

Georgia Department of Human Services

APS and GAP Updates

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STRONGER FAMILIES FOR A STRONGER GEORGIA



Division Vision and Mission

Vision

Living longer, Living safely, Living well

Mission

The Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Aging Services (DAS) supports the larger goals of DHS by assisting older individuals, at-risk adults, persons with disabilities and their families and caregivers to achieve safe, healthy, independent and self-reliant lives.



Adult Protective Services (APS) Program Evaluation

- DAS began the process of internally evaluating the APS program in July 2017
 - Ensure APS policy addressed the latest trends and national recommendations
 - Review confidentiality law
 - Research capacity assessment tools
 - Training
 - Outreach
 - Overall program review



NAPSA Scope of Service

- The National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) is a national non-profit organization with members in all fifty states. The goal of NAPSA is to provide Adult Protective Services programs a forum for sharing information, solving problems, and improving the quality of services for victims of elder and vulnerable adult mistreatment. NAPSA has a 20+ year history of providing high quality training, technical assistance, research, policy recommendations & advocacy to and for APS.
- DHS contracted with NAPSA to evaluate and provide recommendations in the following program areas:
 - Policy
 - Training
 - Guiding Principles
 - Capacity Assessment Tool



NAPSA's Approach

- Detailed review of current Georgia laws, policy, trainings, guiding principles and the current and selected capacity assessment tool
- Held three listening sessions – two stakeholder sessions and one staff session



NAPSA Findings / Recommendations

- Policy Findings

NAPSA reports that Georgia's standards are much more detailed than the national guidelines

- Policy Recommendation Highlights

- Implement a statewide case review and quality assurance program
- Notify the reporter at the end of the investigation that the investigation is complete
- Expand the use of tools for client assessments along with policies for incorporating expert assessment



NAPSA Findings / Recommendations

- Training Findings

Georgia's current new worker training is already based on several modules from the national recommended training provide through NAPSA

- Training Recommendations Highlights

- More training around Mental Health in APS
- Detail training on assessing client decision making capacity
- Continue process of certification of all current APS staff



NAPSA Findings / Recommendations

- Guiding Principles Findings

Georgia's guiding principles are in alignment with NAPSA's own Code of Ethics and the Administration for Community Living (ACL's) Nationally Recommended Standards

- Guiding Principles Recommendations

- Use family and informal support systems first
- Honor the right of adults to receive information about their choices in a form or manner that they can understand
- Maintain clear and appropriate professional boundaries
- In the absence of an adult's expressed wishes, support casework actions that are in the adult's best interest
- Use substituted judgment when historical knowledge of the adult's values is available



NAPSA Recommendations

- Capacity Assessment Tool Recommendations
 - The current assessment tool, St. Louis University Mental Status (SLUMS), has been proven to be a valid and reliable cognitive capacity assessment tool
 - APS requested an assessment of the Interview for Decisional Abilities (IDA) capacity assessment. The IDA is specifically designed for APS and shows promise but requires further piloting and validation of effectiveness
 - Need to provide additional training to all field staff on how to administer the SLUMS capacity assessment tool
 - Neither SLUMS nor IDA should be the sole deciding factor on capacity. APS policies & procedures state that the capacity assessment tool is one of several factors to be considered in a full APS assessment
 - Clear policy on when to administer the capacity assessment tool



What's Next?

- DAS has reviewed and accepted all of NAPSA's recommendations for either immediate implementation and/or further review prior to implementation
- Complete training enhancements prior to next New Worker Training in March 2018
- Review of worker safety procedures and training
- Case review process enhancements for multiple reports on clients
- Increase public education – What is Adult Protective Services / What is our purpose / What are we able to do / What are our limitations



Georgia Alzheimer's Project

Progress Update and SFY19 Planning



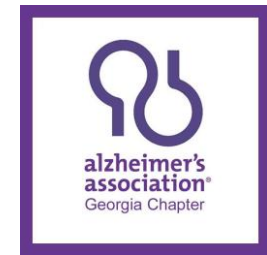
Background: Refresher

- **Major gaps in service statewide**
 - No specific diagnosis in 2/3 patients
 - Diagnosis often delayed 6+ years
 - Access to diagnostic expertise
 - Support for aging in place
 - Linkages to psycho-social care and community services
- **Medicaid costs**
 - \$35,000/year for Alzheimer's Disease (AD) vs \$4,000 for non-AD
 - 1/7 admissions of patients with Alzheimer's avoidable
 - Potential \$2 billion annual savings



Georgia Alzheimer's Project

- **Support primary care education**
 - Enhance awareness and early detection
 - Link to regional Memory Assessment Centers and community-based resources
- **Establish statewide network of Memory Assessment Centers (MAC)**
 - Diagnostic expertise and care planning
 - Patient and caregiver education
 - Linkage to community-based support
 - Coordination with Primary Care Provider
- **Monitor project activities and metrics**



GAFP

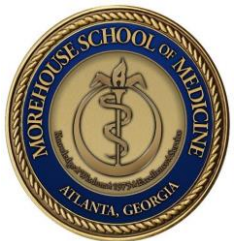


Academic partnerships: Geographic versatility and statewide coverage



MCG

Augusta: Pilot launched October 2017
Anticipated 2nd Medical College of GA
late spring 2018



Morehouse

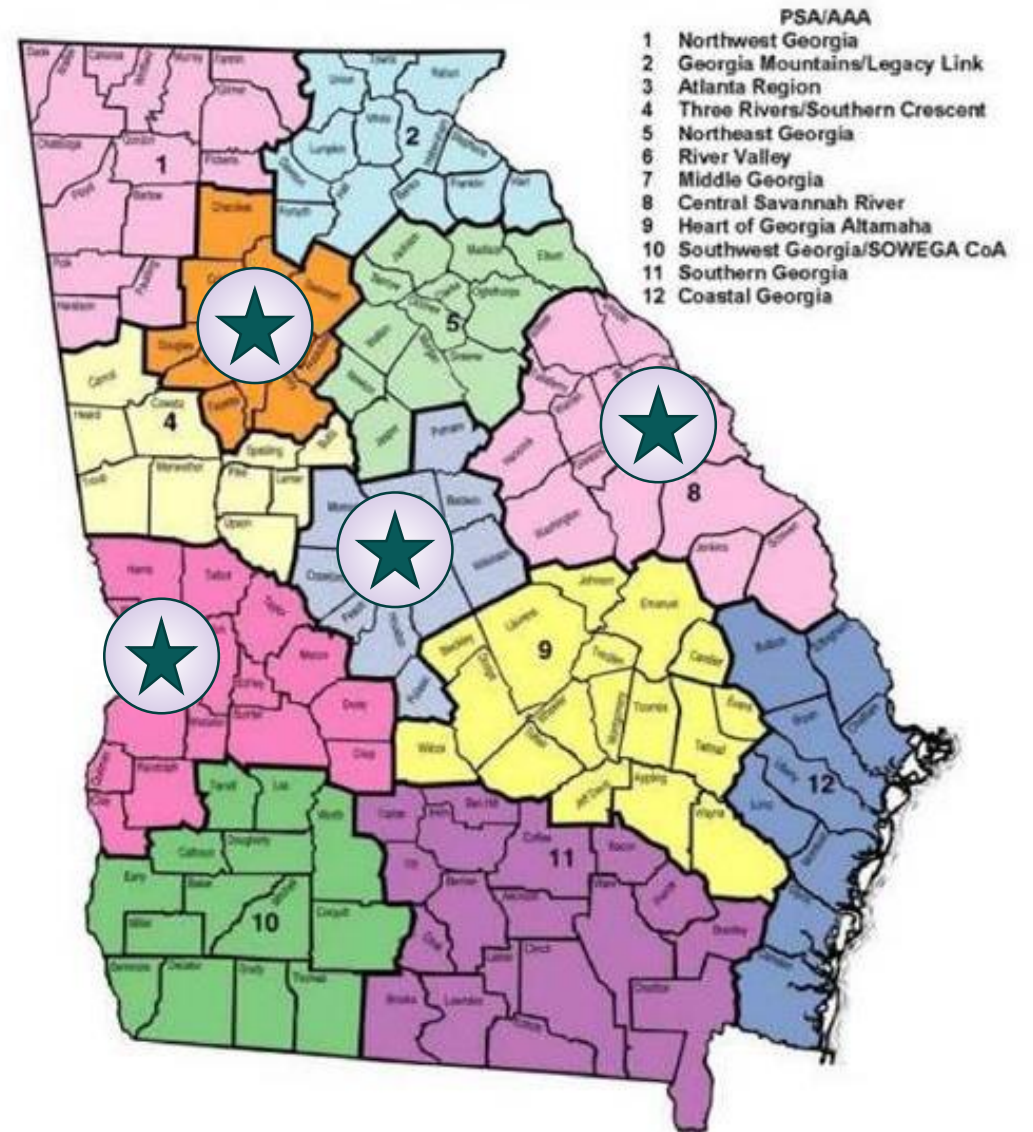
Atlanta: Grady pilot launch early
2018 Linkages: Federally Qualified
Health Centers (FQHCs), Grady
Health System (primary care)



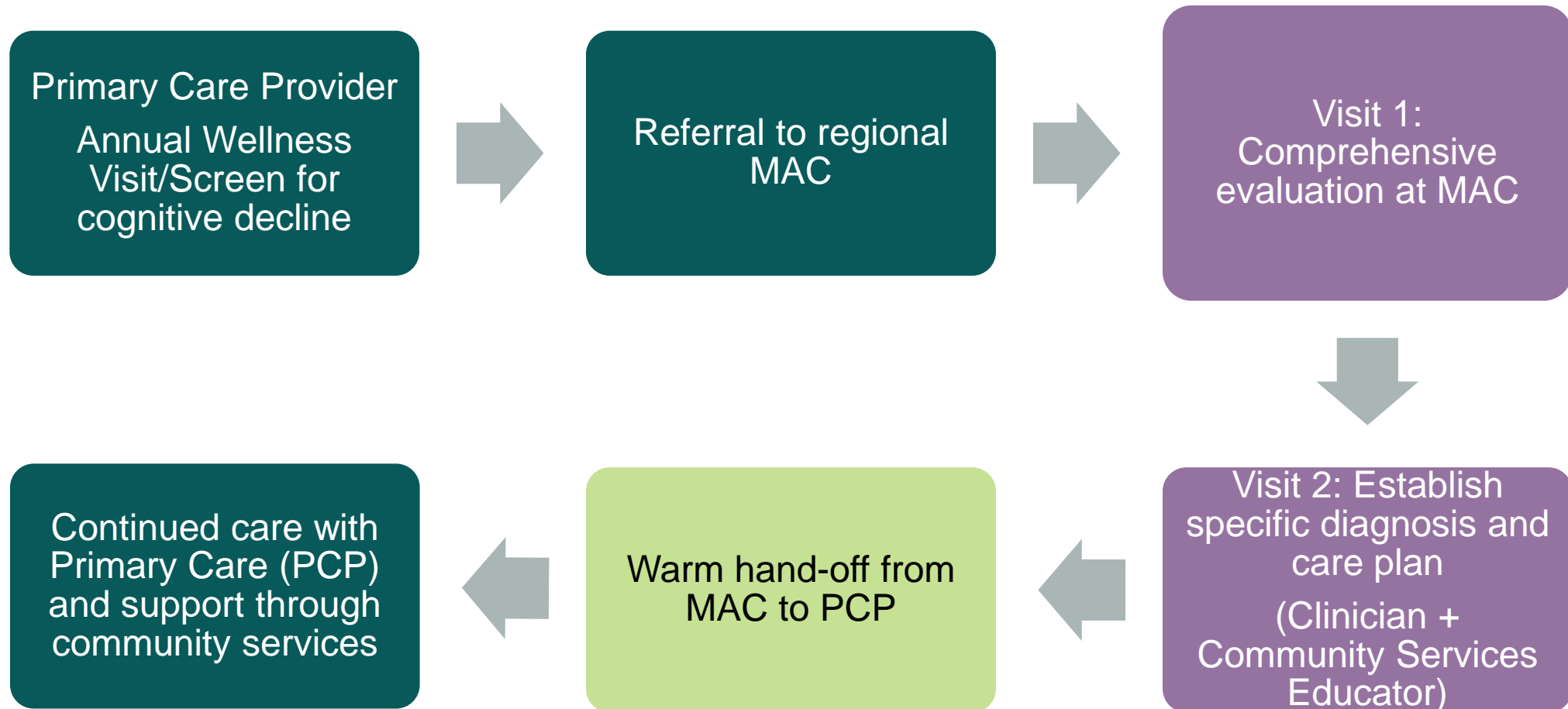
Mercer

Macon: Target launch early spring
2018
Columbus: Target launch late spring
2018

DHS Division of Aging Services Planning and Service Areas



Georgia Alzheimer's Project Workflow



Georgia Alzheimer's Project Workflow Training

- eBook Publishing: [Georgia Alzheimer Project Overview](#)
- **Comprehensive MAC Training Offered**
 - Site Visit / Immersion Training at Emory
 - National Institutes of Health (NIH) Toolbox Remote and in-person training
 - MAC site visits (spring 2018)
 - On-site, ongoing Community Services Educator training with Alzheimer's Association and Rosalynn Carter Institute, supplementary training with Area Agencies on Aging(AAA)/Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
- **Primary Care Provider Training and Quality Improvement**
 - PCP training via eBook under construction
 - PCP workshops, focus groups conducted fall 2017
 - Coordination with Public Health Nursing and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) anticipated



Georgia Alzheimer's Project FY18 Continued

• **MAC Implementation**

- Grady early 2018 pilot running
- Macon mid to late Spring 2018
- Columbus late Spring 2018
- Final confirmation of 2nd MCG site

• **Training and Quality Improvement**

- MAC and PCP virtual and live trainings statewide
- Coordination with Public Health Nursing and FQHC's anticipated

• **Evaluation and Remote Support**

- Initiate data warehouse construction
- Integration of telehealth technologies for imaging support



Georgia Alzheimer's Project FY19 and Future State

• Linkage to Community Services

- Pilot program with dedicated ADRC Support
- Dedicated ADRC staff for GAP support per MAC
- Embedded within existing budget
- Intentional data collection for return on investment, performance measurement

• MAC Expansion

- Analyze health, quality-of-life, financial, and performance indicators
- Geographic vs. population density

• Expanded Training and Remote Support

- Integration of telehealth technologies for PCP, MAC support
- Utilization of telehealth technologies for caregiver support



Questions



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