include:
  - Focus groups
  - Pre- and post-tests
  - Surveys
  - Interviews

-Collected outputs include:

- Number of individuals who complete each training
- Number of resources disseminated

Links

Resilient Gwinnett
@GwinnettCoalition Instagram
@GwinnettCoalition Facebook

Coalition Partners

- Adults Protecting Children
- Center for Pan Asian Community Services
- Community Foundation for Northeast Georgia
- Georgia Center for Child Advocacy
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership
- GUIDE, Inc.
- Gwinnett County Department of Community Services
- Gwinnett County Department of Family and Children Services
- Gwinnett County Public Schools Mosaic Georgia
- Ser Familia
- United Way of Greater Atlanta
- View Point HealthWellness and Trauma Recovery Center

GLOSSARY OF TRAINING

Community Resiliency Model (CRM) is an innovative and preventative low-cost, low-intensity training, which involves a simple set of mental wellness skills that can be readily learned and practiced. CRM skills can restore the natural balance of the nervous system by focusing on sensations of well-being.

Connections Matter 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.

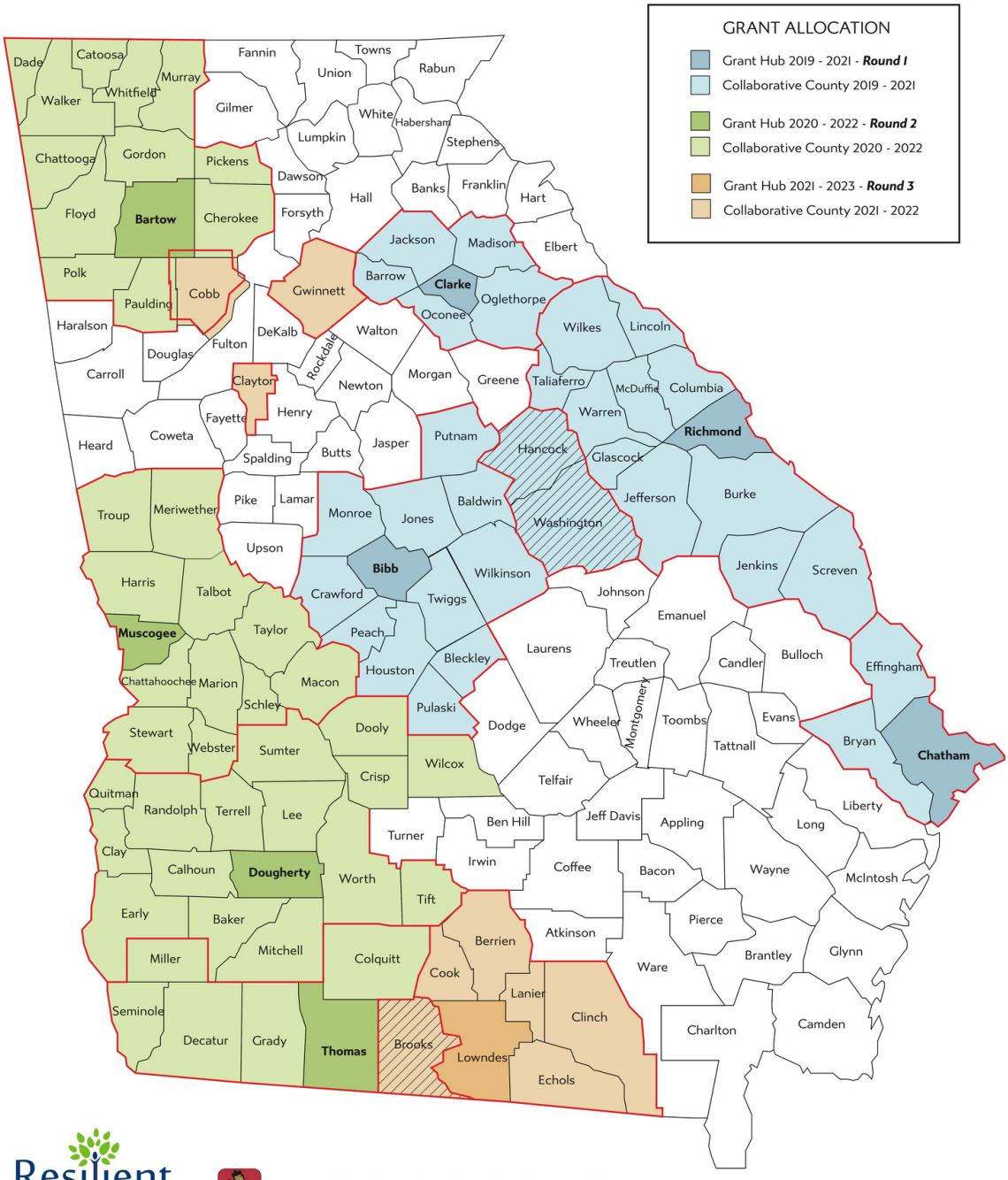
Mental Health First Aid is a skills-based training course that teaches participants about mental health and substance-use issues. This training is available in both adult and youth curriculum.

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.

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.

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.

PHILANTHROPIC GRANTS MAP



Resilient GEORGIA

THE PITTULLOCH FOUNDATION

GRANTEE CONTACTS

GRANTEE	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	PHONE	EMAIL
ALBANY	Shauna Motley	President + CEO	United Way of SWGA	229.883.6700 ext. 28	shaunae.motley@unitedwayswga.org
	Ashley Williams	Special Projects Manager	United Way of SWGA	229.854.3631	specialprojects@unitedwayswga.org
ATHENS	Sarah McKinney	President + CEO	Athens Area Community Foundation	706.357.7148	smckinney@athensareacf.org
	Grace Bagwell	Assistant Dean for Outreach, Engagement and Equity	College of Public Health, UGA	706.713.2701	grace.bagwell@gmail.com
AUGUSTA	Kim Loomer	Dean for Students and Multicultural Affairs	Augusta University	706.721.6110	kloomer@augusta.edu
	Kathryn Martin	Associate Dean for Regional Campuses	Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University	706.721.2812	katmartin@augusta.edu
CHATTA-HOOCHEE VALLEY	Ben Moser	President + CEO	United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley	706.887.7440	bmoser@unitedwayofthecv.org
	Sidney Houck	Project Coordinator	United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley	706.327.3255	shouck@unitedwayofthecv.org
CLAYTON	Michael Armstrong	Chief Operations Officer	Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential	404.475.6046	michael@gcapp.org
	Ronald McNeill	President + CEO	Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential	404.475.6043	ronald@gcapp.org
	Taylor Bryan	Senior Consultant for Community Systems	Community Health Solutions (CHS)	404.457.2008	tbryan@chsinnovates.org
	Catherine Stolarski	VP of Development	Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential	404.475.6042	catherine@gcapp.org

GRANTEE CONTACTS

GRANTEE	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	PHONE	EMAIL
SAVANNAH	Lizann Roberts	Executive Director	Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition	912.651.1478	director .cgic@gmail.com
	Vira Salzburn	Program Director for Prevent Suicide Today	Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council	912.661.0577	virasalzburn@chlink.org
	Maureen McFadden	Director of Child and Adolescent Programs, Outreach	Gateway Community Service Board	912.506.3180	maureen.mcfadden@gatewaybhs.org
COBB	Irene Barton	Executive Director	Cobb Collaborative	678.766.5574	ibarton@cobbcollaborative.org
	Kayleigh Raulerson	Program Director	Cobb Collaborative	470.315.0745	kraulerson@cobbcollaborative.org
GWINNETT	Renee Byrd-Lewis	Executive Director	Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services	770.625.7917	rbyrd.lewis@gwinnettcoalition.org
	Jessica Andrews-Wilson	Executive Director	GUIDE Inc.	706.740.0782	jessica@guideinc.org
	Jennifer Hibbard	Counselor & Chief Executive Officer	View Point Health	678.360.5200	jennifer.hibbard@vphealth.org
MIDDLE GEORGIA	Jill Vanderhoek	Executive Director	Bibb Community Partnership	478.219.2447	jill@bibbcommunitypartnership.org
	Andrea S. Meyer	Director of the Master of Family Therapy Program	Mercer University	478.301.4098	meyer_as@mercer.edu
ROME	Gabrielle Hawkins-Stewart	Regional Manager	Georgia Family Connection	678.358.2235	gabrielle@gafcp.org
	Doug Belisle	Executive Director	Bartow Collaborative	678.719.2041	bartowcollaborative@gmail.com
THOMAS-VILLE	Elijah Miranda	Executive Director	The Vashti Center	229.226.4634 ext. 108	elijahm@vashti.org
	Alex English	Community Training Coordinator	The Vashti Center	229.226.4634 ext. 131	alexe@vashti.org
VALDOSTA	Michael Smith	Executive Director	Greater Valdosta United Way	229.242.2208 C:229.630.3838	msmith@unitedwayvaldosta.org

Resilient GEORGIA

For more information, visit resilientga.org.

Questions or feedback?
Contact info@resilientga.org.