

Georgia Division of Family & Children Services:

Overview of Plans for Privatization Pilots

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Presentation to: DHS Board of Directors

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Vision, Mission and Core Values

Vision

Stronger Families for a Stronger Georgia.

Mission

Strengthen Georgia by providing Individuals and Families access to services that promote self-sufficiency, independence, and protect Georgia's vulnerable children and adults.

Core Values

- **Provide access to resources that offer support and empower Georgians and their families.**
- **Deliver services professionally and treat all clients with dignity and respect. Manage business operations effectively and efficiently by aligning resources across the agency.**
- **Promote accountability, transparency and quality in all services we deliver and programs we administer.**
- **Develop our employees at all levels of the agency.**

Georgia DFCS Privatization Model



Goal: Building upon the strengths of our existing RBWO placement partnerships and the knowledge & skills of our DFCS case management teams, Georgia can achieve even greater outcomes for children and families.

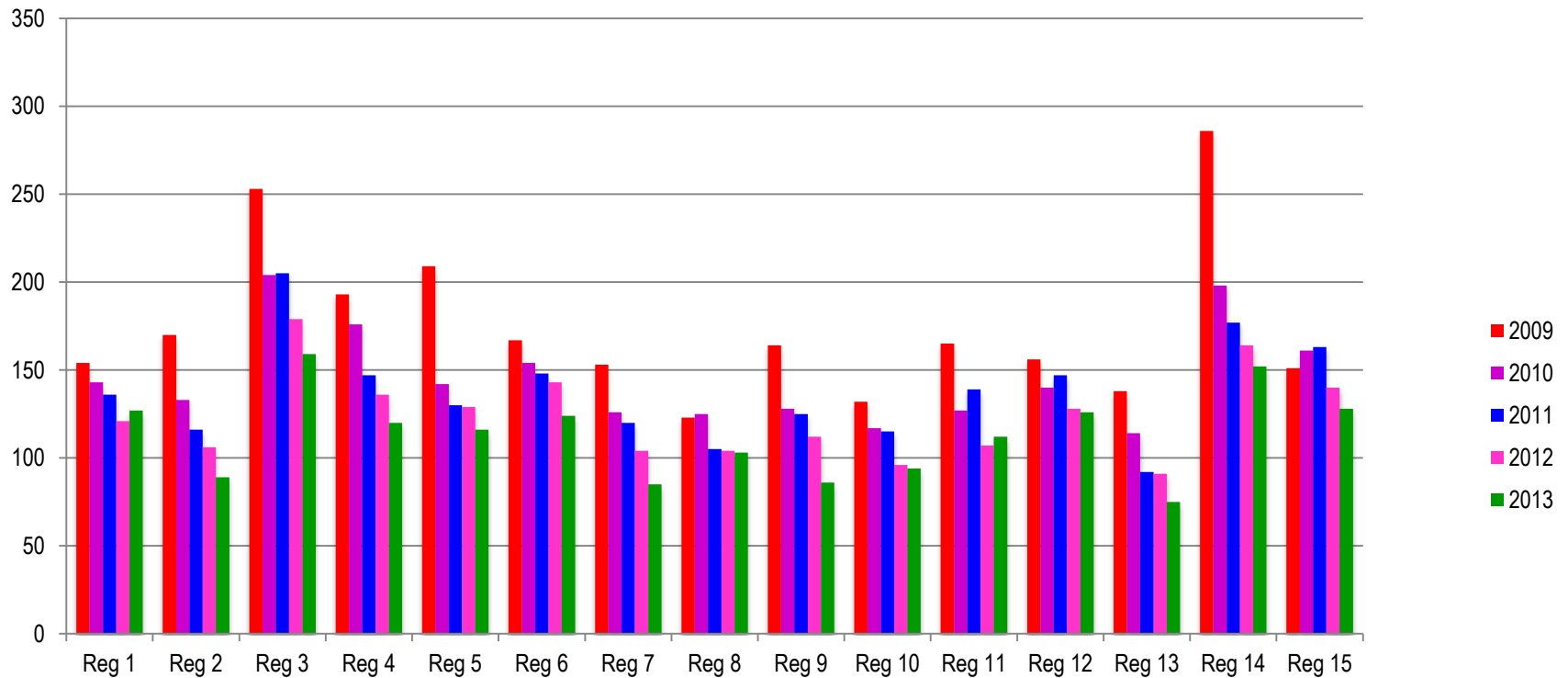
**DFCS Focus:
Case Management
Services to Birth
Families; and
Permanency
Planning.**



**Lead Agency:
Focus on Child
Well-Being and
Placement Services**

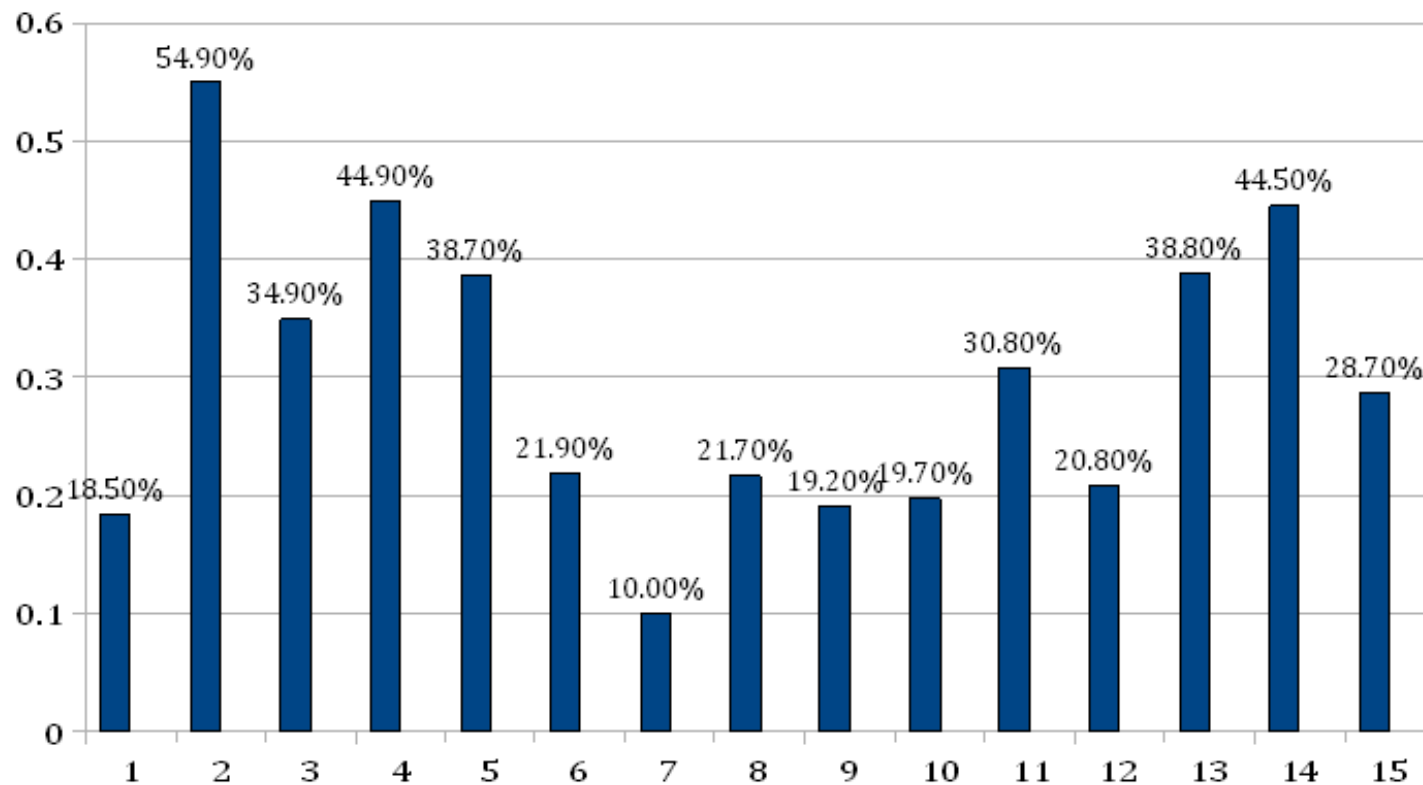
**Safe, Stable
Appropriate
Placements &
Expedient
Positive
Permanency**

DFCS Foster Home Trend (2009 – 2013)



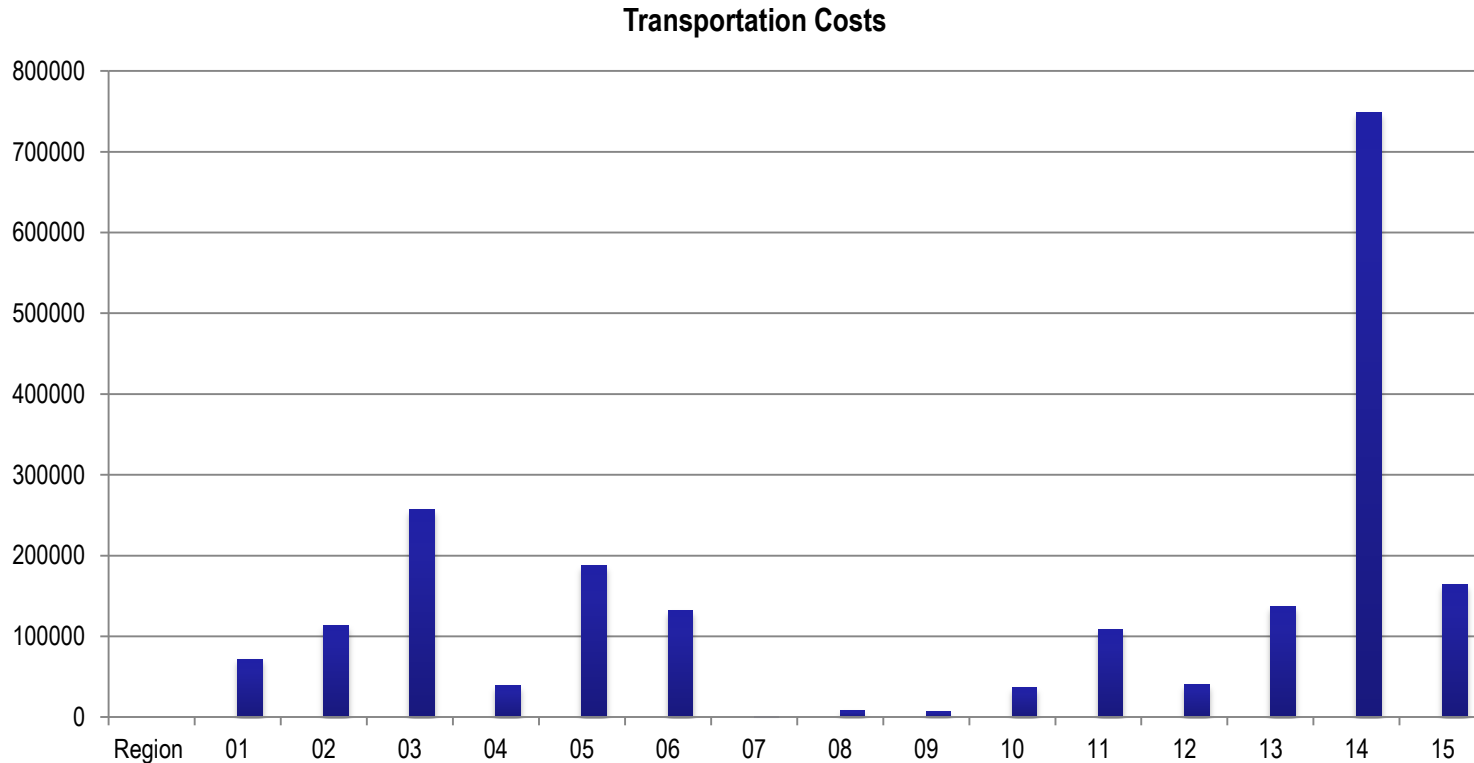
The number of foster homes recruited and supervised by DFCS has declined since 2009. Regions 3 and 5 have struggled in the recruitment, development, and maintaining of quality foster homes. Both regions rank among the highest in declining DFCS foster homes since 2009 with a 37% and 44% reduction respectively.

Percent of Children Placed Outside of their Regions (April 2014)



DFCS makes every attempt to place children as close to their home community and school as possible. Region 3 is the 6th highest in the state with 35% of children placed outside of the region, and Region 5 is the 4th highest with 39%. This suggests that both regions are challenged in developing placement resources within their own region.

Transportation Costs Related to Foster Children



Region 3 ranks the 2nd highest in transportation costs spending \$257,127 during fiscal year 2014 (YTD), and Region 5 ranks 3rd with transportation spending of \$187,211 during this same period.

Eight Overarching Pilot Goals

1. Build a trauma-informed placement network that provides for optimal, safe and stable placement services to children.
2. Ensure that children's well-being needs are met.
3. Ensure that children are in the least restrictive and most appropriate placements.
4. Maintain children in their school of origin.
5. Ensure that siblings are placed together.
6. Ensure that family and community connections are maintained.
7. Reduce the use of congregate care placements.
8. Improve youth's preparation for independent living.

Public-Private Partnership: Child Placement Activities: Lead Agency

- Activities to assess children's placement needs, and make appropriate placement match referrals; and to ensure a child's safekeeping and watchful oversight and his or her well-being while in foster care.
 - Includes development of an array of Partnership Parenting and trauma-informed placement options, referring children to the least restrictive and most appropriate placements and ensuring that once placed, children are safe, well-cared for and have all their well-being needs met, directly or through contracts with Child Placing Agencies (CPAs) and Child Caring Institutions (CCIs).
 - *Well-being* refers to such things as family connections, educational, physical, dental, social, environmental and behavioral health.

Key Lead Agency Expectations

- Placement Network Development
 - Contract with CPAs and CCIs
 - Approve family based and group home resources
- Foster Parent and CCI Staff Training and Direct Care Worker Certification
- Placement Referral / Matching
- Ensure the physical, mental, dental, emotional, educational, social and all other well-being needs are met.
- General Room, Board and Watchful Oversight Services

Public-Private Partnership: Case Management: DFCS

- **Case Management : DFCS**
 - Planning, monitoring and execution of services and activities provided to the children and families in support of achieving case plan objectives. Case management includes development of case and visitation plans, reporting to the court, working with birth parents, conducting diligent searches for relatives, placements with relatives and other activities in support of expediting and achieving permanency for children.

DFCS : Permanency & Services to Families

DFCS will have a more intensive focus on providing case management services to birth families.

This increased focus should result in

- 1) improved case management,
- 2) better case planning including referral, linkage and coordination of services/treatment,
- 3) increased relative placements and,
- 4) safe, appropriate, expedient transitions to positive permanency for children.

Success Indicators: Outcome Data

- Maltreatment in Care Rate
- Placements Occurring within 2 Hours of Referral 24/7/365
- Placement Stability
 - No Eject, No Reject
- School Stability
- Improved Graduation Rates
- Sibling Placements
- Least Restrictive, Most Appropriate Placements
- Health Needs Met
- Recruitment and Retention
 - Homes in Full Approval Status ; Re-Evaluated Timely
- Policy / Contractual Violations of Network
- Quality Case Record Review Data
- Parent-Child Visitation
- Sibling Visitation

New Horizons

- Opt Out Policy
 - Assumes all children in care at age of emancipation (18) will remain in care until they are 21, opt out or are self sufficient
- Safety net for young adults (up to age 21)
 - Young adults who sign back into care after opting out
 - College connection (home away from college during breaks, support system throughout college experience)
- Life Plan for independence and self sufficiency
 - Provide guidance and assistance in the navigation of established life

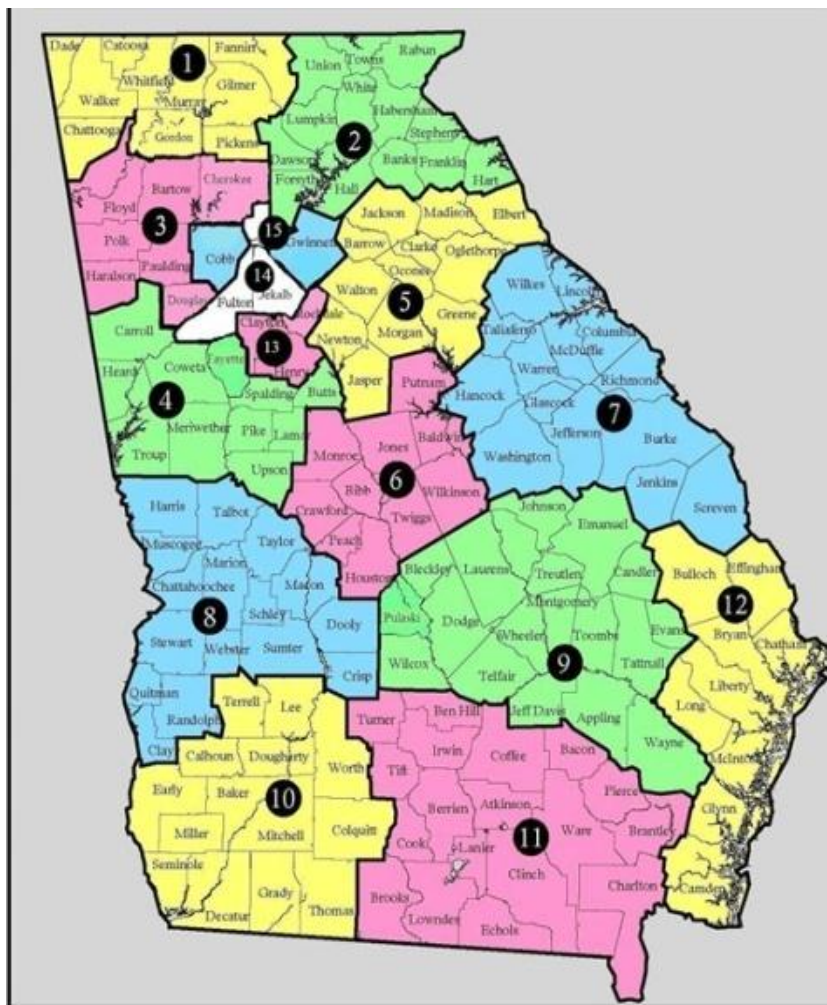
RFP Timeline

PROJECT DETAILS

DATE	MILESTONE
4/22/2014	Team Kick-off
5/9/2014	Posting of Draft for Supplier Review
5/16/2014	Supplier Meeting - Clarify and Q&A
5/30/2014	Feedback from Suppliers Due
6/20/2014	RFP Posting
6/30/2014	Pre-Bid Offerors Conference
7/7/2014	Q&A Ends
7/18/2014	Proposals Due
7/25/2014	Individual Evaluation Begins
8/18/2014	Validation Begins
9/1/2014	Negotiations Begin
9/26/2014	Notice of Intent to Award
10/7/2014	Notice of Award

Division of Family and Children Services

Service Areas



Region 1: Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Gilmer, Gordon, Murray, Pickens, Walker, Whitfield

Region 2: Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White

Region 3: Bartow, Cherokee, Douglas, Floyd, Haralson, Paulding, Polk

Region 4: Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup, Upson

Region 5: Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton

Region 6: Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Putnam, Twiggs, Wilkinson

Region 7: Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington, Wilkes

Region 8: Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Webster

Region 9: Appling, Bleckley, Candler, Dodge, Emanuel, Evans, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Tattall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Wayne, Wheeler, Wilcox

Region 10: Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, Worth

Region 11: Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brantley, Brooks, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Pierce, Tift, Turner, Ware

Region 12: Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh

Region 13: Clayton, Henry, Rockdale

Region 14: DeKalb, Fulton

Region 15: Cobb, Gwinnett

Questions

