



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

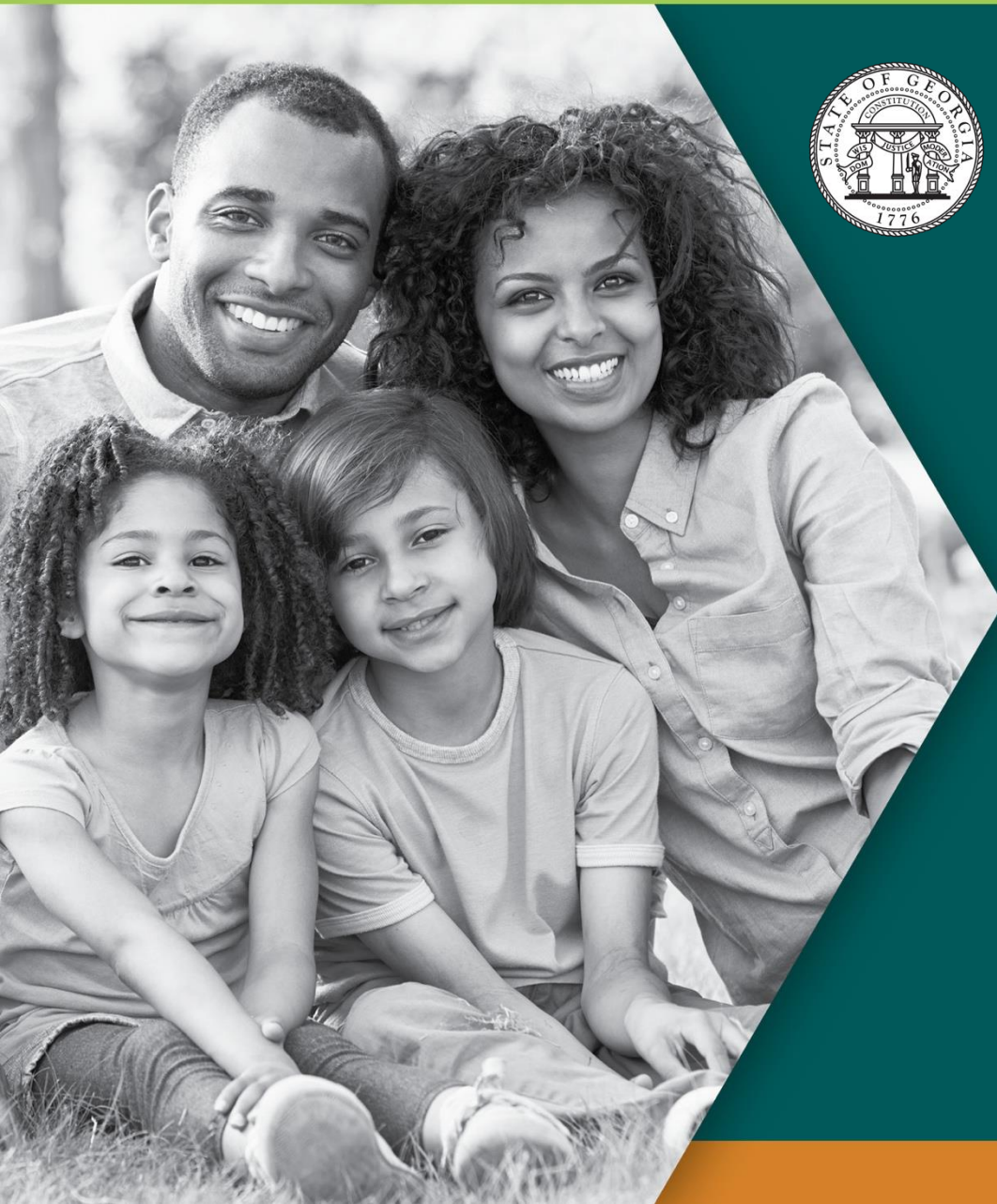
DHS Board Meeting Q4

October 9, 2024



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Welcome & Attendance



Georgia Department of Human Services

Child Welfare Updates and Initiatives

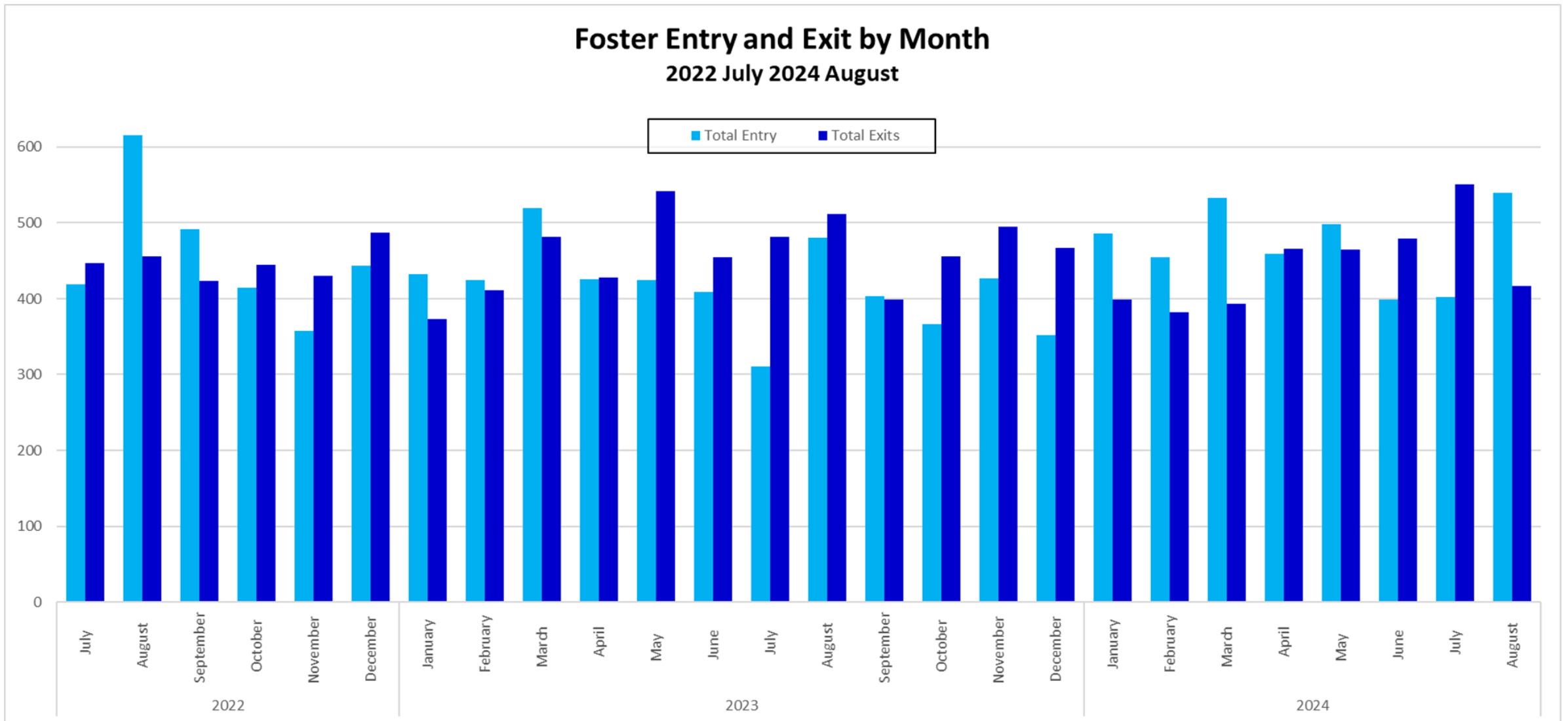
Mary Havick

Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Child Welfare

Youth in Care

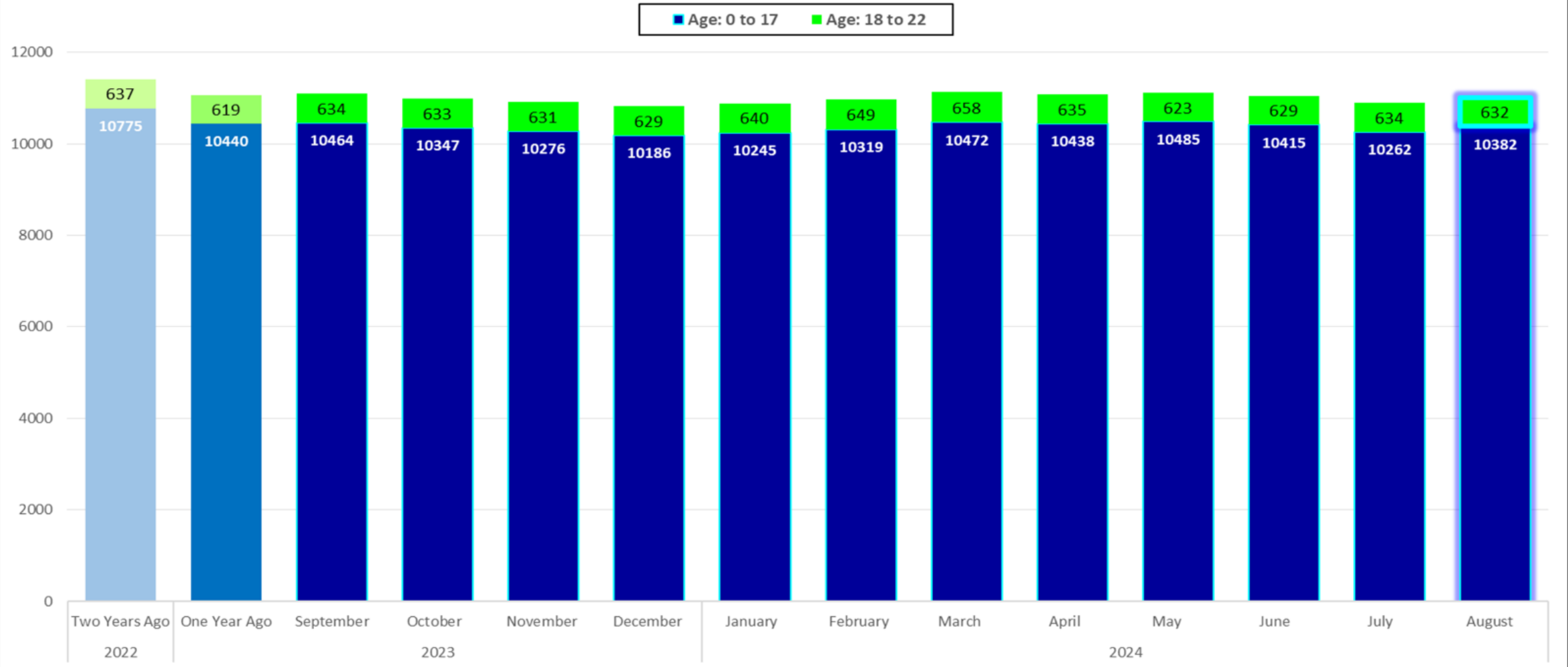
Foster Entry and Exit by Month

2022 July 2024 August



Youth in Care

Foster Children/Youth in Custody on Last Day of Month



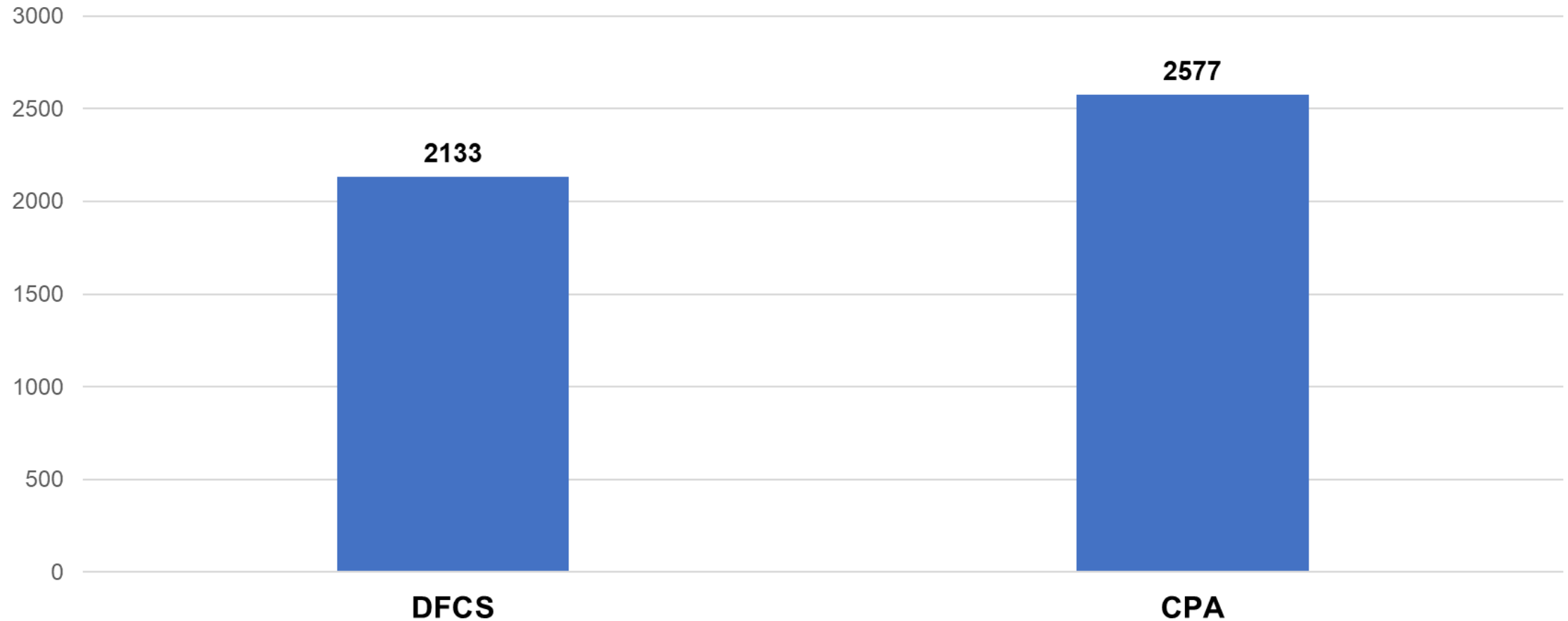
Youth in Care

- As of August 31, 2024
 - There were 10,832 children in care less than 18 years of age.
 - There were an additional 632 young adults 18 or older.
 - Combined, DFCS was responsible for 11,014 children and youth in care.



Foster Homes in Georgia

Foster Homes in Georgia



There are currently 4,710 foster homes in full approval status in Georgia. This data is current as of Sept. 24, 2024.



Child Welfare Employment Data

- As of August 1, 2024:
 - There were 1,561 filled position per the DHS Office of Human Resources.
 - The average tenure of child welfare staff is three years.
 - The median tenure is one year.
 - Twenty-five percent of employees have less than a year of experience and 75% have three years of experience or less.



Child Welfare Careers

- DFCS case managers are identified as Social Services Specialists. There are three career levels associated with this title.
 - All new employees start as a Social Services Specialist 1. The starting salary for this position is \$47,000.
 - After two years of continuous employment, with successful performance, staff are eligible to become a Social Services Specialist 2.
 - After three additional years of continuous employment and successful performance, they are eligible to become a Social Services Specialist 3.
- DFCS supervisors are identified as Social Services Specialist Supervisors.



Child Welfare Employment Data

- As of September 25, 2024:
 - There were 925 Social Service Specialist 1 employees, with an average of 1.05 years of service.
 - There were 390 Social Services Specialist 2 employees, with an average of 3.34 years of services.
 - There were 303 Social Services Specialist 3 employees, with an average of 12.19 years of services.
 - There were 494 Social Services Specialist Supervisor employees, with an average of 8.69 years of service.



Permanency Forum

- In August, child welfare leadership and Special Assistant Attorneys General met in Augusta to discuss permanency and other efforts to better serve Georgia's children and families.



Kinship Care Awareness Month

- In September DFCS recognized Kinship Care Awareness Month, a time to celebrate our kinship caregivers and their dedication to providing stable and loving homes for children when their families are unable.
- During Kinship Care Awareness Month DFCS hosted:
 - Four educational webinars in partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta on the topics of mental health, self-care, family boundaries, and implementing caregiver plans.
 - Twenty-eight toolkit giveaways in various counties across the state to provide useful household items to our kinship caregivers.
 - Five Kinship Caregiver Celebrations across Georgia to provide networking opportunities and valuable resources to our caregivers.



Kinship Care Awareness Month



Law Enforcement Meet and Greet

- Because we coordinate and work with law enforcement daily, it is critical that we deliberately nurture and develop the relationship between law enforcement and our staff.
- To cultivate these relationships, all counties were required to host a law enforcement meet and greet by September 30, 2024.



Law Enforcement Meet and Greets



Retirement Feature

- Steven Reed is retiring at the end of this month after 42 years with DFCS.
- He began his career with DFCS in 1982 as a food stamp eligibility worker in Fulton County. He continued to hold several supervisory roles within Fulton County for over 27 years.
- In 2009, Steven joined the state office data team where he has served as Special Assistant to the DFCS Director, Director of Quality Management, and most recently Director of the Data Unit and Quality Management.



Georgia Communicare

- Georgia Communicare is a set of interconnect web portals designed to support and enhance child welfare programs by connecting DFCS caseworkers, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), foster parents, and parents.
- Georgia Communicare seamlessly integrates with SHINES, our existing DHS System of Record, to ensure efficient and secure data management and communication.
- We are contracting with the University of Georgia's School of Social Work to help us evaluate and promote Georgia Communicare statewide.
- In September, DFCS hosted our first live training and Q&A for foster parents on the topic of Georgia Communicare.



Technology Modernization

- DFCS is currently developing additional technology projects that will positively impact child welfare.
- These projects include:
 - Caregiver Connection, a foster parent onboarding and re-evaluation portal
 - Foster parent reimbursement technology



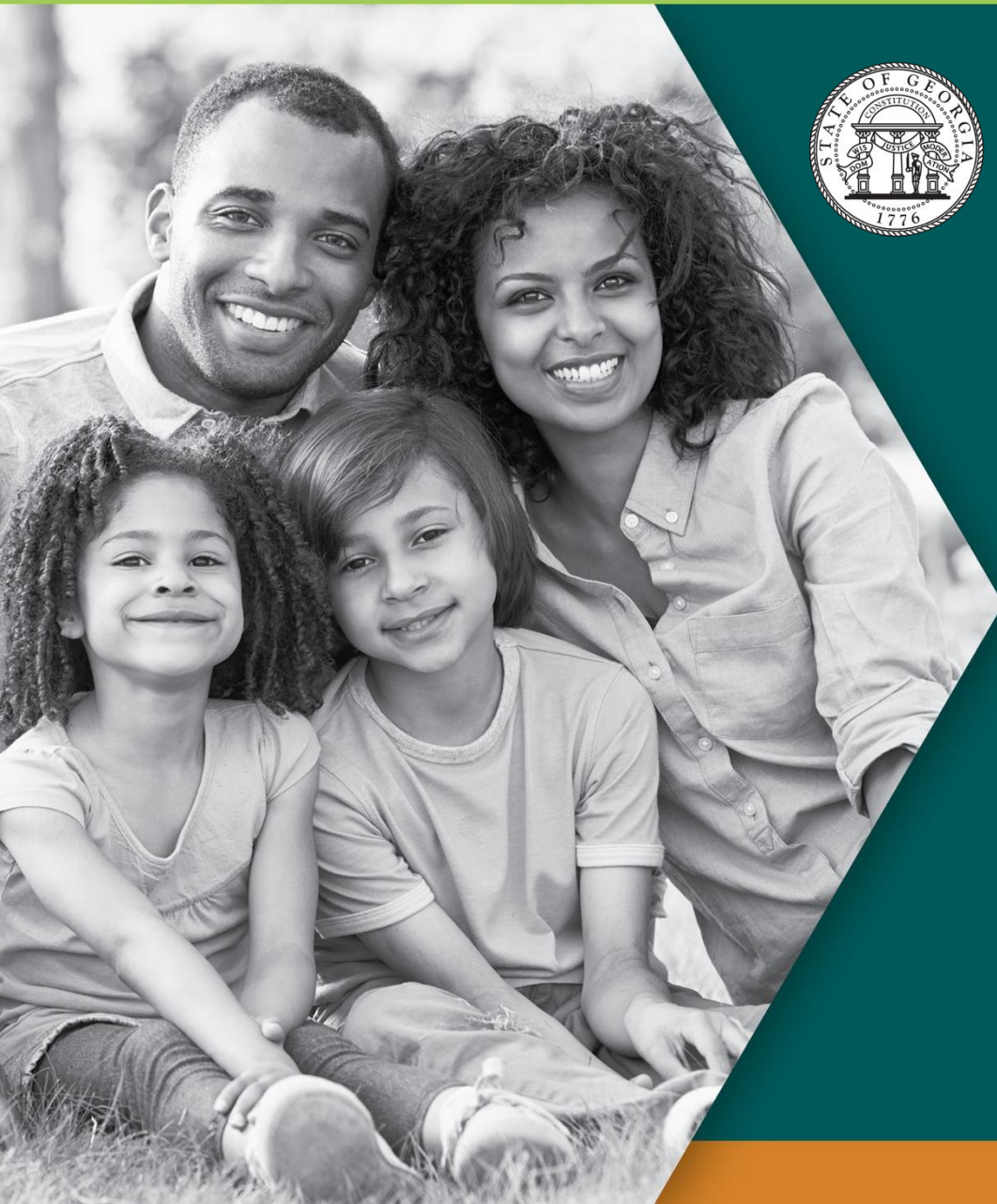
Questions?

Mary Havick

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Georgia Department of Human Services

Office of Family Independence Updates

John Hallman

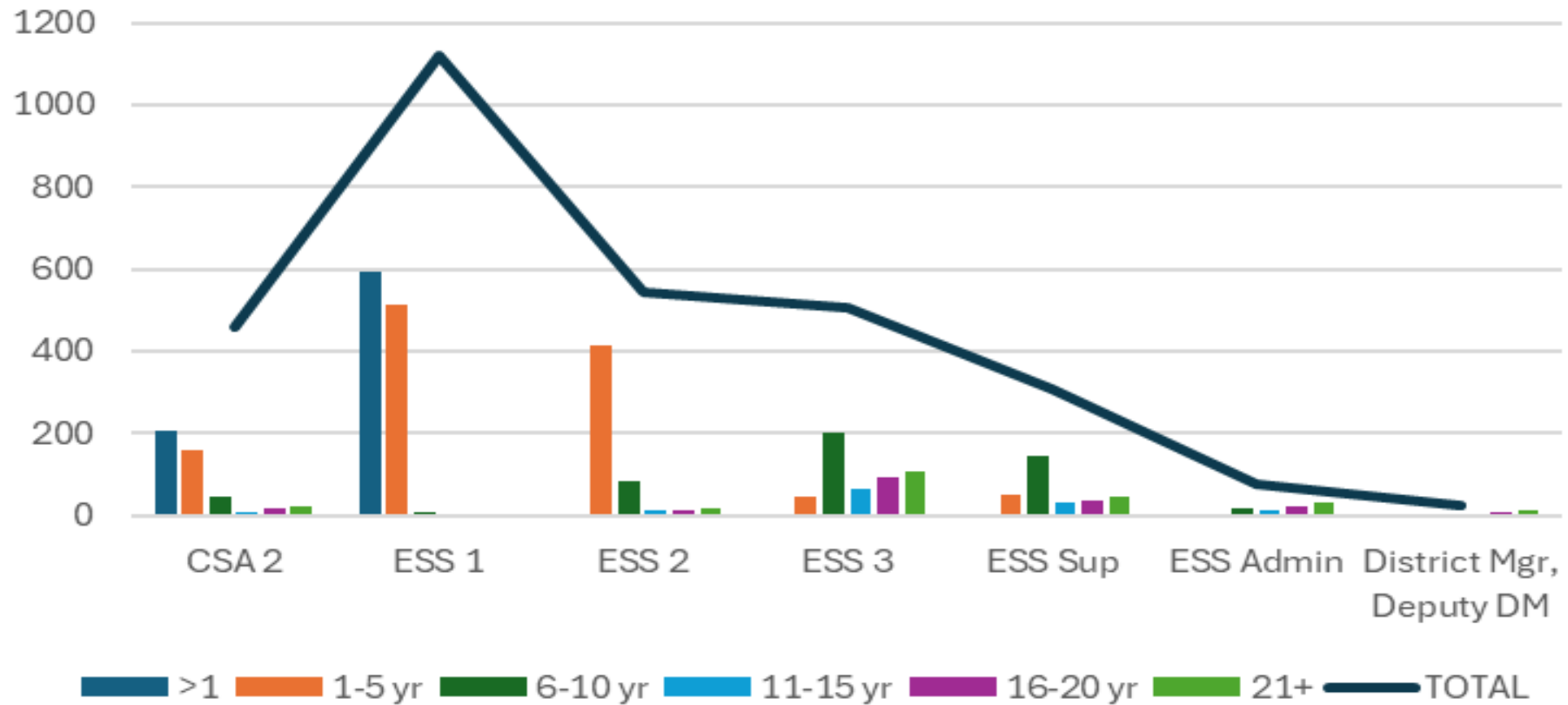
Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Family Independence

OFI Field Operations Staff Tenure

Job Title	>1	1-5 yr	6-10 yr	11-15 yr	16-20 yr	21+	TOTAL
CSA 2	206	159	45	9	17	23	459
ESS 1	595	515	9	0	0	0	1119
ESS 2	1	415	82	14	14	17	543
ESS 3	0	44	200	64	94	106	508
ESS Sup	1	49	144	30	38	46	308
ESS Admin	0	0	17	11	20	30	78
Leadership	0	0	1	1	6	14	22

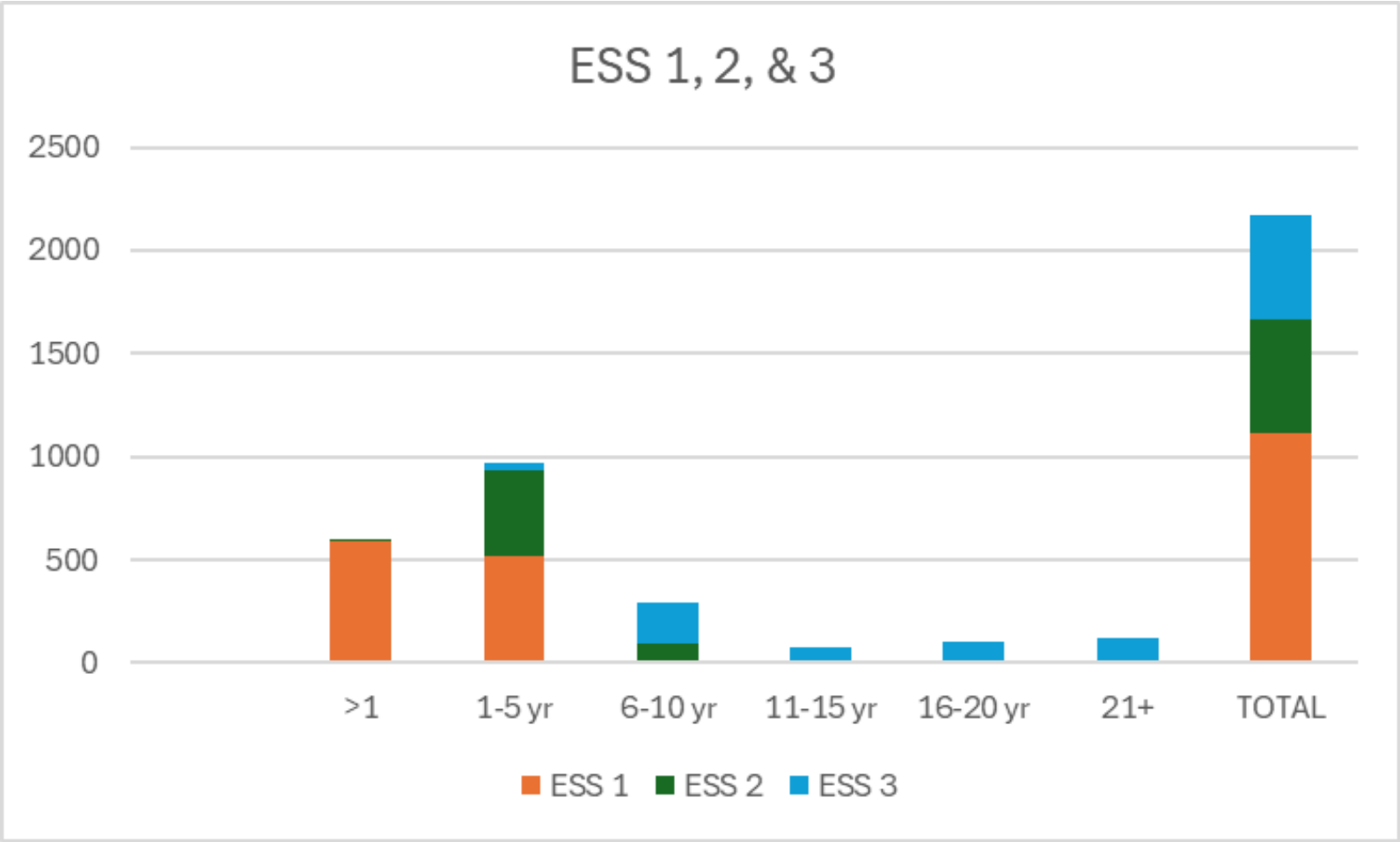


OFI Field Operations Tenure



Economic Support Specialists 1-3

ESS Title	ESS Totals
ESS 1	1119
ESS 2	543
ESS 3	508
Total ESS	2170



Recruitment & Retention

Ongoing:

- Continuous recruitment efforts
- Next Level Coaching Initiative
- Nesting

Completed:

- Career path

Planned:

- Streamlining District and Statewide Hiring Panel efforts
 - Updated uniform interview checklists
- Newly created realistic job preview



Hurricane Helene Recovery Efforts

- SNAP Benefits Replacement
- Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)
- Other waiver requests



SNAP Benefits Replacement

- Request for Benefits Replacement
 - SNAP customers who received benefits in September can report food lost due to power outages of four hours or more related to Hurricane Helene.
- Wavier for Time Extension for Request
 - SNAP customers in 61 counties affected by Hurricane Helene have until Oct. 25, 2024, to file the form requesting a replacement of food lost due to storm-related power outages.
- Mass Replacement of Benefits
 - Replacement of SNAP benefits without requiring customers to visit local SNAP offices and sign affidavits attesting to food loss.



D-SNAP

The Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) provides eligible low- to moderate-income households with help buying groceries due to lost income or damages following a disaster.

- Counties Eligible
 - Counties must be included in the Presidential Declaration of Individual Assistance to be eligible for D-SNAP.
- Individual Benefits and Eligibility
 - D-SNAP is a one-time payment for the purchase of food to eligible households that are not current SNAP recipients.
 - A household must live or work in the identified disaster area, have been affected by the disaster, and meet certain D-SNAP eligibility requirements to receive D-SNAP benefits.
- Supplements for Existing Customers



Other Waiver Requests

Status Updates on Wavier Options

- Approved
- Submitted
- Pending Submission



Questions?

John Hallman

Deputy Commissioner | Office of Family Independence

John.hallman@dhs.ga.gov





**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Division of Aging Services

Division of Aging Services

SHIP Program & Medicare Open Enrollment

Christine Williams, SHIP Program Lead



SHIP

State Health Insurance
Assistance Program

Navigating Medicare



State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Medicare Education

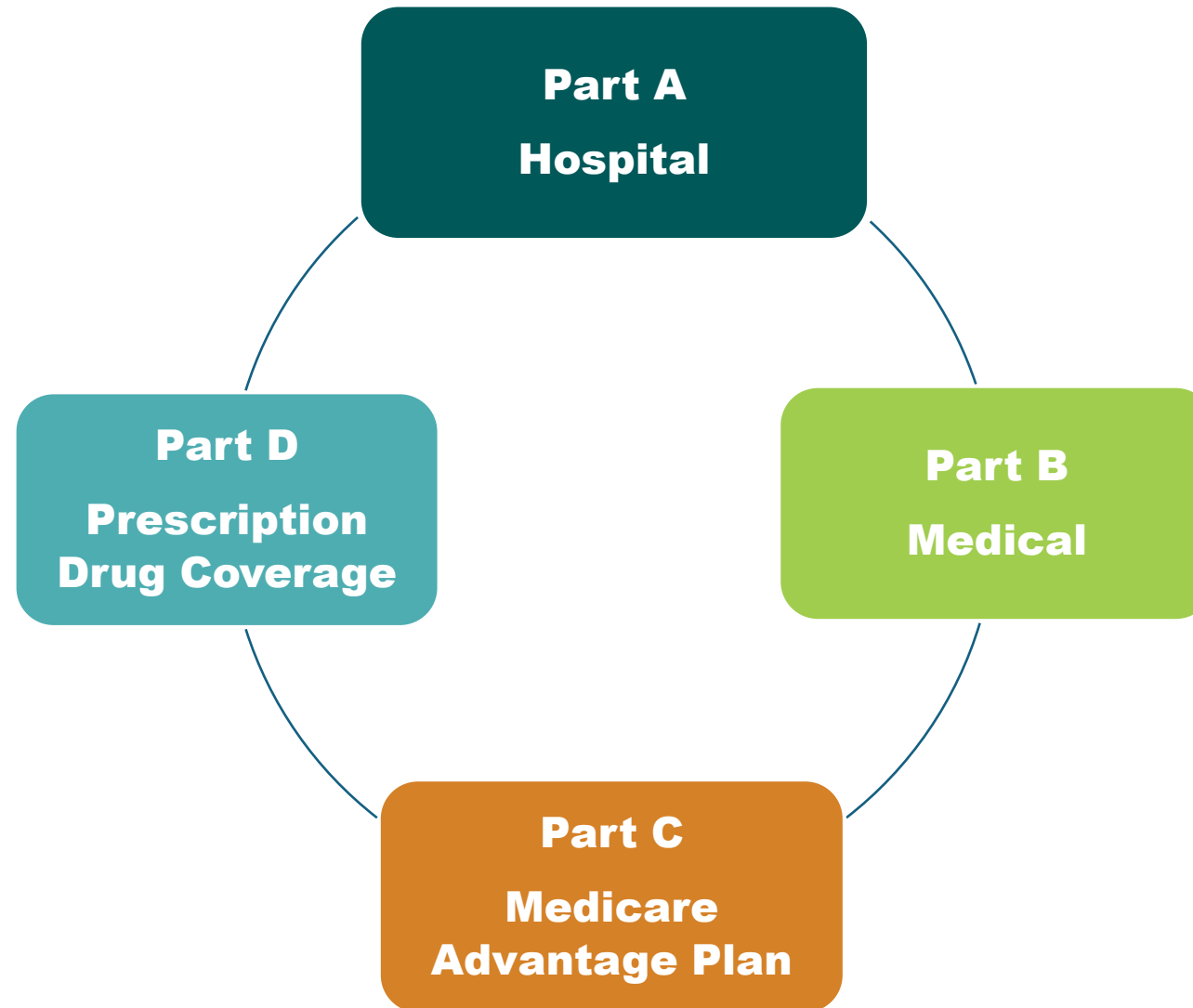
- Understand Health Care Benefits
- Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D
- Financial Assistance Programs
- Medicare Supplement Insurance
- Wellness and Preventive Services
- Medicare Appeals and Grievances
- Impartial and Personalized Counseling

Community Outreach

- Presentations
- Counseling Stations
- Health and Benefit Fairs
- Community Partnerships



Parts of Medicare



Medicare Preventive Services

- Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening
- Alcohol misuse screening and counseling
- Bone mass measurement (bone density)
- Breast cancer screening (mammogram)
- Cardiovascular disease (behavioral therapy)
- Cardiovascular disease screenings
- Cervical and vaginal cancer screenings
- Cognitive assessment & care plan services
- Colorectal cancer screenings
- Counseling to prevent tobacco use and tobacco-caused disease
- COVID-19 vaccines
- Depression screening
- Diabetes Prevention Program
- Diabetes screenings
- Diabetes self-management training
- Flu shots
- Glaucoma tests
- Hepatitis B shots
- Hepatitis B Virus infection screening
- Hepatitis C screening test
- HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) screening
- Lung cancer screening
- Medical nutrition therapy services
- Obesity screening and counseling
- Pneumococcal shots
- Prostate cancer screenings
- Sexually transmitted infection screening and counseling
- “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit
- Yearly “Wellness” visit



Medicare Open Enrollment



Medicare’s Open Enrollment Period Runs from October 15 to December 7 Each Year

October 2024							November 2024							December 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				



Medicare Open Enrollment

Action Steps

- Compare coverage for 2025
- Review and select health and drug plans
 - Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C)
 - Medicare Drug Plans (Part D)
 - Changes in benefits, costs, covered drugs, and provider networks will take effect January 1.

Coordination of Benefits

- Employer-based
- VA Health Insurance
- Marketplace Health Insurance
- Medicaid



Financial Assistance Programs

Extra Help Program

- Help paying Part D prescription drug costs

Medicare Savings Programs

- Qualified Individual (QI)
- Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB)
- Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)

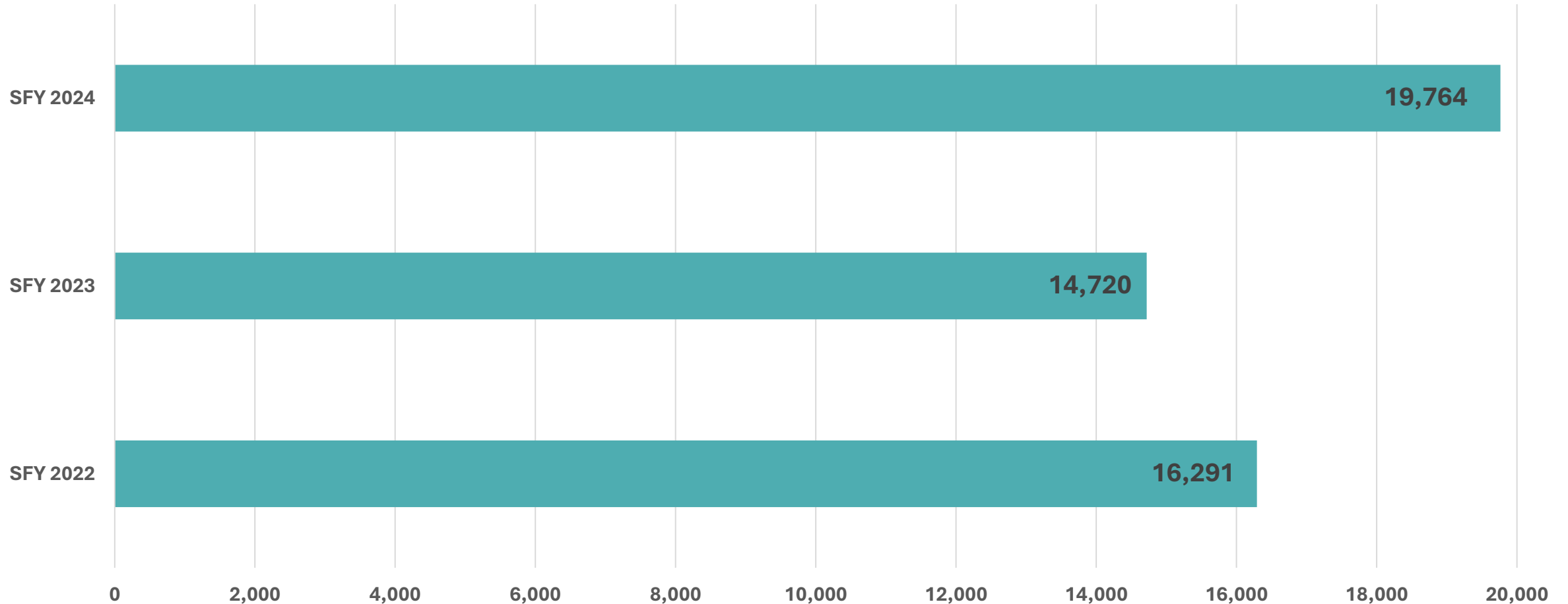
Medicaid

- Federal-state health insurance program
- For people with limited income and resources

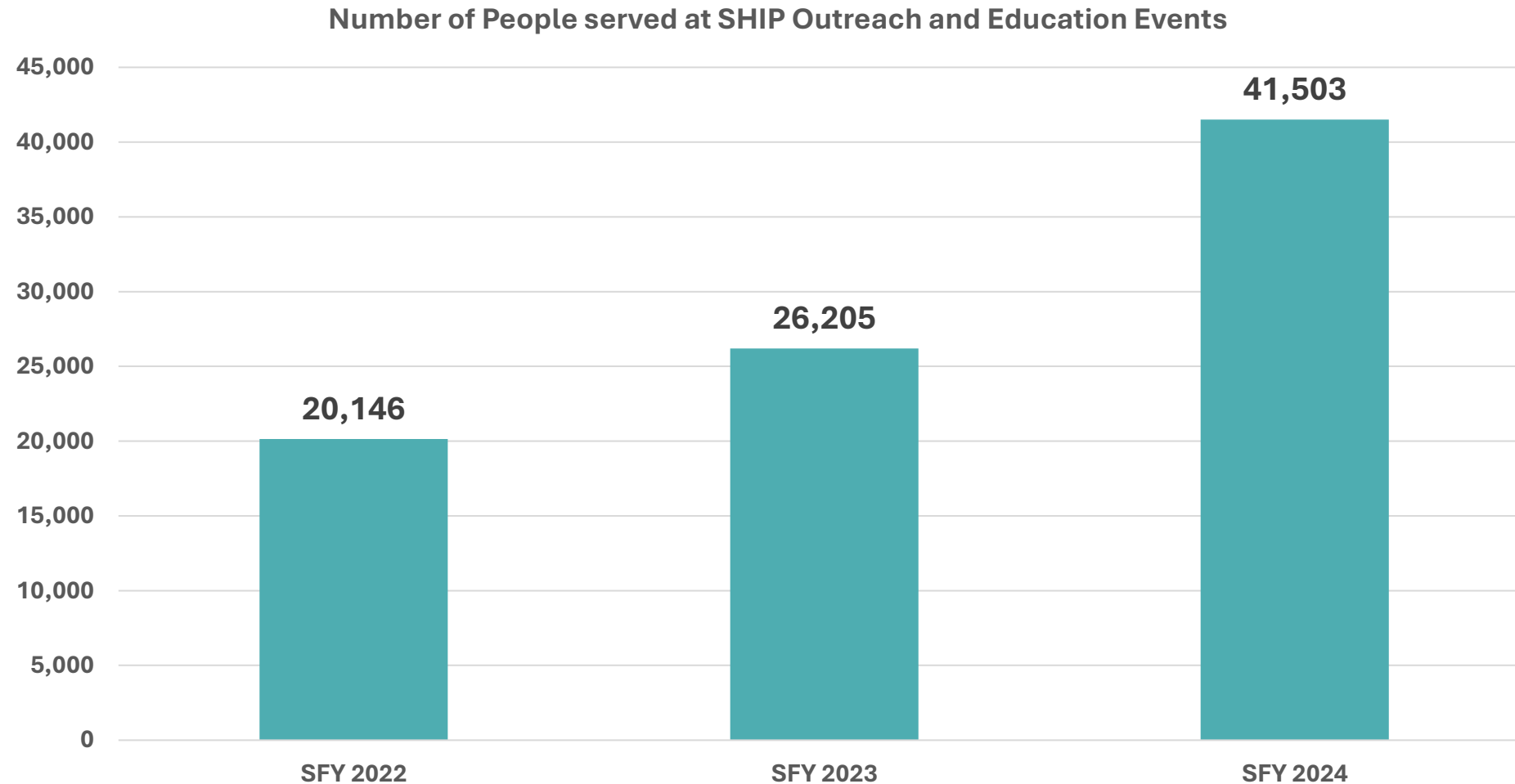


Georgia SHIP Impact

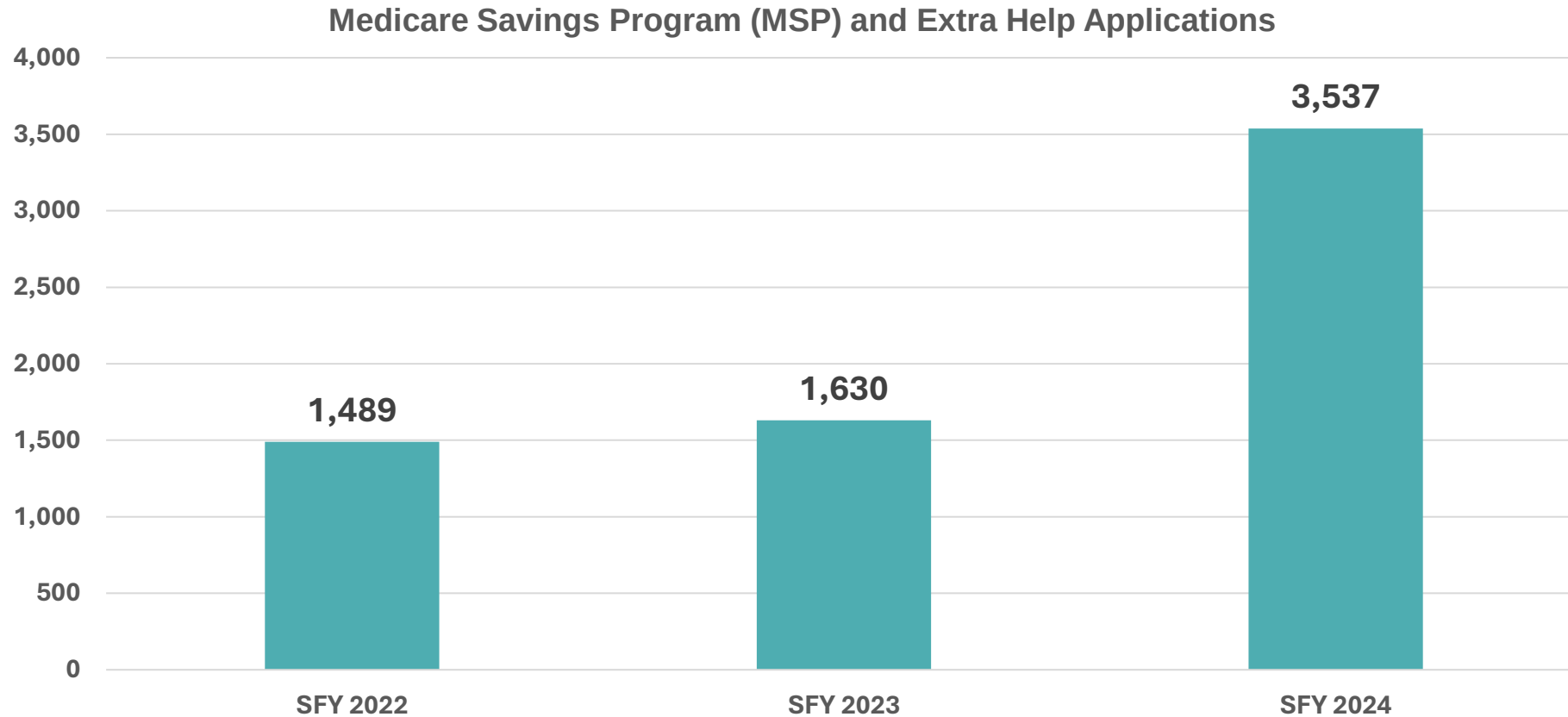
Number of People educated on Medicare and Health Related Insurance



Medicare Improvements for Patients & Providers Act (MIPPA)



Medicare Improvements for Patients & Providers Act (MIPPA)



Georgia SHIP Community Partners

Organization	Phone Number	City/Region
The Georgia Legal Services Program	1-877-220-0127	Atlanta
The Senior Citizens Council of Greater Augusta, Inc.	1-706-868-0120	Augusta
Action Pact, Inc (Heart of Georgia)	1-844-364-6361	Mt. Vernon
Action Pact, Inc (Southern)	1-912-380-3753	Douglas
Northeast Area Agency on Aging	1-706-548-4556	Athens
Three Rivers Area Agency on Aging	1-706-675-9031	Franklin
Legacy Link Area Agency on Aging	1-770-538-2650	Oakwood





SHIP

Navigating Medicare

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Monday - Friday

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

1-866-552-4464 Option 4

1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

TTY Users: 1-877-486-2048

This project was supported, in part by grant number 90SAPG0101 from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.



Questions?



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SHIP Program Lead

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Georgia Department of Human Services
Division of Child Support Services

Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) Grant & DCSS Outreach Programs

Anna Wall

Grants Specialist II

Shannon Longino

Outreach Manager

Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES)

Awarded to one tribal program and twelve states 8/31/2022

Project period 9/1/2022 – 8/31/2027

Cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Support Services (OCSS)

\$1,119,373 awarded to Georgia DCSS



Safer with Georgia SAVES

Goals

- To design, develop, evaluate, and implement best practices to provide safe access to child support and parenting time services to domestic violence (DV) victims who need support for their children, but may be afraid to apply for child support.

Objectives

- New screening and response protocols
- Expedited legal processes to victims
- Partnerships with DV agencies and legal aid
- Updated policies and case processing
- Implement specialized triage teams



Waycross Family Justice Center

Grand
OPENING



8.1.24



Safer with Georgia SAVES 2024 Accomplishments

**Process Mapping
with SAVES team
completed**

**Advisory Council
formed**

Website developed

**Waycross Family
Justice Center pilot**

**175 DCSS staff
trained on DV
protocols**

**Built relationships
with over 20 DV
providers
throughout the
state**

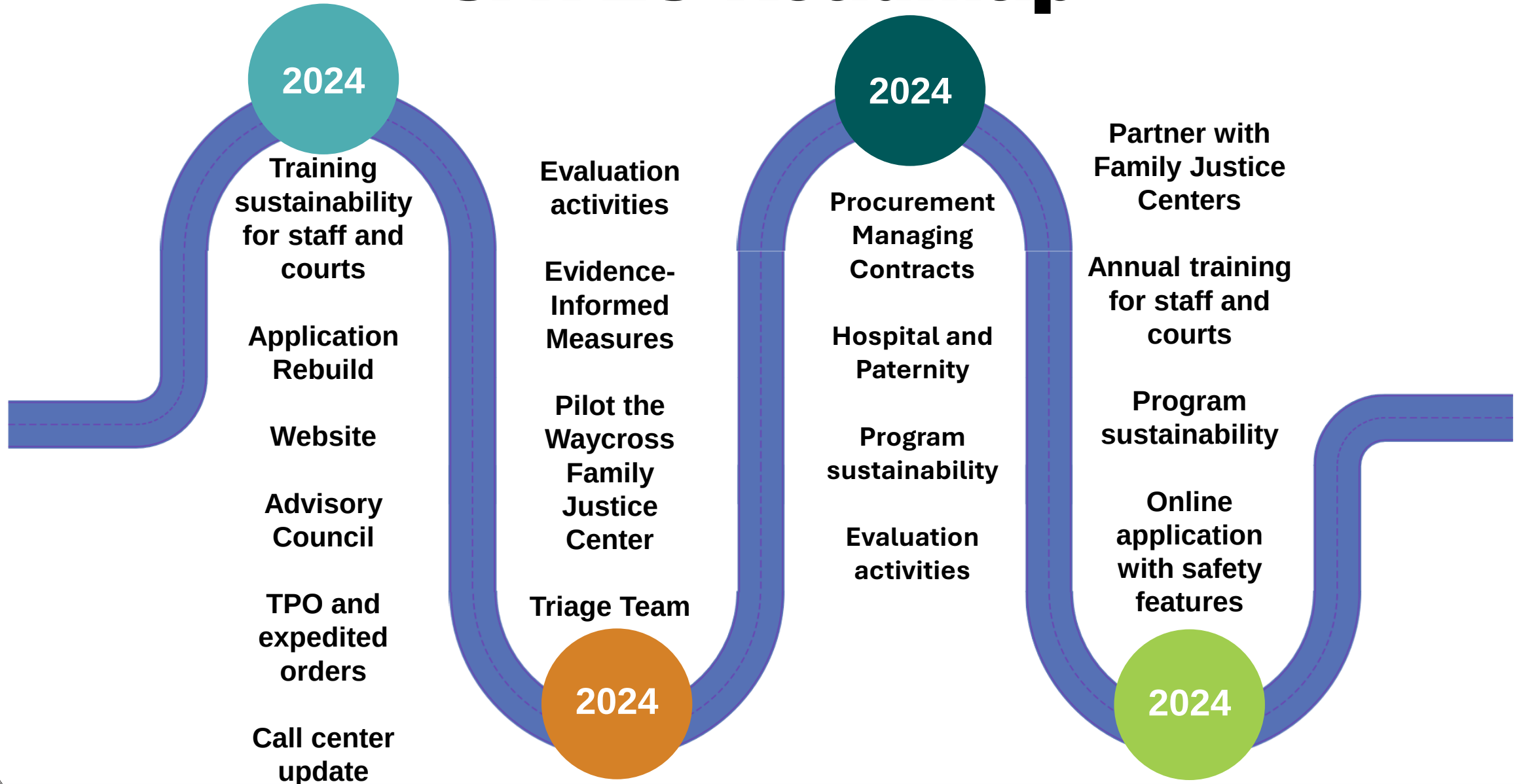
**Shared SAVES
project with GCFV
statewide DV
conference**

**Participated in
DCSS Application
Rebuild**

**Participating in the
DCSS system
modernization**



SAVES Roadmap



Our Top Partners



**Georgia
Commission on
Family
Violence**

Center for Pan Asian Community Services



Safer with Georgia SAVES

Safer with Georgia SAVES

The DCSS SAVES program is committed to the safety of our customers. We can help you navigate the child support process and find local resources to access the services you need. Resources include:

- Private one-on-one assistance when opening your case and applying for services
- Safety precautions added to your case
- Advocate / Family Navigator present on your behalf for court hearings
- Virtual court hearings

Legal Resources by County

Temporary Protection Orders (TPO) and Legal Resources by County Served



Domestic Violence Resources

Links to Resources Across the State of Georgia

- [Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence - We Begin with Me](#)
- [Georgia Commission on Family Violence](#)
- [Caminar Latino](#)



Email: dcss_saves@dhs.ga.gov, scan the QR code, or visit childsupport.georgia.gov/programsservices/georgia-saves.



Fatherhood Program Overview

- Employment-based program
- Statewide program offered to both men and women
- Connects participants with resources leading to career employment
- Assists parents court-ordered to pay child support prior to contempt
- Increase self-sufficiency, financial, emotional, and parental involvement

Program Timeline



Fatherhood Accomplishments



Enrollment - 2024

Feb, April, May
500+



Successful Completion - 2024

May 2024
221



Expansion Plan

Technical College System of GA
Community Resource Specialists



Community Partnerships

Omega Psi Phi – Fatherhood
Conversations



In Federal Fiscal Year 2023,

92%

of noncustodial parents owing child support in Georgia were fathers



71,943

cases are considered to be hard-to-serve and potentially eligible for an outreach program



4,429

parents were enrolled in the Fatherhood program



1,612

successfully completed the program



9,082

children were served



37

Fatherhood agents administer the program across Georgia



1,298

participants were offered or referred to GED/short-term job training resources



Parental Accountability Court (PAC) Program Overview

Collaboration between DHS and Council of Superior Court judges

Alternative to incarceration

Increase parental accountability, self-sufficiency, and child support collections



PAC Program Phases

Intake

- Complete forms, interviews, and assessments (includes GCIC)
- Sign terms & conditions
- Referrals to service providers
- Driver's license reinstatement review

Graduation

- Obtained gainful employment or secured an appropriate alternative for income
- Completed their case plan as required by the judge
- Paid as ordered for six consecutive months



Phase I

- Complete job searches or attend approved training courses
- Comply with any treatment services or community outreach resources
- Provide updates to the PAC Coordinator at the determined frequency
- Attend PAC Court hearings

Phase II

- Comply with any prescribed treatment plans
- Provide updates to the PAC Coordinator at the determined frequency
- Maintain employment
- Attend PAC court hearings, when applicable



PAC Accomplishments and Goals

Accomplishments

- 15th year of PAC
- August 2018 National Award Recognition
 - National Child Support Engagement Agency- Innovative Partnership/Collaboration Award
 - Procedural Justice Alternative to Contempt Peer Learning Site – 2020

Goals

- PAC expansion Statewide
- Increase Community Resource Collaboration

Million Dollar Courts		
Year Started	Year Obtained	Judicial Circuit
2013	2020	Towaliga
2011	2020	Northeastern
2009	2021	Coweta
2013	2022	Mountain
2013	2022	Alcovy
2012	2022	Stone Mountain
2015	2022	Ocmulgee
2013	2023	Macon
2012	2023	Flint
2012	2023	Pataula

Million Dollar Courts – PACs that have collected over \$1 million dollars in court ordered child support, since the inception of their program



By the Numbers

as of Federal Fiscal Year 2023

Since State Fiscal Year 2009, the PAC program has helped



7,224

noncustodial parents who were at risk of incarceration avoid jail time and provide much needed support to



17,020*

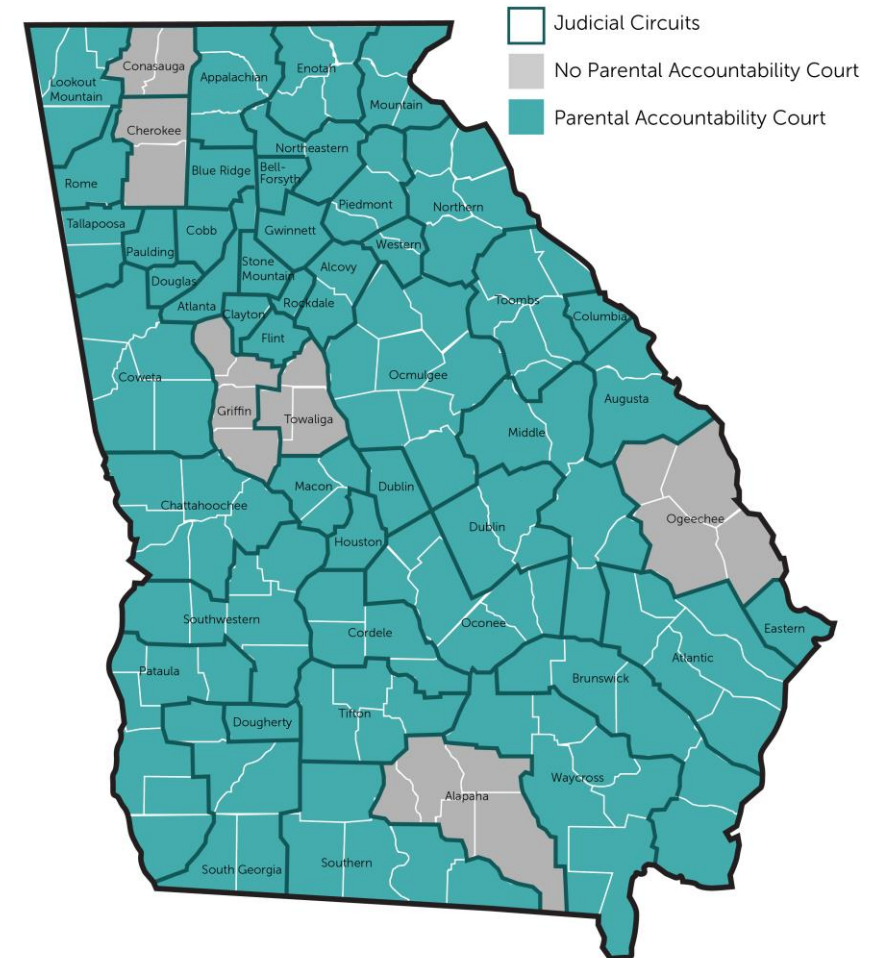
of Georgia's children. Program participants paid an estimated



\$30.1M

in support, which, in return, has saved the state millions in incarceration costs.

**child count includes active cases*



Success Stories

Accomplishments while in Fatherhood

- ✓ Obtained CDL
- ✓ Expunged Criminal Record
- ✓ Found stable employment

Accomplishments while in PAC

- ✓ Obtained GED
- ✓ Obtained CNA License
- ✓ Became gainfully employed
- ✓ Obtained housing and able to afford child care



DCSS Outreach

DCSS Website: childsupport.georgia.gov

Contact Center: [1-877-423-4746](tel:1-877-423-4746)

Fatherhood: fatherhoodinquiry@dhs.ga.gov

PAC and Prison Reentry: pac.dcss@dhs.ga.gov



Questions

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Georgia Department of Human Services

Division of Child Support Services

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Shannon Longino

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Georgia Department of Human Services

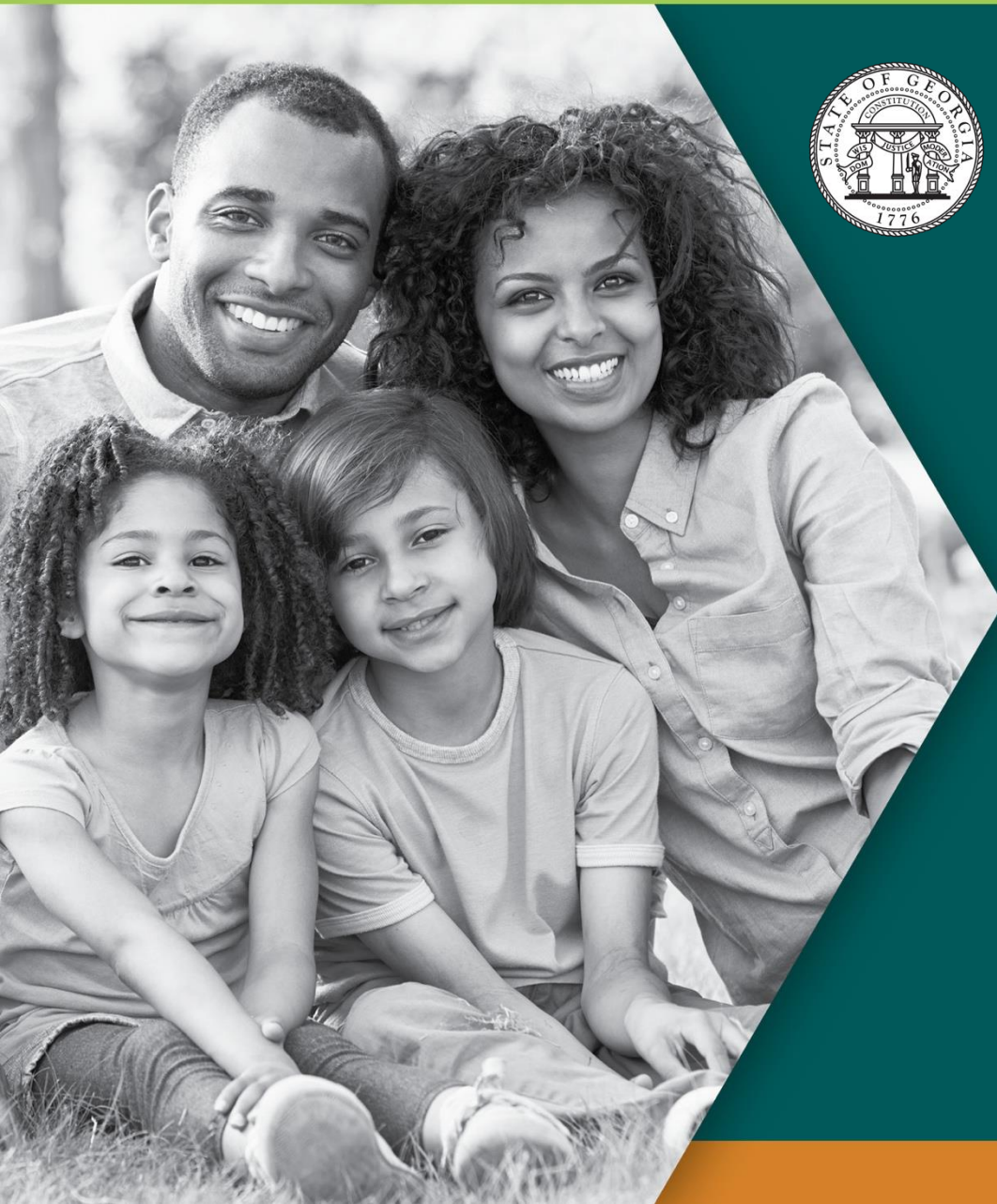
Division of Child Support Services

Email: shannon.longino@dhs.ga.gov



*thank
you*





Georgia Department of Human Services
Office of General Counsel

DHS Rule Changes

Christopher Henry
Associate General Counsel

Road Map

- Review Rule Change Procedures
- Rules for Initial Approval to Publish – Child-Caring Institutions (CCI)
Maternity Homes (MH)
- Request to Board



Rule Change Procedure

1. Board Considers Motion to Publish Proposed Rule
2. 30-Day Public Comment Period
3. Public Hearing
4. Motion for Final Adoption of Proposed Rule
5. Send Final Rule to Secretary of State



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (Q RTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-5-.03 Definitions

290-2-5-.04 Governing Body

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Defines **qualified residential treatment program**.
- Defines **commercial sexual exploitation recovery center**.
- Updates the definition of **child caring institution** to include Q RTP & CSERC.
- Clarifies that every CCI must have a clearly identified governing body as required by state law.
- Removes board requirements relating to policies & procedures for periodic rotation of members.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (QRTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-5-.05 Criminal History
Background Checks,
Licenses & Exemptions

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Updates criminal records checks section to reference applicable Georgia Code instead of detailing crimes and provisions.
- Clarifies that a CCI's capacity is limited to no more than 16 residents unless approved by DHS/RCCL.
- Requires a CCI to be licensed if it has multiple separate living units on the same premises providing care to a combined total of six or more children effective 1/1/2025.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (QRTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-5-.05 (Cont'd) Criminal History
Background Checks,
Licenses and Exemptions

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Adds a new provision that a QRTP must obtain and maintain accreditation.
- Adds a new provision that a CSERC must obtain and maintain certification as a victim's assistance program.
- Clarifies that all programs meeting the criteria of a CCI must be licensed as such or exempted from licensure by DHS.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (Q RTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-5-.06 Applications

290-2-5-.08 Administration and
Organization

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Requires an application to open a new CCI be submitted to DHS 90 days (currently 30 days) prior to the proposed opening date.
- Eases qualifications for the director position in that administrative or supervisory experience in a human services delivery field (currently “the field of child care”) meets the experience requirement.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

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Rule Section

290-2-5-.08 (Cont'd) Administration
and Organization

290-2-5-.12 Child Care Services

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Clarifies that a CCI must have qualified and trained staff to provide authorized services.
- Eases qualifications for the human services professional position in that a bachelor's degree in a specified field along with two years experience in a human services delivery field related to child welfare meets qualifications.
- Eases physical exam provisions by requiring exams to be completed within 10 calendar days (currently 72 hours) of a child entering the facility.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (QRTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-5-.13 Qualified Residential Treatment Program

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- **Adds all new provisions related to QRTP.**
- Requires a QRTP to be licensed as a CCI; accredited; have a trauma-informed treatment model; equipped to meet the clinical needs of children with serious emotional or behavioral disorders or disturbances; equipped to implement necessary treatment for a child as determined by an assessment to determine appropriateness of placement; and have registered or licensed nursing staff and other licensed clinical staff.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (QRTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-5-.13 (Cont'd) Qualified
Residential Treatment
Program

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Requires an initial assessment to be completed prior to a child's placement in a QRTP, but no later than 30 days following the start of such placement.
- Requires the facilitation of family involvement in a child's treatment plan as appropriate and in the child's best interest.
- Requires discharge planning and family-based aftercare support for at least 6 months post-discharge.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (Q RTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

290-2-5-.13 (Cont'd) Qualified Residential Treatment Program

- Requires an initial application to operate a Q RTP be made on forms provided by DHS and include all required documentation.

290-2-5-.14 Behavior Management and Emergency Safety Interventions

- Allows a parenting resident to participate in the behavior management of their own child with staff supervision and in accordance with the parenting resident's individual service plan.



Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that CCI rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC) and qualified residential treatment programs (Q RTP). In addition, these rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-5-.17 Food Service

290-2-5-.18 Physical Plant and Safety

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Clarifies that all CCIs, including CCIs caring for 13 or more residents with a valid food service permit, must comply with licensing requirements related to food safety, preparation, and storage.
- Clarifies that no children may co-sleep or bedshare.
- Requires all vehicle inspections to be documented on a form provided by the Department and signed by a certified inspector or mechanic.



Initial Approval - Maternity Homes (MH)

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that maternity home rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC). In addition, the rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-29-.02 Applicability of Rules

290-2-29-.04 Definitions

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Adds provisions to reflect that a commercial sexual exploitation recovery center and a maternity supportive housing residence are not subject to licensure as maternity homes.
- Defines **commercial sexual exploitation recovery center**.
- Defines **maternity supportive housing residence**.



Initial Approval - Maternity Homes (MH)

The rule changes are necessary to ensure that maternity home rules are consistent with new statutory provisions related to commercial sexual exploitation recovery centers (CSERC). In addition, the rules are being revised to streamline regulations, update terms and provisions, and make certain regulatory requirements less burdensome for providers where safe to do so.

Rule Section

290-2-29-.21 Physical Plant and Safety

Highlights of Proposed Rule Changes

- Adds provision that prohibits children from co-sleeping or bedsharing.
- Adds provision that requires all vehicle inspections to be documented on a form provided by DHS and signed by a certified inspector or mechanic.



Public Comment

Public Comment Period

Oct. 10, 2024 – Nov. 10, 2024

Public Hearing

Oct. 29, 2024



Request to Board

Motion to Publish Notice of Rulemaking

Rules and Regulations for Child-Caring Institutions

Rules 290-2-5-.01 through 290-2-5-.23

Rules and Regulations for Maternity Homes

Rules 290-2-29-.02, 290-2-29.04, 290-2-29.21



Questions

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**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Meeting Break



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Rule Changes:

Initial Approval - Child-Caring Institutions (CCI)

Initial Approval – Maternity Homes (MH)



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Minutes Approval for July 23, 2024 and August 20, 2024



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Commissioner's Report

Candice Broce, Commissioner



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

New Business & Closing Comments