



Candice Broce

Director

Prevention and Community Support

Prevention and Community Support (PCS) Section

- PCS joined DFCS in 2014 from the Governor's Office of Children and Families
- PCS utilizes federal and state funding to contract with local, community-based and statewide organizations which provide services to children and families in Georgia *prior to* any involvement with DFCS

PCS manages:

- Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
 - *Primary (Universal) Prevention* - activities that are targeted toward the community at large including public education activities and parent education classes that are open to anyone in the community
 - *Secondary Prevention* - activities targeted to families that have one or more risk factors associated with child maltreatment including families with substance abuse, teen parents, parents of special need children, single parents, and low-income families
- Promoting Safe and Stable Families
- Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (APP) – supports two federal APP grant programs
 - Sexual Risk Avoidance Education
 - Personal Responsibility Education Program



A Vision for Child and Family Well-Being

GEORGIA'S CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT PREVENTION PLAN



Georgia's Vision for Prevention

All Georgia's children and families have equitable opportunities to grow and thrive in safe, stable, connected, and nurturing communities where they live, learn, work, and play.

6 Objectives to Increase:



Family Economic Stability



Family Resilience



Access to Quality Early Childhood Education



Family Mental Health



Family Physical Health



Community Awareness of Societal Factors Contributing to Abuse or Neglect

Inclusivv Conversations (formerly known as Civic Dinners)

Georgia Family Well-Being



The Big Picture of Child Well-Being

Learn More

Georgia Family Well-Being



Early Learning for Lifelong Success

Learn More

Georgia Family Well-Being



Building Resilience for Brighter Futures

Learn More

Join a Conversation!

- In person
- Online

Host your own!

- In-person
 - Home
 - Restaurant
 - Office
- Online

Sign-up here:

<https://inclusivv.co/ga-family-wellbeing>

Georgia Family Well-Being



Family Health and Child Well-Being

Learn More

Georgia Family Well-Being



Economic Opportunities for Promising Futures

Learn More

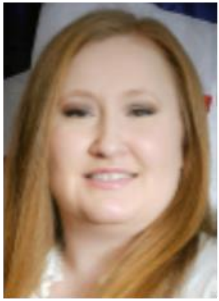
Georgia Family Well-Being



Advocating for Family and Child Well-Being

Learn More

Georgia Parent Advisory Council



Region 1: Karina Garrison
(Gordon County)



Region 2: Erin Thomas
(Forsyth County)



Region 3: Christina
Costley (Floyd County)



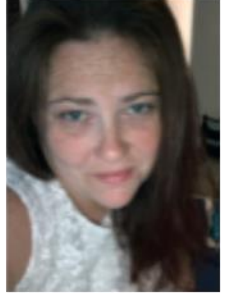
Region 4: Eileen Graham
(Henry County)



Region 5: Kimberly
Fowler (Oconee County)



Region 7: Samantha
Moore Valentine
(Richmond County)



Region 10: Elena
Evans (Lee County)



Region 11: Deidre Rountree
(Lowndes County)



Region 12: Kristy Garner
(Effingham County)



Region 13:
Robin White
(Clayton County)



Region 13:
Colleen Puckett
(Gwinnett
County)



Region 14:
Tavarous Saint
Louis (DeKalb County)



Region 14:
Carmen Coates
(DeKalb County)

Centralized Intake Call Center

CICC: Child Abuse and Neglect Reports

- Take, process, and disseminate child abuse and neglect reports in a timely manner
- Emergency point of contact for foster parents needing to contact the county office
- Resource to county staff for emergency SHINES history screening when making an out-of-home decision

- **Telephone Call**

1-855-GA-CHILD (1-855-422-4453)

- **Website**

<https://cps.dhs.ga.gov>

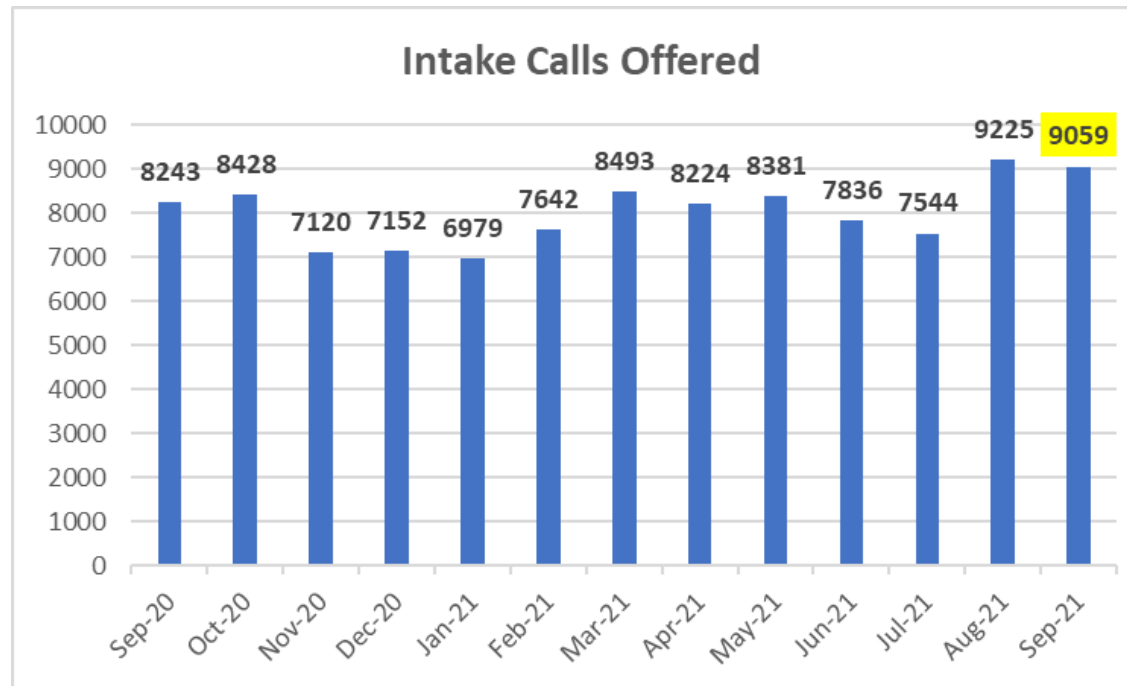
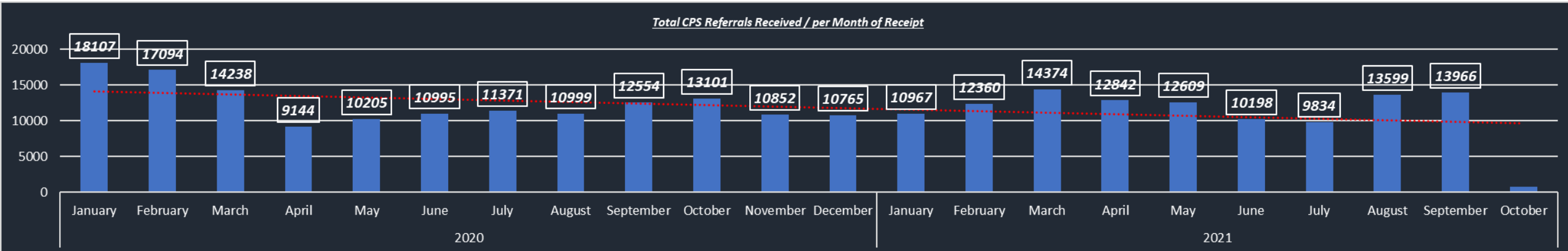
- **Email**

cpsintake@dhs.ga.gov

- **Fax**

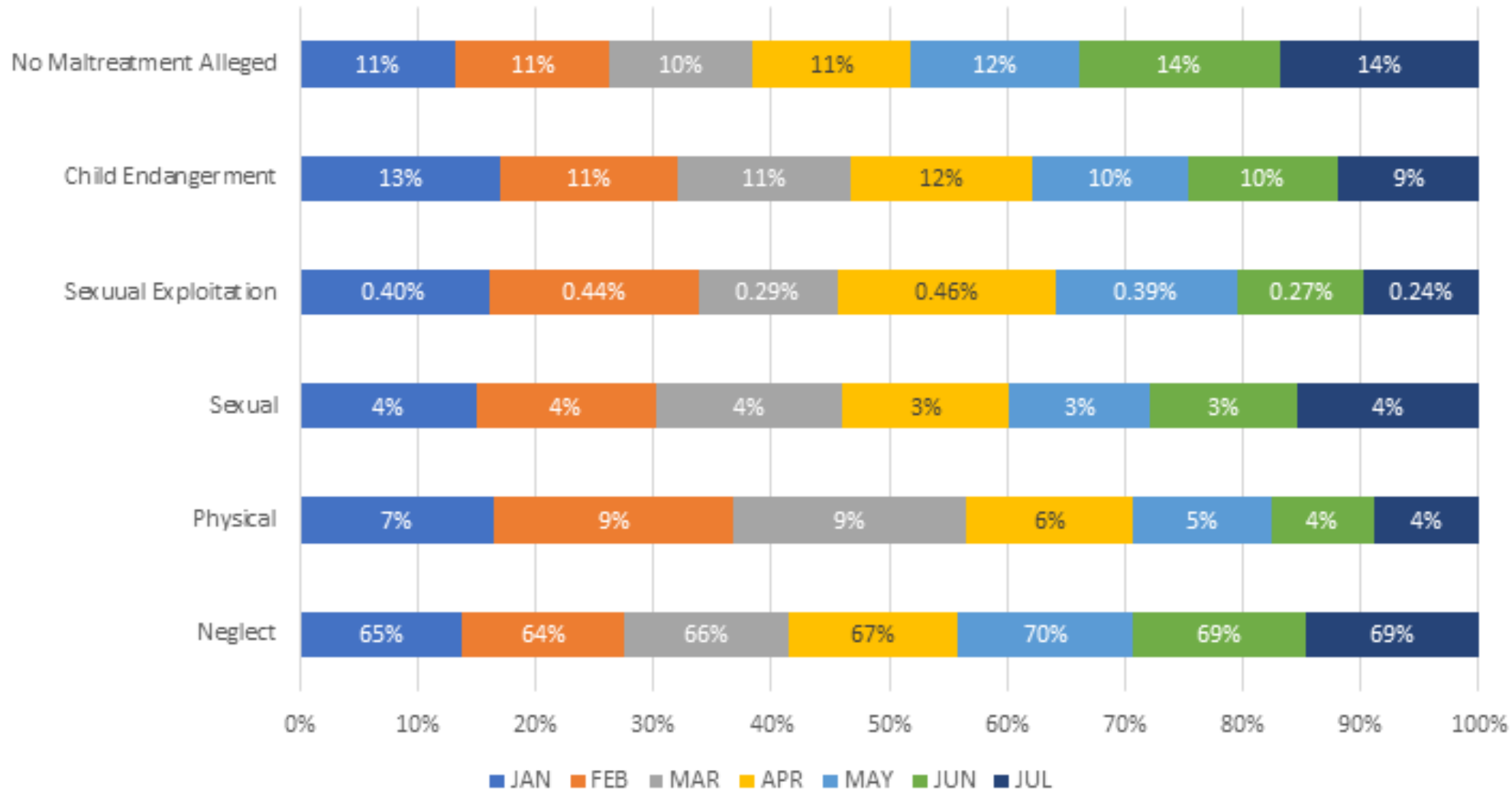
229-317-9663

Total Reports Received by Month



DIVISION OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES

Maltreatment Type Total Percentages by Month - 2021



Special Circumstances / No Maltreatment Alleged Intakes

- Child Death- No maltreatment
- Children in Need of Services- No maltreatment
- Juvenile Court- No maltreatment alleged
- Near Fatality- No maltreatment
- Other out of Home Arrangement
- Physician Taking Child into Custody
- Prenatal Exposure- No maltreatment
- Safe Place for Newborns
- School Withdrawal- No maltreatment alleged
- Serious Injury- No maltreatment
- Short Term Emergency Care
- Short Term Emergency Care- Sexual Servitude/Human Trafficking
- Voluntary Placement
- Voluntary Surrender

Reporter Types and Maltreatment Codes

<i>Top 10 Reporter Types</i>		
<i>Reporter Type</i>	<i># of Referrals</i>	<i>% of Total</i>
School Staff	60429	22.3%
Law Enforcement	31239	11.5%
Other	24422	9.0%
Anonymous	13946	5.2%
Unknown	13527	5.0%
Hospital / Clinic Staff	13271	4.9%
DHS Staff (Non-TANF)	10024	3.7%
Counselor/Social Worker	7745	2.9%
Other St. Agency	7667	2.8%
Hospital or Medical Personnel/Volunteer	7632	2.8%

<i>TOP 10 Maltreatment Codes Used</i>		
<i>Maltreatment Code</i>	<i># of Codes Entered</i>	<i>% of Total</i>
N3	174942	54.4%
N4	26722	8.3%
P7	25192	7.8%
CE1	22634	7.0%
N7	15645	4.9%
N6	10734	3.3%
S2	8534	2.7%
C1	6918	2.1%
N5	6191	1.9%
CE4	5267	1.6%

Safety Services

The Safety Services Section is responsible for providing guidance, support and resources that aid in the strengthening of Georgia's families through the work provided to field staff and partners.

The Safety Services Section consists of the following sections:

- High Priority Review Team
- Family Preservation Specialist
- Background Screening Unit/Adam Walsh
- Administrative Review Team
- Substance Abuse Specialist
- CHOA Liaison Team
- Human Trafficking Coordinator

Well-Being Services

Well-Being Services Programs

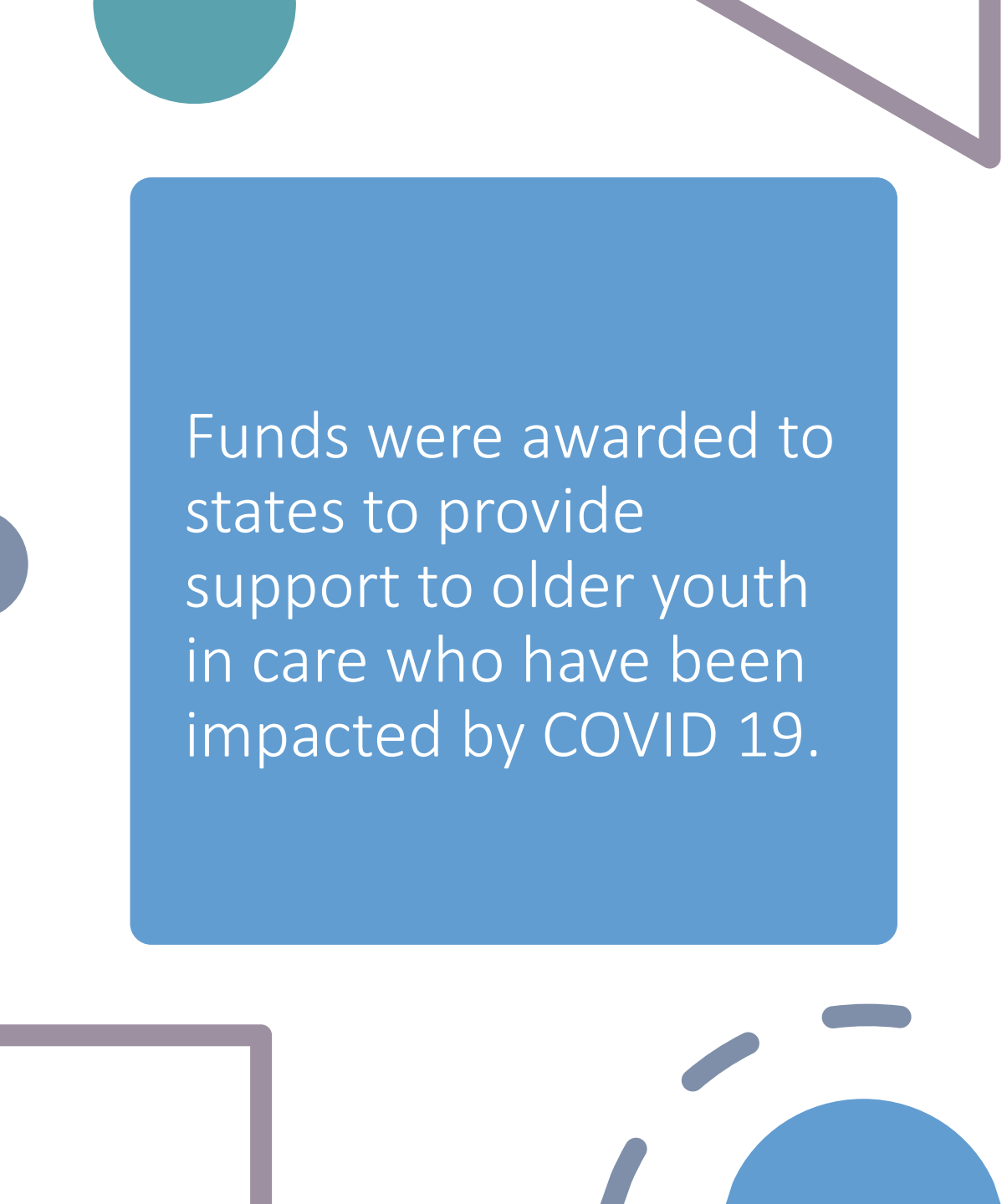
Well-Being Services supports programs and services that interface with local communities to address child, older youth and family well-being issues.

- Afterschool Care Program
- Early Childhood Collaboration
- Educational Programming, Assessment and Consultation Services (EPAC)
- In-Home and Support Services
- Georgia Cultivating the Rising Experienced Worker
 - *(formerly Georgia TeenWork Internship Program)*
- John H. Chafee Foster Youth Independence Program
 - *[Georgia Independent Living Program (ILP)]*
- Wellness Programming, Assessment and Consultation Services (WPAC)



Georgia RYSE Pandemic Relief Stimulus Opportunity

To access the Pandemic Relief Funding Website, visit the GA RYSE Chafee Website at: <https://www.garyse-ilp.org/>



Funds were awarded to states to provide support to older youth in care who have been impacted by COVID 19.

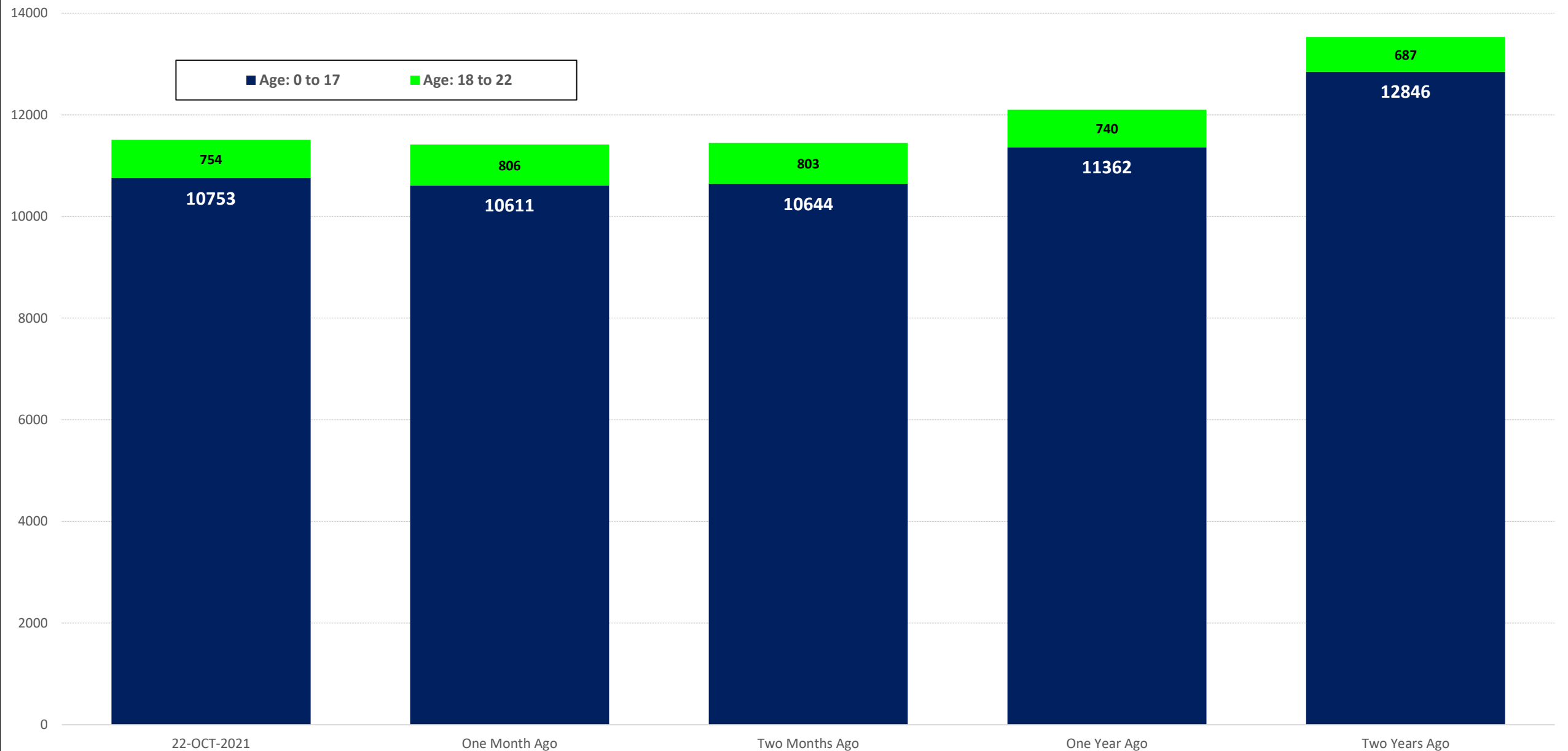
Georgia's Funds are being used to support Transitional Services that include:

- Financial assistance – \$400 Direct Cash
- Employment opportunity for current or former youth in care to work in the 'Call Center'
- Housing assistance - Support eligible young adults with start-up housing costs or maintaining their current:
 - Deposit and up to 6 months rent (Includes first month's rent) – not to exceed \$8,000
 - Past due rent
 - Utilities
 - Furniture
- Rental Insurance
- Acquisition of vital documents (Driver's License, ID, BC, SSN)
- *Rentwise* Tenant Enrichment Learning Opportunity
- \$350 parent/child credit
- \$250 parent enrichment course credit
- Transportation support
- Financial Literacy Opportunity

Permanency Connections

DIVISION OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES

Foster Children/Youth



Reunification Unit

- The Reunification Unit's primary goal is to provide state-level expertise, leadership, and strategy development for reunification and guardianship permanency goals.
- There is also an intense focus on mitigating the safety issue(s) which warranted out-of-home care in order to facilitate timely and lasting permanency.



Partnerships and Pilots to help strengthen Reunification outcomes

Department of Behavior Health and Developmental Disabilities' (DBHDD) High-Fidelity Wraparound services.

Department of Behavior Health and Developmental Disabilities' Addiction and Recovery Support Centers (ARSC).

Youth Villages Intercept Program (Regions 13 and 14).

Adoption

Adoption is a social and legal process whereby an individual joins a family, earning the same rights and status as those born into that family. For children in Georgia's foster care system, adoption presents the opportunity to form a lasting family bond.

Adoption Data

- Finalized 1,292 Adoptions in SFY 2021
- 300 Children with no Adoptive Family
- 55% of waiting children are TEENS

For more information about foster care and adoption recruitment please call, intake line at **1-877-210-KIDS (5437)**



State Adoption Program

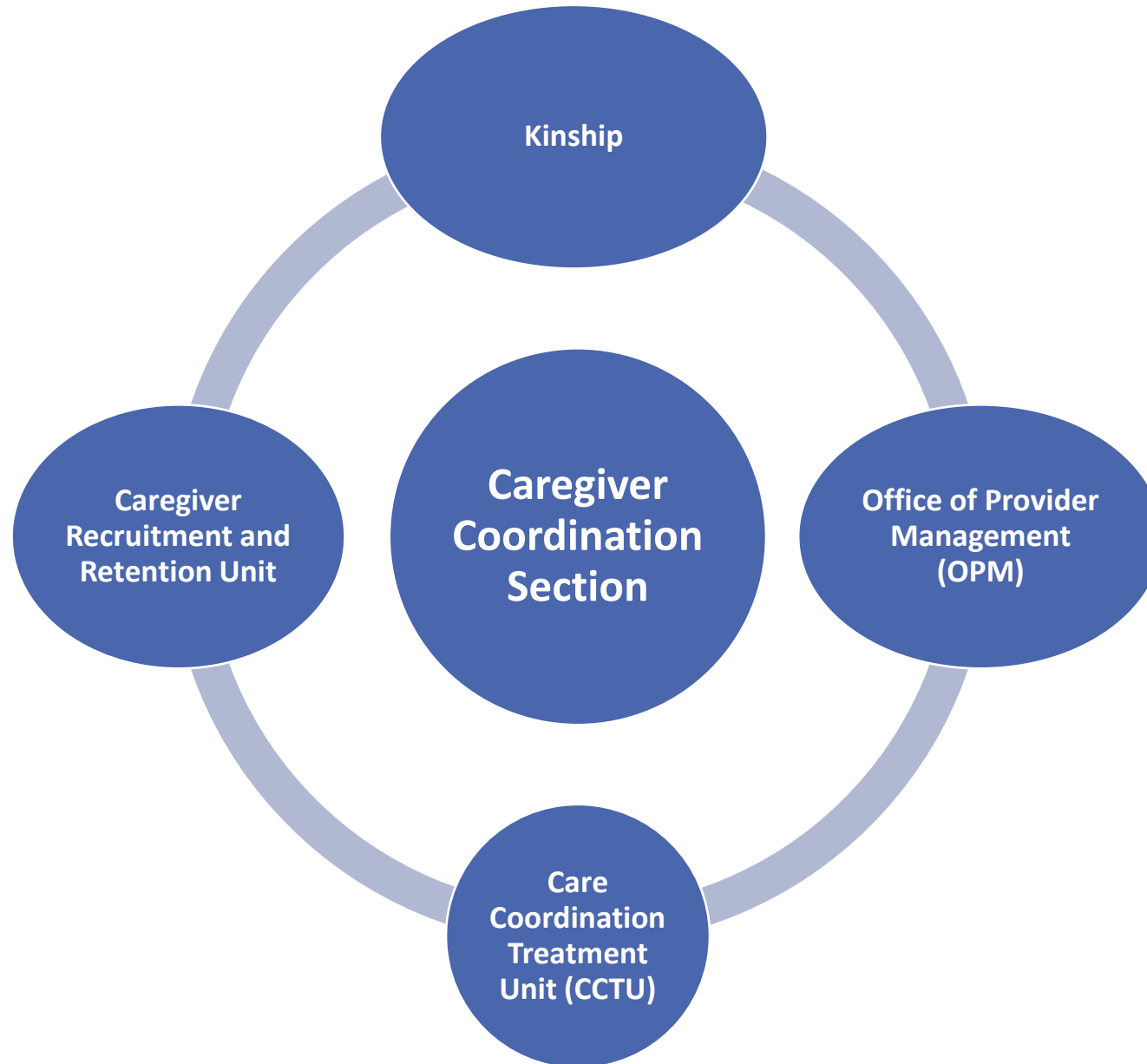
- Assessing both the front and back door of adoption services.
- Added four new vendors to assist with the development of adopted families for specific populations needing families.
- Project with Family Match
- Creation of Adoption and Guardianship Services Unit
- Grant with the National Quality Improvement Center- Adoption and Guardianship



“Every Conversation Matters”



Caregiver Coordination





*They say it takes a
village to raise a
child, but it starts
with one relative.*

*Consider fostering a child
you know.*



Georgia's Statewide Kinship Navigator Program



- Program launched in 2015 in direct response to increasing the number of grandparents and other caregivers who have assumed responsibility for raising another relatives' child/ren.
- Enhanced Kinship Care Portal <https://dhs.georgia.gov/kinship-care-portal>
- 200+ kin caregivers participated in trainings and received toolkits at 28 DFCS offices during Kinship Care Month September 2021.



**Over 200
caregivers
served in
September!**

Family First

Family First Section

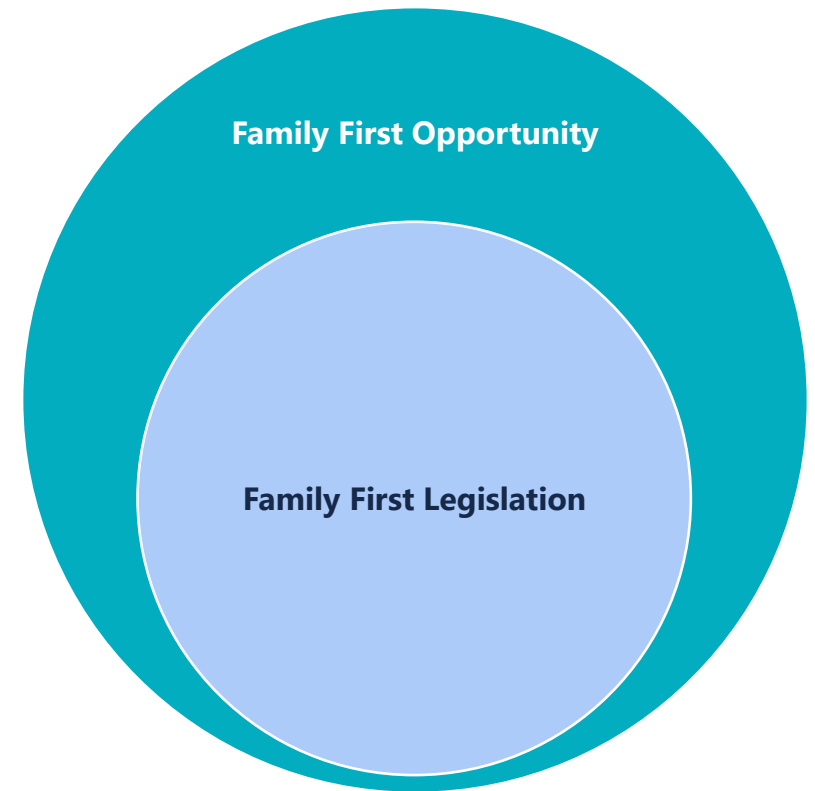
Responsible for coordinating planning and implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

FFPSA:

Most significant federal child welfare legislation in decades with potential to have enormous impact on children and families

Policy themes:

- Preventing unnecessary placement
- Promoting family-based care



IV-E funding under Family First



New federal funding for services
to prevent removals



No changes to funding for
foster family homes



Limited federal funding for
group homes

Family First Highlights

- Submitted draft narrative of Five-Year Prevention Plan to ACYF September 30
- Recently formed implementation team and developed implementation plan for Prevention Services
- Concluding workgroup with providers and stakeholders to develop recommendations regarding Qualified Residential Treatment Programs



DIVISION OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES

Average Caseworker Caseload, September 2021										
*Includes Caseworkers with at least 5 of the particular case type										
Foster Care				Family Preservation				Investigations & Family Support		
REGION_NUM	RAVG	RMED		REGION_NUM	RAVG	RMED		REGION_NUM	RAVG	RMED
1	24	25		1	11	9		1	16	15
2	25	27		2	14	17		2	24	21
3	30	30		3	20	22		3	28	30
4	18	16		4	10	9		4	17	15
5	23	21		5	10	9		5	19	18
6	22	23		6	11	8		6	16	14
7	24	24		7	9	8		7	17	15
8	22	23		8	10	7		8	16	13
9	24	27		9	8	8		9	15	15
10	23	22		10	12	12		10	16	15
11	34	34		11	16	17		11	18	17
12	25	24		12	13	13		12	24	26
13	25	24		13	13	13		13	34	33
14	15	15		14	8	7		14	26	21
State	23	22		State	12	10		State	22	18



Mary Havick

Deputy Commissioner

Child Welfare

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