



**Regional Coalition Grantee Summary Reports
Winter 2021**

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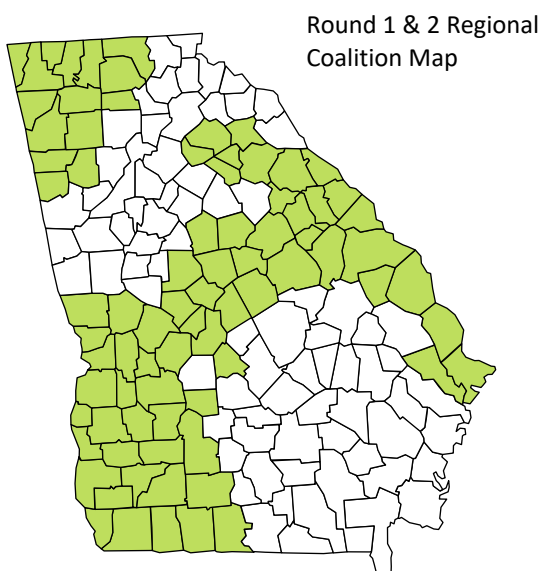
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Resilient Georgia Regional Coalition Grant Program Overview

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, in partnership with the Pittuloch Foundation, has been working with 8 cities across Georgia and the surrounding counties to provide a regional 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 regions 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.



Athens Northeast Georgia

Abstract

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.



Coalition Geographic Service Area: Barrow, Clarke, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe

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.

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Trainings	Research, Evaluation, and Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted two virtual Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) trainings • SBIRT is a comprehensive, integrated, public health approach that leverages motivational interviewing techniques for the early identification of and intervention with patients whose patterns of alcohol and/or drug use puts their health at risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not currently and directly engaged in policy strengthening or advocacy activities yet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma 101 and Secondary Stress Training (3 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Audience: Nonprofits and Community at Large • Trauma 101 and Secondary Stress Training Q&A Followup <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Audience: Nonprofits and Community at Large • Goodwill of North Georgia Trauma 101 Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Audience: Career Services Division • Goodwill of North Georgia Secondary Stress Training (Train the Trainer) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Audience: Goodwill Case Managers • Conducting TBRI Training at Restoration Rome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding provided for two staff from Chosen for Life Ministries to attend be trained in Trust-Based Relational Intervention. • Opportunity will provide future train the trainer potential as both staff members will be capable and willing to conduct TBRI training sessions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using behavioral health indicator data from Athens Wellbeing Project and secondary data indicators from all counties in the region in combination with 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.

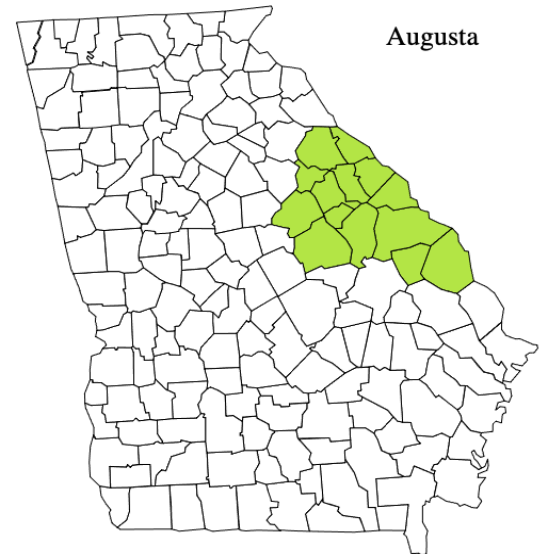
Coalition Partners

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Georgia • Georgia State University • Athens-Clarke County Probation Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sole to Soul Therapy & Consulting • Goodwill of North Georgia • Chosen for Life Ministries |
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Augusta

Abstract

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, teens in rural, urban, suburban areas of the 14-county catchment area. Augusta's coalition includes 8 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 in Family Connection annual strategic plans.



Coalition Geographic Service Area: Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Wilkes, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington

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**

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Training	Research, Evaluation, and Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resilient Teens (6 weekly virtual sessions) • Pilot program to address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), resilience, and trauma informed care in teens 13-19 in the 14-county area of the Central Savannah River Area of Georgia. • Program placed 20 teens, participating from 13 of the 14 counties in our area, into small groups which were facilitated by 26 medical students. • The pilot project dataset, though small, reinforced the belief that the tenets of Resilient Teens meets an unfilled need in the catchment area. • Resilient Teens 2.0 • Revised version based off of the pilot program. • Revisions include: expanded methods to obtain a larger group of teens for the program, concerted efforts for representation of teens from all areas, and interviewed medical students to assess availability, knowledge of resiliency and trauma, and dedication to participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Trauma and Resilience • Family Connection Regional Manager shared work Region 7 has been doing on trauma and resilience and has advocated for including the work on its annual strategic plan. • The Trauma Informed Care Summit will include a call to action for local leaders to implement trauma informed practices and encourage training for staff and the community at large. • Partnerships for Healthy Communities (PHC), an evidence-based program focused on child abuse intervention and prevention, will help address the increasing problem of child abuse in the same area that Resilient Teens is focusing on. Program is geared towards emergency service providers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Next steps include gathering community partners in January 2021 to launch Resilient Teens 3.0 and to discuss the Trauma Informed Care Summit, planned for 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall 2020 Resilient Teens Program • Teens and group facilitators were recruited and screened for participation into the pilot project. • Pre-surveys were collected from teen participants and medical student facilitators. Additionally, survey data is collected at the conclusion of every weekly session by both the teens and the facilitators. • Sought IRB approval for study from Augusta University. • Conducted two surveys: • 1) Survey was sent out to partner's employees and asked participants about demographics, to define TIC and ACEs in their own words, asked if they had heard them, and where they heard the terminology from. Participants were then given a definition for ACEs and were asked follow-up questions. • 2) "How Are You Feeling" survey to obtain a baseline of how teens were coping with COVID-19 and their attitudes and skills related to ACEs and TIC.

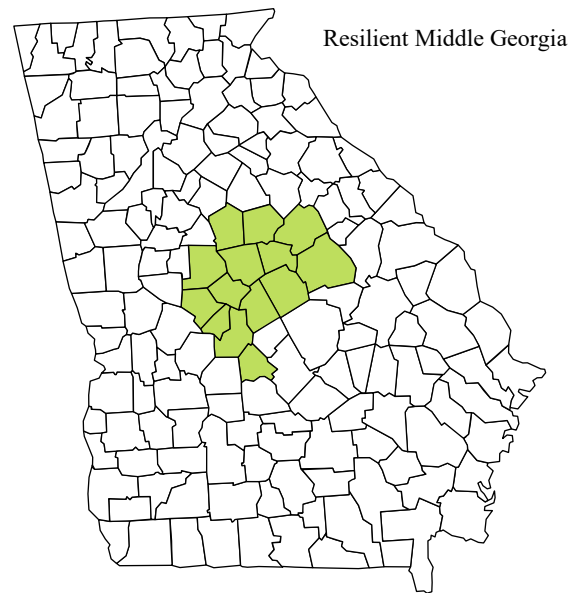
Coalition Partners

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

Resilient Middle Georgia

Abstract

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.



Coalition Geographic Service Area: Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs, Washington, Wilkinson

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

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Training	Research, Evaluation, and Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 MFT program hosted a booth that included resources on resilience, coping with stress, building family connections, and information for the Mercer Family Therapy Center in Macon. Participated in the drive-in Halloween event where 150 cars were given materials that 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 have conversations about important topics in the community. There were two tables specifically focused on trauma-informed/resilience conversations. Created individualized infographics for each of the 14 counties. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focused outreach about the "Pair of ACE's": Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Community Environments (ACEs). Developed infographics specific to each county to represent local data and compare it with the state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with Marc Whitfield & Andrea Cooke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Then followed with a discussion about Resilient Middle Georgia, identifying goals and objectives and how they align with the transition team. Meeting with Jamie Cassidy - Assistant Superintendent of Student Affairs for Bibb County School District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMG provided a brief summary of goals and mission and spoke in detail about the needs of the school system to acknowledge the high levels of adversity and trauma to the students, parents, and staff in the school system and possible ways to collaborate. Specifically spoke about CRM Trainings as well as Handle with Care approach. Meeting with Community Champions and Trauma-Informed Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with Poojah Mhatre from the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Inspired by the work they do in "Trauma Informed Systems", RMG sought to better understand the model and discuss how it could be brought back to our project. Led to commitment to provide TIS Training for community champions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pediatric Grand Rounds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted by Dr. Ross Greene called Collaborative & Proactive Solutions: Understanding and Helping Children with Social, Emotional and Behavioral Challenges. This research-based model focuses on handling behaviorally challenging children and solving problems rather than responding with punishment. CRM Introductory Sessions (1-hour) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided a brief introduction to the stress response and how individuals can move into a health window of stress response. CRM 3 Hour Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaches body-based self-care concepts and skills to recognize and develop resiliency resources to manage stress and trauma. Connections Matter (Train the Trainer) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RMG supported a group of targeted community champions to complete training. As a result, each individual can provide 3.5 hour training using an in-person or virtual format and can also offer a shortened one hour version to targeted audiences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

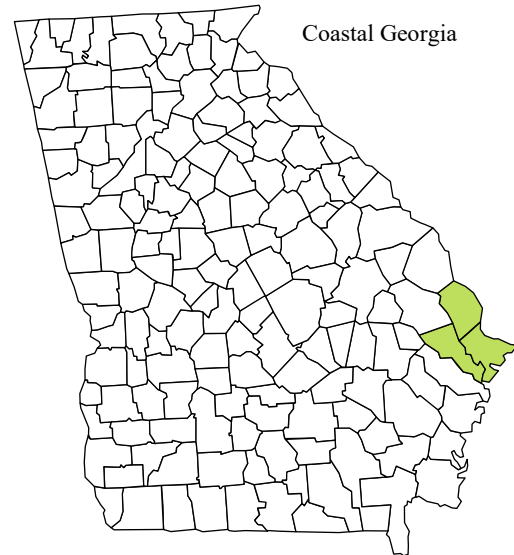
Coalition Partners

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mercer School of Medicine Georgia Rural Health Innovation Center Middle GA State Mercer University Central Georgia Technical College Pulaski School District Bibb County School District Middle GA Regional Library ABC Breathe Bibb Mt. Zion Baptist Church First Baptist Church of Christ The Center for Collaborative Journalism at Mercer University Bright from the Start DECAL Center for Collaboration Journalism Crisis Line & Safe House of Central GA Community in Schools of Central Georgia Habitat for Humanity Macon Family Counseling Center of Central Georgia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflections Psychotherapy The Comfy Place, LLC DFCS Macon Public Defender Office School Justice Partnership, DA's Office Pulaski Family Connections Baldwin County Family Connection Macon-Bibb County Health Department North Center Health District DPH Office of Congressman Sanford Bishop Crescent House, Navicent Hospice Care Options Navicent Health First Choice Primary Care Healthy Communities Navicent Medical Center Navicent Health Community Healthcare Systems, Inc. Macon Volunteer Clinic River Edge Macon Headspace and One World Link | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Griffith Family Foundation Loaves and Fishes Ministry Resilient Georgia Southern Center for Choice Theory Jones County Family Connection Houston Family Connections Twiggs Family Connections Macon AIM Women's Interfaith Alliance Washington County Family Connections Macon Housing Authority Community Health Works Bibb Community Partnership-Family Connections River Edge Behavioral Health Program Director for Region 6 Houston County Health Department DPH Macon-Bibb County Health Department |
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Coastal Georgia

Abstract

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.



Coalition Geographic Service Area: Bryan, Chatham, Effingham

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.

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Trainings	Research, Evaluation and Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) of Georgia offering multiple statewide MSC workshops to over 400 people. Established partnership with non-traditional partners such as Front Porch Improv bringing family-friendly improv shows to children and parents, 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) training all of its employees in MSC90 and using the DFCS facility to offer in-person MSC workshops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCSNPC's accomplishments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working closely with the Chatham County Public School System (SCCPSS) to improve and strengthen policy for implementing suicide prevention training for all school staff. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners recognized the Prevent Suicide program for its work with a proclamation in September 2020. Started working on developing a policy for the Effingham County School System for all school staff to be trained in effective suicide prevention and intervention. Park Place Outreach, a non-profit organization serving homeless and runaway youth, developed a policy requiring all their staff to be trained in suicide prevention, Mindful Self-Compassion and Trauma Sensitive Interactions (TSI) training. CGIC's is engaged with multiple organizations including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Served on The Deep Center Action Policy Team who have developed a policy brief identifying policies that, when enacted, would make Savannah a safe and supportive place for working-class young people, youth of color, and other marginalized young people and their families. Working with the Savannah Police Department - Behavioral Health Unit and SCCPSS to establish the "Handle with Care" program and adapt it to the current virtual environment. Gateway's accomplishments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the TEENISH interview with the School Board Member, the school system began surveying students for input on school reopening an operation during the COVID virtual learning phases. The TEENISH youth participated in a focused discussion with Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council's team on bringing a dental clinic to the area and developing marketing opportunities to increase the oral wellness of Chatham County residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCSNPC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent Suicide Today (PST) is a community-based program working to prevent suicide by raising awareness about suicide and providing skills-based evidence-based suicide intervention and resiliency-building trainings. Development and implementation of the upstream suicide prevention approach that uses Mindful-Self Compassion (MSC) evidence-based programming for building resilience and enhancing emotional wellbeing. Gateway Behavioral Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Teenish youth have begun participating in training on topics of interest to them. Most recently they were provided with a presentation on the adultification of black females. The team has also begun integrating soft-skills topics related to obtaining and keeping employment from the Georgia Best curriculum to allow for continued growth and opportunities. Loop it Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amanda Meyer (Mindfulness Zone Program Coordinator) began leading Monthly Mindfulness Practice training with all staff at Juliette Low Elementary School. This is now part of our Mindfulness Zone program, and these training sessions will be offered to school staff at each school that hosts the program. Currently provides training for teachers, social workers and other caregivers who are implementing our Mindfulness Zone at Home curriculum. Loop it Up will have completed 8 training sessions with (approximately 24 people) by the end of the 2020 calendar year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Root Cause Analysis Summary Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research on suicide rates in Savannah-Chatham County, Effingham County, and Bryan County Mental Health and Wellness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> table shows the rates of depression among the Medicare population in each of the target counties Georgia student health survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> collected annually in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the state. Some of the questions that are asked in the survey are directly related to the risk of suicide for young people in our communities. Mental health service providers within each county included Substance Use Rates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> target counties have higher age-adjusted death rates due to all drug overdoses compared to the state averages Environmental Factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each of the counties targeted in this project have a significant portion of the population that are active duty military or veteran. Research shows that individuals in rural areas are more likely to die of suicide than those in urban areas. Report includes feedback from key stakeholders

Coalition Partners

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chatham County Government Savannah Police Department – Training/Professional Development and Behavioral Health Unit The Front Porch Youth Intercept Bryan County Schools Effingham County Schools Savannah Chatham County Public School System Georgia Southern University – School of Public Health and Department of Education and Instruction Georgia State University – Child Welfare Collaborative | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deep Center Parent University Savannah/Chatham CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club Front Porch Improv America's Second Harvest Savannah Feed the Hungry St. Joseph's/Candler Health System – the African American Health Information and Resource Center (HERO Database) |
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Rome-Floyd Region 1 Peer-to-Peer Network

Abstract

The Georgia Family Connection's Region 1 Peer to Peer Network (PTPN – R1) 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 (GaFCP), and more. PTPN-R1 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.

Rome-Floyd PTPN-R1



Coalition Geographic Service Area:
Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade,
Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon,
Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens,
Polk, Walker, Whitfield

Mission and Broad Goals

R1-PTPN'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. R1-PTPN 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

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Trainings	Research, Evaluation, and Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of awareness and prevention workshops, discussions and activities that include local and regional partners with a focus on: healthcare providers, child-care providers, K-12 school system staff, college system staff, youth development providers and mentors, foster parents & kinship care guardians, etc. • Engaging key stakeholders and partners in building capacity to advocate for trauma and poverty informed practices and systems change, and to embed these practices and protocols into the implementation of their work and strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Parent Cafés and 15 Civic Dinners to engage community members in efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Building a Resilient Community Toolkit for Collaboratives, partners and community leadership to raise community awareness and drive systems change and sustainment of the movement • Georgia Reading stakeholder convenings and activities to characterize the initiatives' work to build common language and community approaches to improving literacy and learning in campaign communities • Hosting 5 viewings of the documentary “Resilience” with debrief discussions to engage the community in conversation and understanding of resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build understanding of the Strengthening Families Framework (protective factors reducing effects of trauma and toxic stress) while supporting families to help improve outcomes for children • PTPN monthly meetings to strengthen identified areas of need, advocate for policy and systems change, and create a sustainable model for the region, with a focus on leveraging the learning and experience of our Mentor Partner, Global Impact • Building capacity of Collaboratives with customized trauma- and poverty-informed professional development for coordinators and staff of key regional and local partners • Conducting compassion fatigue trainings for practitioners & providers to build a culture of self-care • Conducting Trust-based Relational Intervention Practitioner Training (TBRI) and providing generalized professional development opportunities • Stakeholder trainings and conversations on trauma and poverty and how our community's systems can support resilience for children and families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating regional strategy development and implementation of a trauma-informed community model that engages key partners, clients, patients, family members and caregivers, youth and young adults (18-26) to ensure diverse perspectives in discussions and decision-making • Conducting a regional inventory of current capacity and needed training and professional development specific to trauma and poverty, and of skills sets and expertise in facilitation, collaboration and evaluation

Coalition Partners

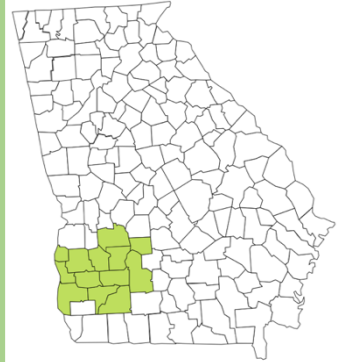
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bartow Collaborative, Inc. • Catoosa County Family Connection, Chattooga Family Connection, DADE FIRST-Family Connection, Fannin County Family Connection, Gilmer County Family Connection, Family Connection Gordon, 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 • Rome-Floyd County Commission on Children and Youth • Global Impact • Georgia Family Connection Partnership (GaFCP) • United Way of North Georgia • United Way of Chattanooga | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Georgia colleges and universities • GED and WIOA program providers • Department of Public Health: WIC, local health centers • Georgia HOPE • Georgia Highlands • Highland Rivers • Primary Healthcare • DECAL – regional representatives/offices • DJJ and Family Court Circuits in Region 1 – Formerly the Northwest System of Care • Regional Prevent Child Abuse Chapters & Prevent Child Abuse Georgia • Local School Systems and Boards of Education (County, City) • Local & Regional DFCS |
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United Way of Southwest Georgia

Abstract

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



Coalition Geographic Service Area: Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Terrell, Sumter, Worth

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.**

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Trainings	Research, Evaluation, & Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a shared language and understanding of ACEs, resilience, and safe, stable and nurturing environments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 and disseminate local health care provider survey; analyze and share results ▪ Create, share and use talking points on ACEs using core story of child development. • Increase skills and services that help children and families develop resiliency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Share national resources on ACEs screening, trauma and resiliency through social media, ACEs website, during GaFCP monthly meetings and more ▪ Coordinate trauma-focused yoga workshops for early childhood educators and public school teachers through Albany Yoga Project ▪ Explore universal newborn home visiting models and financing options ▪ Implement social emotional curriculum (PATHs) in K-12 classrooms ▪ Assess and implement post-partum mood and anxiety disorder support modalities ▪ Explore universal prevention models focused on increasing parental skills ▪ Educate families and pregnant mothers about resources to prevent and mitigate the impact of ACEs, and provide support, including screening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with Prevention and Intervention elected officials' subcommittees to advocate for government support for screening and consider opportunities for state-level advocacy as well • Educate city, county, state, federal elected officials on the need to address ACEs, in order to promote need for screening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide informative materials to officials and provide a symposium or forum about ACEs and the need for screening for elected officials; seek a potential partnership with the MHA legislative breakfast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainings will be held for Executive Directors, Collaborators, Practitioners, Community Members, Stakeholders, & Coordinators. Description of trainings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Empower Action Model: A Framework for Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences by Promoting Health, Equity, and Well-Being Across the Life Span (4 hours) - Dr. Sarah Vinson (Lorio Psych Group) discusses substantial, sustainable gains toward trauma informed systems, intentional implementation and true focus on race and equity, the demand for reflection and planning at individual and systems levels • Connections Matter (3.5 hours) - Training to engage community members in building caring connections to improve resiliency. Provides participants with a better understanding of trauma, brain development, resilience, & ACEs. • Adult Mental Health First Aid (8 hours) - Skills to identify, understand & respond to signs of mental illnesses & substance use disorders in adults & youth. Public Safety module offers examples for first responders • Outreach Wellness Learning (OWL) - Offers 1-hour seminars on general mental health including impacts of trauma & implementing effective coping strategies to manage wellness. Topics include: Mental Health 101, Mental Health Crisis, Building Youth Resilience, Suicide Prevention, Maternal Mental Health, Workplace Wellness • Stewards of Children (2 hours) - Training in the education and prevention of child sexual abuse, other abuse, & mandated reporting. Trains adults how to prevent, recognize, & react responsibly to child sexual abuse. • Strengthening Families Georgia (2 hours) - Framework for childcare & other professionals to identify 5 protective factors that lower the risk of abuse/neglect and build family strength & a supportive environment • Train/retrain staff in childcare, school districts, & afterschool programs. • CEUs offered to nurses, doctors, librarians etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project will utilize an outcome evaluation design to determine whether the intended outcomes were achieved. Outcome evaluations will help measure how participants and their knowledge and awareness changed. • 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. • Identify and pursue funding opportunities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek support for workshops with local, state and national experts • Seek support for ACEs Liaison position Secure funding in City/County Executive budgets • Secure funding to explore universal prevention efforts (ACEs screening, parent education)

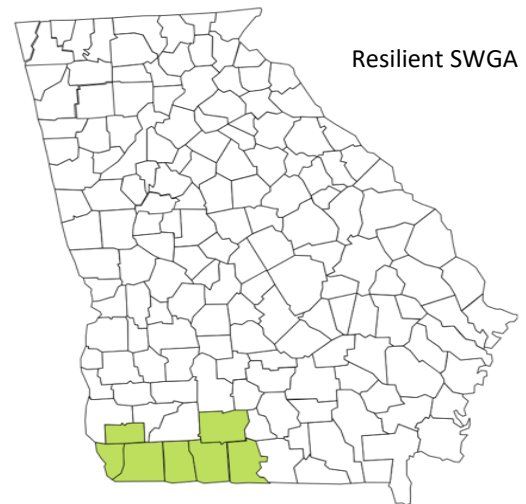
Coalition Partners

- 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
- 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
- CSO 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
- The City of Albany
- United Way of Southwest Georgia

Resilient SWGA

Abstract

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: Brooks, Colquitt, Thomas, Grady, Decatur, Miller, and Seminole. 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.



Coalition Geographic Service Area: Brooks, Colquitt, Decatur, Grady, Miller, Seminole, Thomas

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.

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Training	Research, Evaluation, & Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness and reduce stigma associated with mental health and trauma among the 7 counties by events to engage the public on importance of children's mental health, how it affects Southwest GA, and providing resources. • The aim for this area is to reach 1,000 individuals+ in year one • Screening of the documentary "Resilience" and a panel discussion to follow 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: tentatively planned is a screening of "Resilience" with panel discussion, a lunch and learn series, and a public mental health awareness day event with child serving organizations as participants • Events in discussion: lunch and learn in April 2021 with the local CASA organization in support of Child Abuse Prevention month, and events in October 2020 to spotlight Mental Illness Awareness Week. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advocacy efforts through education and in-services to different sectors in the communities of the 7 counties. 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 will be to engage these organizations in the advocacy efforts, help them better understand how ACEs affect everyone, and hope that will result in their interest in receiving more training and professional learning opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training topics: trauma-informed care, youth mental health first aid, child abuse and prevention, and ACEs. • Goals: improve and further develop staff of child serving organizations. Some trainings will provide CEUs. 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. • Descriptions of trainings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewards of Children (2 hours) - Training in the education and prevention of child sexual abuse, other abuse, & mandated reporting. Trains adults how to prevent, recognize, & react responsibly to child sexual abuse. • Child Welfare Training Collaborative (12 hours) - Community training consisting of four modules focused around the topic of complex trauma and its impact on the brain and how to build resilience. • Connections Matter (3.5 hours) - Training to engage community members in building caring connections to improve resiliency. Provides participants with a better understanding of trauma, brain development, resilience, & ACEs. • Youth Mental Health First Aid (8 hours) - Introduces participants to unique risk factors & warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, builds understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches individuals how to help an adolescent in crisis/experiencing a mental health challenge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. The data collection will be utilized to provide understanding and assessment of the success and impact of the interventions as well as informing Resilient SWGA on modifications to year two. • Data collection and evaluation utilized will be mixed methods. For each of the different trainings being provided, there will be evaluation surveys to participants. For the awareness events a count will be tallied and counted to recognize total number of individuals reached through those efforts. For the advocacy in-services ACEs surveys will be provided anonymously.

Coalition Partners

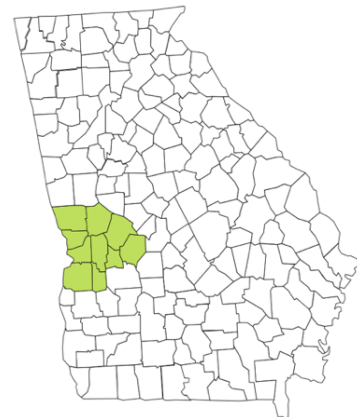
- Thomasville Community Resource Center
- Colquitt County School System
- Thomasville Boys and Girls Club
- Grady County Boys and Girls Club
- Southwest Public Health District (Child Health Program staff)
- Thomasville YMCA (youth serving staff)
- Never Lost (CASA)
- Department of Juvenile Justice, Region 10 (Community staff)
- Brooks County School System
- Potential training recipients for year one: Thomasville City Schools, Thomas County Schools, Thomasville United Methodist Church Preschool, Moultrie YMCA, Moultrie Boys and Girls Club, Decatur County Schools

Columbus/Chattahoochee Valley

Abstract

The Chattahoochee Valley Child Equity Collaborative (CVCEC) coalition will advance child brain development, mental health and well-being through two equity-based strategies: Community Schools and The Basics. The target population for these efforts include Chattahoochee Valley families with students age 0-12, as well as expectant mothers, living at 200% or below of federal poverty standards. A cross sector of key stakeholders and partners will work collectively to focus resources on outcomes for families living at 200% or below of the federal poverty standards and seek to reduce Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the impact of ACEs on children, families and communities. To lead these strategies regionally, we will hire a director of Community Schools and a director of the Basics Chattahoochee Valley. The directors will act as the grant managers for the ACEs and equity- based trainings being proposed in this plan. United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley (UWCV) will act as the implementation agent for the collaborative, engaging a cross-sector of community leaders, stakeholders and partners. Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley will act as the fiscal agent for the collaborative.

Columbus/Chattahoochee Valley



Coalition Geographic Service Area:
Chattahoochee, Harris, Macon,
Marion, Muscogee, Schley, Stewart,
Talbot, Taylor, Webster

Mission and Broad Goals

Chattahoochee Valley Child Equity Collaborative coalition aims to:

- **Build awareness and a common language/understanding about adversity and resilience** by training community leaders, partners, practitioners and clients of **Community Schools and The Basics Chattahoochee Valley** in 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 Community Schools and The Basics Chattahoochee Valley.

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.
- Establish new connections and common goals between those in the community tasked with maximizing the brain development, mental health and well-being of our children.

Specific ACEs-related Objectives

Prevention/Intervention	Advocacy/Policy	Trainings	Research, Evaluation and Other Efforts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Basics are clusters of parenting and caregiving behaviors that encompass most of what experts (research by the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University) find is important for boosting cognitive and social-emotional development of children from birth to age three, the most important age range for brain growth. • There is a crisis of poverty for parents of children five years old or younger in census tracts throughout the coalition's region. City data shows that more than 80% of families with children five years old or younger in Chattahoochee Valley's target zones are living in poverty. • The Basics are free and do not require fancy toys or extra hours in the day. They can be incorporated into families' everyday routines. • Collectively, every parent/caregiver will receive encouragement and support for using The Basics. The community approach of the Basic includes support and training for health care centers, churches, libraries, schools, service providers, government, homeless shelters, housing developments, employers – even barbers and beauticians. • The five clusters of caregiver behaviors outlined in The Basics are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize love, manage stress • Talk, sing and point • Count, group and compare • Explore through movement and play • Read and discuss stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of 3 Full-Service Community Schools (8,000 nationwide already existing with 35 United Ways already serving as the community-based lead for the strategy), with a focus on four pillars (academics, health, family engagement, and community involvement) which are integrated, in the school days. Efforts entail: • Support 2,000 students and their parents at Brewer, MLK and Dorothy Height Elementary Schools (all in Muscogee County, South Columbus area) by conducting ACEs and equity centered activities and trainings for collaborative and other Community School partners • Services of the Community Schools (recognizing that schools' needs/strengths differ & not taking a one-size-fits-all approach): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kindergarten readiness, health services, behavioral/mental health, individual/group counseling, restorative practices, tutoring, family/community outreach in public housing/low income neighborhoods, college access/ mentoring, MSW interns, etc</i> • Integration with The Basics to engage parents as their child's first educator & reach children and families before they enter school • Hire a director of Community Schools to lead the strategy regionally & build on national best practices to create a system of support across school districts targeting at-risk students/families • Hire Community School coordinators to coordinate resources and build a resource team of partners to wrap services around the student and family populations • Use Early Warning & Response System to target at-risk students • Use the case management systems of Enrichment Services, 211 and HMIS to fill out the data profiles of these communities and target interventions for families in crisis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A facilitator/consultant will be engaged to design, organize and lead the trainings. There are several suitable facilities in Columbus/Chattahoochee Valley that will work for hosting the trainings. The trainings would target all partners including medical students and medical personnel. • Conducting ACEs and equity centered trainings for collaborative and other The Basics Chattahoochee Valley partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection on populations served and the training outcomes will be managed jointly by the director of Community Schools and the director of The Basics Chattahoochee Valley through a technology and/ or consulting solution.

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
- 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 Family Center
- The Salvation Army
- Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services, Inc.
- United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley
- Valley Healthcare System
- YMCA of Metropolitan Columbus, GA