

WAYCROSS AREA RESILIENT GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

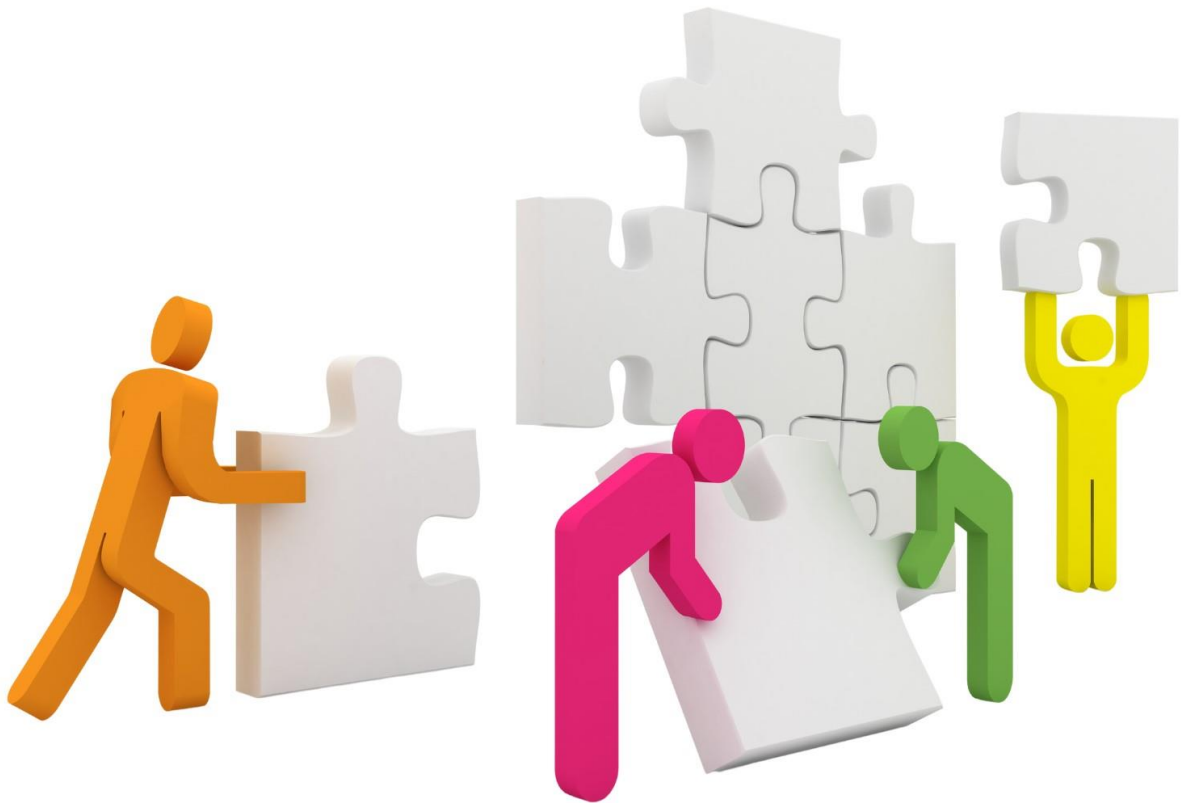




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About the Resilient Georgia Regional Grants

[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.

- 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 November 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. Round 4 funding was awarded in December 2021 to regional coalitions based out of Atlanta, Brunswick, Gainesville, and Waycross and the surrounding areas.

Coalition Mission

Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership'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 with the impact of Covid-19 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, we will be able to promote resiliency in the Waycross Judicial Circuit through a unified trauma informed response. Additionally, Waycross is developing the Family Justice Center as a multi-agency, cross-sector service center to facilitate care for victims of interpersonal violence in one location. Visit our website to learn more at <https://www.waycrossareashelter.com/> and follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MagnoliaHouseShelter/>.



Summary

The Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership has worked to create a community response through cross-sectored partnership throughout the six counties it serves - Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Coffee, Pierce, and Ware - to provide a trauma-informed response to ACEs by:

- Creating Family Justice Center partnerships with judicial sectors, law enforcement officers, parents, and school systems.
- Addressing substance abuse and the effects it has on families through prevention and awareness training.
- Developing programs in schools to prevent and address suicide through training and bullying with the Waycross Police Department, Family Connections, and Unison Behavioral Health.
- 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 a safe, stable, nurturing environment.
- Educating and engaging community members, raising awareness of intergenerational ACEs and providing prevention measures to our community by attending Lunch and Learns, community forums, parent engagement meetings, and staff meetings.

The Waycross area incorporates several low-income, single-parent homes, with little to no transportation. Waycross area is a very rural area that is home to large farm communities made up by much of the underserved population. This population brings with it language and transportation barriers. Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership has allowed us to collaborate and network with other resources while targeting but not limited to this population. We have been able to target populations including foster children and families as well as people living in recovery. We will continue to provide intervention education and awareness to our community through community events, training, advocacy, support groups, and life skills groups.

Leadership Team and Contributors

Michelle Girtman

Executive Director, Waycross Area Shelter for Abused Persons, Inc. d/b/a Magnolia House

Heather M. Flowers

Family Justice Center Site Coordinator, Waycross Area Shelter for Abused Persons, Inc. d/b/a Magnolia House



Lucille Husbands

Fiscal/HR/Admin Manager, Waycross Area Shelter for Abused Persons, Inc. d/b/a Magnolia House

Lisa Manders

Special Projects Coordinator, Waycross Area Shelter for Abused Persons, Inc. d/b/a/ Magnolia House

Coalition Partners

a) Public:

- (1) Waycross Police Department: Chief Tommy Cox, tcox@waycrossga.com or 912-287-2927
- (2) Ware County Sheriff's Office: Sheriff Carl James, cjames@waresheriff.com or 912-287-4726
- (3) Southeast Health District/CDC: Ambi Bess, Health Promotion Coordinator/Public Health Analyst, Ambi.Bess@dph.ga.gov or 912-287-5883

b) Private: None

c) Academic:

- (1) Ware County Board of Education: Paige Coker, Director of Special Projects, pcoker@ware.k12.ga.us or 912-283-8656
- (2) Brantley County Board of Education: Kim Morgan, Superintendent, 912-462-6167
- (3) Crossroads Christian Academy: Joey Fitzgerald, Headmaster, jfitzgerald@ccawaycross.com or 912-490-2224
- (4) Southside Christian School: Monica Youngblood, School Administrator, administrator@southsidek12.com or 912-285-543
- (5) Ware County 4-H Department: Vicki Kuhbander, 4-H County Program Assistant, vkuhbander@uga.edu or 912-287-2456

d) Non- Profit:

- (1) Magnolia House: Michelle Girtman, Executive Director, mgirtman@waycrossareashelter.com or 229-300-0398 and Heather M. Flowers, FJC Site Coordinator, fjccc@magnoliahouseshelter.com or 912-387-3644
- (2) YMCA: Jeana Griffin, School Age Program Director, jgriffin@ymcawaycross.org or 912-285-8660
- (3) Action Pact: 912-285-6290

e) Community:

- (1) Ware County Family Connections, Gail Seifert, Director, warechildrensinitiative@gmail.com or 912-816-5317
- (2) Brantley County Family Connections, Dawn Deen, Director, bcfc@btconline.net or 912-462-5979



- (3) Charlton County Family Connections, Carla C. Rodeffer, Director, carlarodeffer@charlton.k12.ga.us or 912-276-0394
- (4) Coffee County Family Connections, April Thomason, Director, april.thomason@coffee.k12.ga.us or 912-389-6523
- (5) Pierce County Family Connections, Stephanie J. Bell, Director, piercefc@gmail.com or 912-230-7835
- (6) Unison Behavioral Health: Tiffany Henderson, Director, thender@unisonbh.com or 912-449-7100
- (7) Southeast Georgia CASA: Jessica Blackrick, Director, jblackrick@myactionpact.org or 912-809-6072





Leadership Buy-in (County/City/State):

Tommy Cox, Police Chief, Waycross Police Department has partnered with us to train/provide awareness to the cadets through Jr. Police Academy to receive Bullying, Cyber Bullying, and Human Trafficking. He has also partnered with us to provide education to his staff to become more Trauma Informed and Hope Centered.

Carl James, Sheriff, Ware County Sheriff's Office, has partnered with us to train/provide awareness and education to his staff to become more Trauma Informed and Hope Centered.

Bert Smith, Superintendent, Ware County Board of Education has partnered with us to train/provide awareness to the youth, counselors, teachers, school resource officers, and other staff to receive Suicide Prevention, Safety, Bullying, Cyber Bullying, Human Trafficking, etc. He has also expressed his interest in educating his staff to become more Trauma Informed and Hope Centered.

Kim Morgan, Superintendent, Brantley County Board of Education has partnered with us to train/provide awareness to the youth, counselors, teachers, school resource officers, and other staff to receive Suicide Prevention, Safety, Bullying, Cyber Bullying, Human Trafficking, etc. She has also expressed her interest in educating her staff to become more Trauma Informed and Hope Centered.

Mayor Michael Angelo-James, City of Waycross has partnered with us to train/provide awareness to the youth and community, First Responders, and other staff to receive Suicide Prevention, Safety, and Bullying. He has also expressed his interest in the community to become more Trauma Informed and Hope Centered.

Message from the Principal Investigators

The Resilient Georgia partnership this year has been directed towards promoting familial bonding among families that have recently experienced domestic violence. This initiative is of paramount importance as it aims to provide necessary support and opportunities for these families to come together and create positive experiences in the aftermath of such traumatic events. We are thankful for Resilient Georgia partnership's efforts to promote familial bonding among families that have experienced domestic violence as this is a significant step towards supporting their healing journey.

—Stacey Anderson, Shelter Manager, Waycross Area Shelter for Abused Persons, Inc.



The Waycross YMCA has been a pillar in our community for over 125 years. One of our Flagship programs is Camp Reveille. A camp created with the community in mind where a kid can be a kid. Where our campers can come and enjoy their time and not worry about hunger, or where they may sleep at night. Camp Reveille provides a sense of safety, nurturing, and community. Resilient Georgia continued their partnership with the Waycross YMCA this year by becoming our Lodging Sponsor. Resilient Georgia stepped up and lightened the burden as they provided funds to cover our camp cabins this year! They provided over 65 safe beds for campers this summer!

Ms. Heather Flowers also recognized the importance of our Camp Reveille Staff and offered “Self-Care” training and team building. Ms. Flowers also acknowledged the importance of the job they committed to. Resilient Georgia and the YMCA of Waycross, “Camp Reveille” is a natural fit, both look to empower, nurture, educate and unite our community. We are thankful for our partnership and look forward to it each year!

—Jeana Griffin, YMCAs of Waycross, Georgia, INC.

School Age & Camp Reveille Director, Food Service Program Coordinator

Thank you for the amazing partnership not just in Brantley County but all your counties. The work you do helps so many children, youth, and families. I look forward to continuing the partnership in the future.

—Dawn Dean, Director, Brantley County Family Connections

We just wanted to thank you and all the great folks at the Magnolia House for all the support and love you gave our school and our students. You truly made a positive difference for everyone at Waycross Middle School.

—David Hitt, Principal, Waycross Middle School

Southeast Georgia CASA’s mission is to educate and empower community volunteers to advocate for the best interest of children in foster care. Resilient Georgia has provided the resources to educate our volunteers to better understand ACEs, their effects, and how to mitigate those effects so that we can better serve the children and families who have experienced layers of trauma. We have also had the pleasure of partnering with Resilient Georgia and Heather Flowers to educate the community on child sexual abuse prevention. This education is so vital to our community, and we would not be able to reach so many people without Resilient Georgia.

—Jessica Blackrick, Director, SE Georgia CASA

Key Impacts/Accomplishments

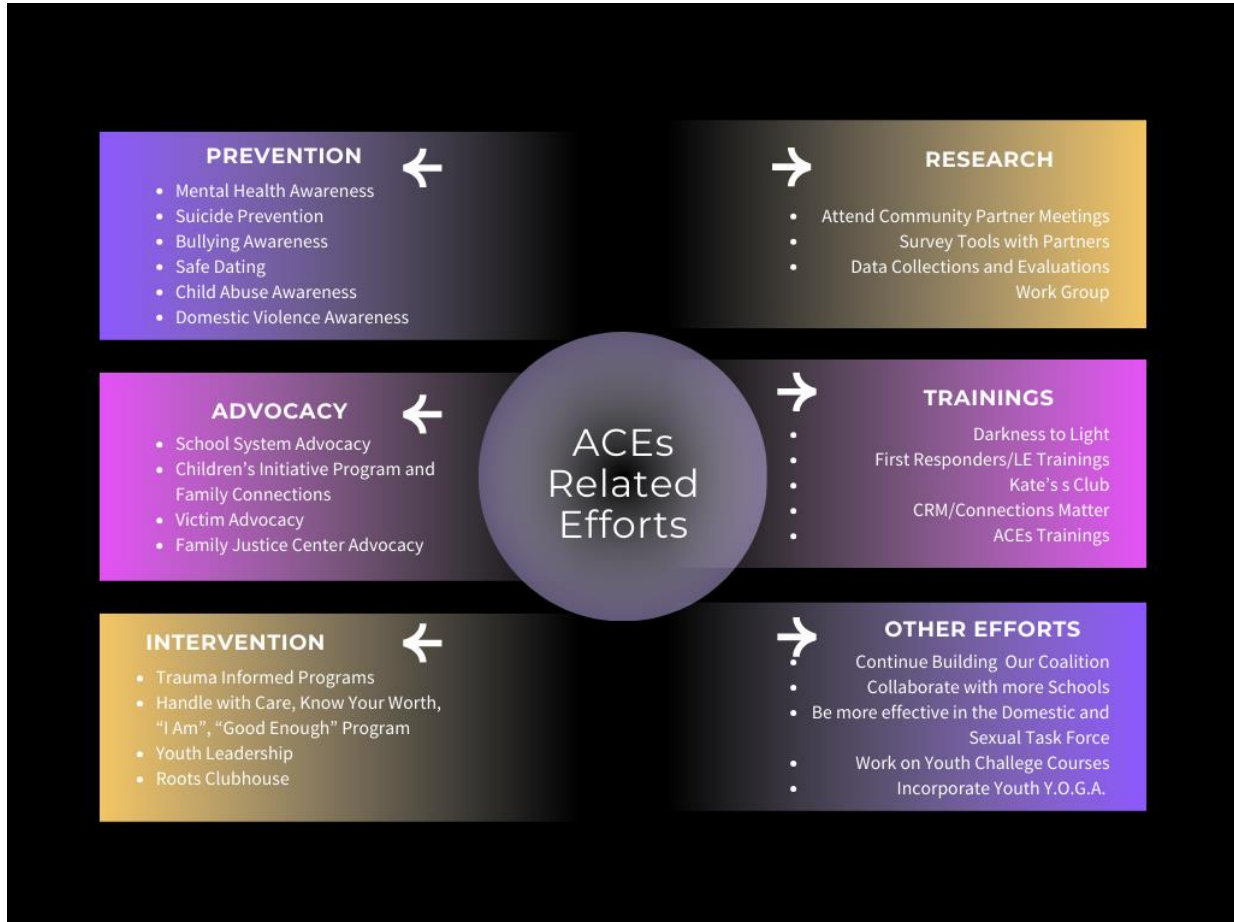
Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership worked diligently with our coalition partners to continue building a trauma informed community, and increase awareness across all sectors to center around adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Our focus groups for the past two years



have been the youth of all ages, Law Enforcement, Advocates, agencies/staff working with youth ages birth to 19. We have worked with Family Connections, the Board of Education, and private schools to target this age group and focus efforts on youth mental health as well as partnering with the community for overall prevention efforts. We will continue to work towards increasing our partners to reach more youth to bring awareness and hope to our community. Our goal is for our communities to become more trauma informed, hope centered, and survivor driven. We have worked towards building a shared language around mental health as part of the overall health within the community. Meeting with partners monthly in collaborative meetings and presentations has helped us inform and educate our community on the resources we can provide to bring awareness and education to our youth, parents, law enforcement, counselors, social service workers, advocates, and other community partners. Year one with Resilient Georgia allowed us to gain knowledge and understanding of the community. Year two has allowed us to focus on data driven needs from year one. Year three and four will direct us to be more intentional and specific to the needs of our target areas and build a coalition of partners to help and reach all six communities.



Description of Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)- Related Efforts



Prevention/Intervention

One of Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership's 2022 initiatives was to focus on Suicide Prevention and promoting positivity among our youth and community. We began working diligently in August preparing for "Let's Chalk About It" events in September and October. These events were held in Ware County and Coffee County at a couple of our schools and downtown Waycross for our community. During this time, we disbursed information obtaining the 988 Suicide Prevention Hotline number to the attendees. We agreed on the slogan "My Life Matters, I Am Resilient" and included the 988 Suicide Prevention Hotline number in the logo. We partnered with Ware Children's Initiative during this time and promoted "Help Is on the Way". These were information pocket cards that obtained a directory of Crisis Lines and service providers in the area as follows:

Magnolia House: 1-800-33HAVEN or 912-285-5850, Violence in your home happening to you or your family members.



Satilla Advocacy Services: 912-283-0987, Dating Violence, Rape, Physical Abuse.
Unison Behavioral Health: 1-800-342-8168, Individual and group therapy for kids and teens, Alcohol and Drug Problems
Impact Teen Center: 1-855-473-4374, Health, Pregnancy, STD's—Free Private Services
Stop Bullying: 1-800-273-8255
Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988 Call or Text, 24/7
Southeast Georgia Women's Center: 912-490-7378, Pregnancy Support
Area Agency on Aging: 912-285-6097, Aging & Disability Resource Connection
OATH (Okefenokee Alliance for the Homeless): 912-816-4399, Homelessness
Overdose: Don't Run – Call 911
Human Trafficking: Text Help or INFO to BeFree (233733)

We worked diligently with our partnering agencies to promote this initiative among our communities by distributing it to our service providers and community partners, youth, parents, counselors, educators, Law Enforcement, and First Responders. During the 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Data Update report from October 2022 through December 2022, Ware County listed number two in the state for accessing the 988 number for crisis episodes. These episodes are classified for either someone to call, someone to respond, or a safe place to go for crisis care. Our efforts and work have prepared us to elevate this process and continue moving forward in being proactive in our community's response and support.

During the Waycross Middle School event, numerous teens approached the school counselors throughout the day during and after the event wanting to discuss their thoughts of harming themselves. The impact of the message our team delivered that day was unreal. Ware County ranked #2 in Georgia for accessing the 988 number within the 1st quarter (October-December 2022). Thereafter, Ware County has fluctuated from #1 to #5 in 2023. This is an area that we will continue to spend Resilient Georgia dollars to provide the most updated information and safety to our youth and our community.





Magnolia House has taken several steps to bring awareness to our communities in the following areas: Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Suicide Prevention, Anti-Bullying, Child Abuse, and Mental Health. Here is a list of opportunities/initiatives that we have shared within our communities:

- Magnolia House and Greater Valdosta United Way partnered together and displayed “Help Is on the Way” on a billboard for Suicide Prevention/Awareness on Hwy 82 East. This display showed the 9-8-8 Crisis/Help Line for individuals to obtain.



- During February, we submitted information to be displayed throughout the month on an electronic billboard for Dating Violence and Anti-Bullying. These messages were displayed along with contact information for the Crisis/Help Line for individuals to obtain.



- In February and March, we attended Teen Maze in Brantley and Pierce County. During this time, we shared Dating Violence and Domestic Violence awareness information with 8th and 9th graders. We incorporated the “Help Is on the Way” to share Suicide Prevention with them as well.
- During the Month of April, we submitted information to be displayed throughout the month on an electronic billboard for Child Abuse Prevention/Awareness. These messages were displayed along with contact information for the Crisis/Help Line for individuals to obtain.
- In April, we held Lunch and Learns with our Department of Family and Children Services to bring Child Abuse information to them along with the services Magnolia House provides. We held these Lunch and Learns in Bacon, Brantley, Coffee, Pierce, and Ware counties.
- In April, we set up a Clothesline display in Bacon, Brantley, Coffee, Pierce, and Ware County for Child Abuse prevention. This Child Abuse Prevention display consisted of t-shirts and onesies that were designed by students from Waycross Middle School, participants in the “I Am” group, teachers from Waycross-Ware Head Start program, Survivors, and Magnolia House staff members.
- In May, we provided the community with Mental Health Awareness information at our scheduled events. We partnered with Southern Charm Nutrition to have Arts by Angie paint some beautiful Mental Health Awareness designs on the business windows to include contact information.
- We have included Magnolia House information along with contact numbers at every event to bring Domestic Violence awareness to our communities.
- We have provided awareness information at over seventy events. These events include but not limited to lunch and learns, Family Justice Center Executive Committee meetings, Work Group meetings, Family Connection meetings, youth events, Counselor/Social Worker trainings, Law Enforcement trainings, collaborative partner meetings, and staff meetings.
- In September, we partnered with TRUST Partnership to bring “Know Your Worth” Suicide prevention to our community as well as National Recovery Month. We helped with the “Purple Dot” Challenge that represented trustworthy adults to speak with if you felt yourself in need of someone to listen, call for help, or assist you with getting help.
- In October, we educated our community through Lunch and Learns, speaking engagements, community events, and meetings about the signs of Domestic Violence and steps to take to get to safety. We also partnered with Coffee County Family Connections for “Red Ribbon” Week to recognize that our youth should say no to Drugs and Alcohol.



Flowers on the Fountain in honor of all victims of Domestic Violence. Georgia lost 193 victims to Domestic violence in 2022. Chief Tommy Cox, Waycross Police Department and Sheriff Carl James, Ware County Sheriff's Office held the cannons.





Advocacy and Policy

- We have worked towards building a shared language around mental health as part of the overall health within the community. Meeting with partners monthly in collaborative meetings and presentations has helped us inform and educate our community on the resources we can provide to bring awareness and education to our youth, parents, law enforcement, counselors, social service workers, advocates, and other community partners.
- **Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership** is actively engaged with multiple organizations within the Waycross Judicial Circuit including the Alliance for Hope International. The Alliance created a model that calls for efficient and effective co-located multi-disciplinary service delivery area for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors and their children. The Family Justice Center has been recognized as a best practice model by the U.S. Department of Justice.
- Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership is a member of the Waycross Domestic Violence Task Force and the Brantley County Sexual Violence Task Force.
- Waycross Area Resilient Georgia is actively engaged with other organizations, 501©3 entities, and committees including but not limited to the following:
 - The TRUST a Partnership to Care for Pierce, Brantley, and Ware. Trust stands for: Trust, Recovery, Unite, Share, and Transcend. This group targets audience and families who seek recovery from substance abuse.
 - Department of Public Health Teen Impact Center, who work to bring awareness and prevention education to teens from 13 Years of Age to 19 Years of Age. They cover Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Coffee, Pierce, and Ware counties.

Research

Teen Suicides and 9-8-8 Hotline access in Georgia:

Ware County ranked #2 in Georgia for accessing the 988 number within the 1st quarter (October-December 2022). Ware County has fluctuated back and forth from #1 to #5 in 2023. This is an area that we will continue to spend Resilient Georgia dollars to provide the most updated information and safety to our youth and our community.

Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership has not completed any other new research in 2023 however we did increase our participant recruitment. In 2022, we had 12 participating agencies and as of November 2023 we have 16 participating agencies. We look to continue recruiting participating agencies that seek to build a trauma-informed community by strengthening its awareness of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and their impact.



Trainings

- **Waycross Area Resilient Georgia organized quarterly and annual Law Enforcement Trainings in the Waycross Judicial Circuit. We partnered with Prosecuting Attorney's Council of Georgia to bring Family Violence Training to Waycross Judicial Circuit on July 13, 2023, with 83 attendees.** The session was led by Sharla D. Jackson, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Resource Prosecutor, and Derek Marchman, Marchman Consulting. They have been educating local law enforcement, medical providers, and communities on ending the cycle of violence, implementing a community collaboration response, criminal protective orders, hearsay exceptions, and stalking/strangulation. Their materials are all evidence based. From 2003 through 2016, at least 1,671 Georgia Citizens lost their lives due to Domestic Violence. Georgia ranks 8th in the nation for the rate at which men kill women in single-victim, domestic violence-related murders. Firearms were the leading weapon of choice by batterers. In over 41% of the cases, children were present during the domestic violence homicide. Successfully investigating and prosecuting Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault cases require that law enforcement, victims' advocates and prosecutors work, train and learn together. This FREE program is specifically designed to bring together police officers, victims' advocates, and prosecutors in your area to learn and discuss the latest strategies and techniques for investigating and prosecuting Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault related offenses that occur in your jurisdiction. You will also earn up to 6 CLE, POST or Victims' Advocate hours.
- **Waycross Area Resilient Georgia organized a training with Ware County Board of Education and Waycross Police Department. Captain Trent Gibbs, Special Operations Commander for the Waycross Police Department, delivered Criminal Street Gang recognition on September 22, 2023, with 1,100 attendees.** He is a Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) approved instructor for generalized subjects as well as firearms and defensive tactics. The Special Operation Section which Captain Gibbs commands is currently responsible for in-depth investigations involving crimes that are gang motivated. Cpt. Gibbs and his section have investigated many gangs motivated and related crimes. The 3-hour evidence-based training was hosted at the Ware County Middle School Auditorium. This training opportunity was given to all staff of the Ware County Board of Education. The decision behind this training was to bring awareness to the staff of indicators to be aware of and respond to. The Board of Education wishes to be more proactive than reactive in these situations. Eleven Hundred professionals attended this information training day.



• **A list of additional trainings for 2023:**

Date	# of Attendees	Event/Purpose
1/4/2023	20	What Every Teacher Should know about social media, Cyberbullying, and Online Trafficking" Education Class: Southside Christian School
1/28/2023	10	Presentation with Crossroads Christian Academy about Resilient Georgia Partnership
2/14/2023	10	Brantley County Youth Leadership Class: Communicating Effectively and Appreciating Adversity.
3/13/2023	400	Bridges to Success: High School Career Day with Community Partners, and Business Owners engaged with students on chosen educational pathways and long-term development.
3/22/2023	35	Family Connections Lunch and Learn with Greater Valdosta United Way and the Haven: DV Awareness and Education
5/2/2023	59	Human Trafficking Training with Brantley County School Counselors with Taylor Strickland
5/10/2023	19	Unison Behavioral Health First Aid (Adult)
5/16/2023	2	Resilient Georgia Training Class/Connections Matter for Heather Flowers and Stewards of Children Jessica Blackrick
5/17/2023	15	Unison Behavioral Health Youth First Aid
5/22/2023	18	School Resource Officers Training: Ware County Board of Education
5/30/2023	20	Stewards of Children and Safety for Teens: Bullying and Cyberbullying Trainings to be held at Crossroads Christian Academy for Staff
7/13/2023	83	Law Enforcement Training with PCA
8/28/2023	15	Ware Co. 4-H, "No Your Why".... Understanding choices and consequences
9/6/2023	75	Ware Co. Beta Club, "Know Your Worth" Overview
9/22/2023	1,100	Ware CO. System Wide Staff Gang training with Captain Trent Gibbs
11/1/2023	300	Bridges to Success: High School College Day with Community Partners and Colleges engaged with students on chosen educational pathways and long-term development.
	2,181	



Innovative Partnerships

An Innovative Opportunity:

- Development of a Family Justice Center
- “Most Rural” center in the United States
- Multi-agency, cross-sector service center to facilitate care for victims of interpersonal violence in one location.
- Empower victims of family violence through advocacy, coordination with participating agencies, and providing safe and hopeful environments that promote economic and family stability.
- Promoting resiliency in the Waycross Judicial Circuit through a unified trauma informed response.
- This level of capability will enable us to offer more services to our victims we serve, awareness to our community, and efforts to ensure equality.

The Waycross Family Justice Center will provide the following services to victims of interpersonal violence. Once the Waycross Family Justice Center is open, victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Child Abuse, and Elderly Abuse will be connected quickly and confidentially to a full range of services provided by our community partners at one location. The Center will streamline services via a centralized intake process and will reduce the number of places victims must go and the times they must tell their story to receive services. We will provide the following services to victims:



- Survivor-Centered services that will provide a safe, supportive environment for victims to seek help.
- Forensic Interviews, Sexual Assault Exams, and Counseling
- Lethality Assessments and Client Support
- Legal Services: Process Temporary Protective Orders and Stalking Protective Orders, prepare victims for court, accompany victims to court, and provide emotional support throughout court proceedings.
- Provide Community Outreach and Education
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (T.A.N.F.)
- Child Support Services
- Referrals to Community Partners
- Assist in accessing other vital services and resources that Victims need: shelter, food, clothing, compensation, medical care, counseling, support groups, employment assistance, housing, and childcare.

Participating Agencies:

- Magnolia House
- Satilla Advocacy Services: Rape Crisis Center and Child Advocacy Center
- Georgia Legal Services
- Ware County Solicitor General
- Ware County Sheriff's Office
- Ware County Government
- Waycross Police Department
- Ware County Department and Family Children Services
- Waycross Division of Child Support Services
- CASA
- Unison Behavioral Health (Telehealth)
- Family Connections
- Ware County Board of Education
- Resilient Georgia
- Southeast Health Department/DPH
- Southern Georgia Regional Development: Area on Aging





Spotlight

Magnolia House and the YMCA were excited to announce that middle schoolers were nominated by their coaches, peers, and teammates to attend our first Adrian Peterson Summer Sports Camp program here in Ware County. Adrian Peterson, Director of Student Athlete Development at Georgia Southern University, was our camp instructor. He looked forward to encouraging each of our youth that “Hard Work Pays Off.” Mr. Peterson is a former Georgia Southern Eagle football player and NFL Player for the Chicago Bears. He is also a recipient of the 2017 College Football Hall of Fame. These are only a few of his accomplishments through his athletic career. Mr. Peterson is a motivational speaker and author of “Don’t Dis My Abilities.”

The camp was held for middle school age kids (6th, 7th, and 8th graders, Male and Female). Camp was held at the YMCA (Track Area) from May 30, 2023, through June 2, 2023. Camp started each day at 9:00 a.m. and ended by 11:30 a.m. We provided lunch for the campers each day prior to leaving. During our youth’s time at camp, they experienced the following training and mentoring:

- Speed/Agility
- Strength and Conditioning
- Tackling Mental Health
- Exercising Self-Care

This was a great experience for our young people, and we look forward to hosting this camp yearly while increasing participation and motivation among our youth.



Inspired Action

- Upcoming Events:
 - 1.) Family Justice Center Work Group Lunch and Learns:
November 16, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. Operations and Service Delivery Work Group
November 29, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. Executive Committee Lunch and Learn
 - 2.) Domestic Violence Support Group:
November 28, 2023, and December 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
Location: Magnolia House Youth Center
 - 3.) Community Events:
Christmas Parade and Festivals
December 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in Pierce County, Georgia
December 15, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in Ware County, Georgia



Brantley County Collaborative Community-Wide Meeting
December 8, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Magnolia House to Present Domestic Violence Education

- 4.) Domestic Violence Task Force Lunch and Learn
December 7, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.
Location: Magnolia House Youth Center

 - 5.) Law Enforcement Trainings:
Coffee County Sheriff's Office
December 14, 2023, and December 16, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Location: Coffee County Sheriff's Office, 825 Thompson Drive, Douglas, GA. 31535

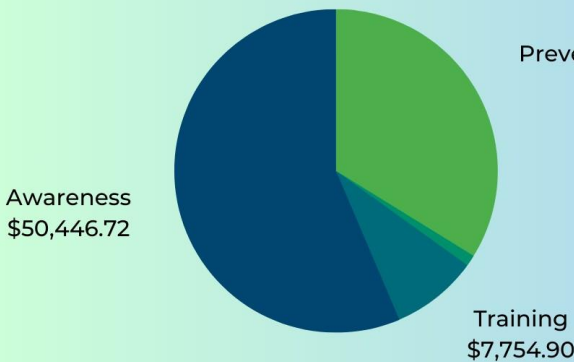
 - 6.) Tis the Season To be Healthy, Happy, and Safe: An initiative to target healthy relationships among families, create a happy environment within their homes, and encourage safety measures throughout the holiday season. This initiative was thought out thoroughly by our advocates as they considered all negative indicators that could impact the mental health state of our clients and their children.
Target Audience: Magnolia House Shelter and Outreach Clients
Events will bring Holiday Cheer to these families beginning November 13, 2023, through January 1, 2024.
- You can visit our website to learn more at <https://www.waycrossareashelter.com/> and follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MagnoliaHouseShelter/>.

Income and Expenses/Financials

Waycross Area Resilient Georgia Partnership Financial Report attached as "Appendix A".



WAYCROSS AREA RESILIENT GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP



Your Dollars At Work

\$93,433.47

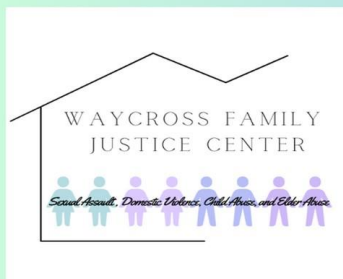
Totals as of November 7, 2022

Match Amount: Salary, In-Kind,
\$131,668.97

Revenue: Resilient Georgia Grant 2023 \$100,000.00

Expenses: Prevention/Intervention	\$ 30,231.85
Training	\$ 7,754.90
Awareness	\$ 50,446.72
Administrative Fees	\$ 5,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 93,433.47

Net Assets, As of 11/07/2023 \$ 6,566.53



16,158

Service providers, community partners, youth, parents, First Responders, advocates, and victims have received education and awareness through our community engagement.