Atlanta Continuum of Care Meeting Minutes July 12, 2022 Zoom Meeting 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Welcome and Introductions, Cathryn Vassell

Lead Agency Updates

• LIFT 2.0 Update – Cathryn Vassell

Partners for HOME has raised \$26M to replicate the first LIFT initiative. LIFT 2.0 will encompass
hoteling and emergency shelter, compassionate encampment closures, unit acquisition, and rapid
rehousing and permanent supportive housing. RFP applications for hoteling and support services are
currently being scored. Partners for HOME has been working with the mayor and the City to move the
process along.

• PIT Debrief – Abby Burgess

 The 2022 PIT Count has been released and is on the <u>Partners for HOME website</u>. There was a decrease in the unsheltered and overall count compared to 2020. The chronic sub-population in emergency shelter also decreased. Please see the report and the slides for more details.

• Coordinated Entry Prioritization – Jasmine Cunningham

 Prioritization for rapid rehousing units provided through the LIFT 2.0 project will be for unsheltered, highly vulnerable homeless households. This addendum was approved by the CoC Governing Council in June of 2022. Please see slides for more details.

• Housing Resources Update – Kerri Barglof

- Partners for HOME is working with emergency shelters to utilize HMIS for bed management and is working to increase housing assessment capability in privately funded emergency shelters. Local hospitals are being onboarded with view access into the HMIS system.
- Work to improve hospital coordination and improve access to community resources continues.
 Partners for HOME is partnering with ARCHI to get utilization numbers from local hospitals.
- Continued focus points include increasing participation for area emergency shelters to use HMIS, engaging with area hospital staff in utilizing HMIS, building out online resource access, and educating and building capacity in the CoC.

• System Vitals – Jasmine Rockwell Heard

 Jasmine Rockwell Heard provided updates on quarterly progress for permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and emergency shelter. Data quality is important for accurate reports; the ICA team plans to make data quality trainings on-demand for agencies who need to complete the trainings. Please see slides for details.

• Development Update – Summer Duperon

- A racial equity training RFP is open on the <u>Partners for HOME website</u>. The deadline is July 22, 2022.
- HUD has released a special program notice. The maximum award is \$5,726,650 over three years. The deadline is October 20, 2022. Partners for HOME is currently reviewing priorities and timelines and will release information by the end of July.
- YHDP work will begin October 1. Hope Thru Soap, PCCI, and Youth Empowerment Success Services received funding for outreach/navigation, empowerment advocate, and transitional housing and rapid rehousing.

- LIFT 2.0 award selections will be made by mid-July. Awardees will need to participate in DCA training.
- Volunteers are needed for meal distribution at the hotel. For more info, email <u>Summer Duperon</u>.

• Youth Action Board (YAB) Update – Amanda Leppert Gomes

• The YAB worked with Partners for HOME on scoring the RFPs for the YHDP projects. The YAB is looking to host some focus groups with other youth agencies.

• Client Advisory Council (CAC) Update – Denice Wade

 The CAC has been getting involved in hotel services, food distribution, and plugging clients in with other organizations and support services. The CAC is also going to be conducting secret shopper surveys in the coming months to help improve customer service across the system.

Presentations

Medicaid and Homeless Services – Laura Colbert

- Georgians for a Healthy Future works to change laws and policies to help Georgia become a more healthy and equitable state.
- There are many ways that Georgians fall into the coverage gap (i.e., an unhoused mother gains Medicaid during her pregnancy only to lose it a few months after giving birth). Georgia is one of the highest uninsured states in the country at 14%. Under the Affordable Care Act, the intention was that everyone would have a pathway to coverage. In 2012, the Medicaid expansion part of the ACA was struck down and was deemed optional for states. 480,000 uninsured, low-income Georgians are ineligible for Medicaid and do not earn enough for financial help.
- Closing the coverage gap is essential for ending homelessness. People experiencing homelessness have higher rates of chronic, acute, behavioral health conditions. A California study showed that for every 1,000 new Medicaid enrollees, there are 22 fewer evictions per year.
- Georgia could opt into Medicaid expansion at any time and cover roughly 500,000 Georgians, or the state could implement the Pathways Program which would cover about 270,000 Georgians. The Pathways Programs has the Governor's approval and has been approved by the federal government. Visit <u>coverGA.org</u> to learn more and take action.

• YESS 4 Youth – Ebony Harris

 YESS's mission is to help youth obtain affordable and stable housing, practical life skills, and an identifiable support system to propel them towards their future goals. They serve youth in DFCS custody, episodically homeless young adults, and homeless youth. They offer case management, emergency assistance and support, and rapid rehousing and homeless prevention services. Please see slides for more details.

Agency Updates

- Partners for HOME has been working with the Georgia Supportive Housing Association and others to mitigate the effects of an encampment bill that would also criminalize homelessness. The bill has been scaled back to a senate study committee on unsheltered homelessness. The first Senate Study Committee on Unsheltered Homelessness will be held on Thursday, August 4 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room 450 at the Capitol. If you are interested in testifying, please contact <u>Cathryn Vassell</u>.
- Chris 180 Transitionz Summit Trail Apartments has vacancies for 1 family unit (youth with 1 -2 children under 6), 1 single unit, and 2 DFCS (ILP) units. They accept HV referrals through HMIS. For DFCS youth have their case manager reach out to <u>Kenesha Barksdale</u>.

The next Atlanta CoC meeting will be September 13 at 10 a.m. Please email Abby Bracewell (<u>abracewell@partnersforhome.org</u>) for meeting information.

Atlanta, GA Point in Time and Housing Inventory 2022

Atlanta CoC Administrators

PARTNERS FOR

Executive Summary

- ✓ Unsheltered PIT Count Data included in 2022
- ✓ Significant decrease in unsheltered from 2020 count.
- ✓ Reductions in both unsheltered and sheltered counts. Warming Center not open on 1/24/2022.
- ✓ Reductions to Chronic totals in Emergency Shelter
- ✓ Low ES utilization, compare to AHAR



Methodology

✓ Methodology

✓ Unsheltered PIT Survey in ICA PIT/HIC Portal
 ✓ Supplemental Youth PIT Survey
 ✓ Non-HMIS and HMIS PIT/ HIC Survey in ICA Portal
 ✓ PIT/ HIC Submission Tracker



Data Quality

Significant delay in submissions
 Significant data quality issues in submissions
 New data quality tracker

Project Name

PIT Co	ount Data Qua	ality	Organization All	~	Project N All	lame 🗸 🗸	
HMIS Count Does	s Not Match Reported Count						
Project Type	Organization	Project ID	Project Name	HMIS PIT Count	Reported Count		^
Emergency Shelter	City of Refuge	21497	City of Refuge Eden Village I (CoC-ES-500)	26	48		
Emergency Shelter	City of Refuge	21498	City of Refuge Eden Village II (CoC-ES-500)	16	31		- 11
Emergency Shelter	Covenant House Georgia	20591	Covenant House Crisis Shelter DCA (ESG-ES-500)	33	35		- 11
Emergency Shelter	Essence of Hope Inc	20083	Essence Hope Housing First Stabilization (ES-500)	1	8		- 11
Emergency Shelter	Gateway Center 24/7	21200	Gateway 24/7- Evolution Center(CoC-ES-500)	95	94		- 11
Emergency Shelter	HOPE Atlanta (Traveler's Aid)	20082	HOPE Atl - SNHP Emerg Lodging (ES-500)	4	0		- 11
Emergency Shelter	HOPE Atlanta (Traveler's Aid)	21122	HOPE Atl - Airport Lodging (ES-500)	2	7		
Emergency Shelter	Mary Hall Freedom House	21294	Donna Center for Women-MHFH (CoC-ES-500)	33	34		
Emergency Shelter	Mercy Care	21459	Mercy Care - Women Recuperative Care (ES-500)	9	8		
Emergency Shelter	Nicholas House, Inc.	21793	Nicholas House- HomeAgain ES/HA (NF-ES-500)	5	4		
Emergency Shelter	Our House	21096	Our House - Shelter (ES)	17	31		
Emergency Shelter	Partners for Home(Atlanta CoC)	20583	City of Atlanta CoC AM-MSH Emerg Shelter (ES-500)	23	24		
Emergency Shelter	The Salvation Army - Red Shield Services	20225	SArmy-RedShield - Reentry (NF-ES-500)	2	3		~
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Clients with mult	tiple encollments on PIT Date						
clients with mut	tiple enrollments on PIT Date						

EnrollDate

ClientID CaseID Organization

Submission Tracker

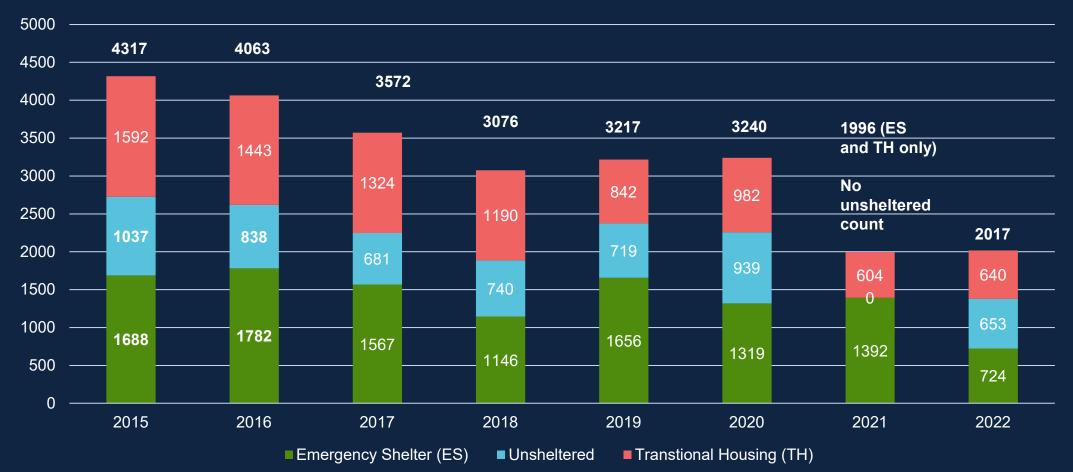
2022 Atlanta HIC Submission Tracker



(last refreshed 4/14/2022 7:25:21 PM)

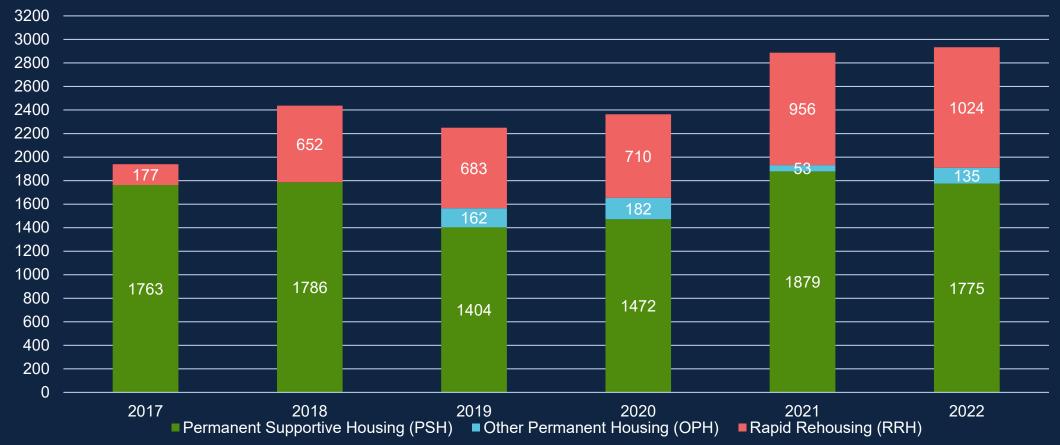


Atlanta CoC Point-in-Time Totals (Ind)



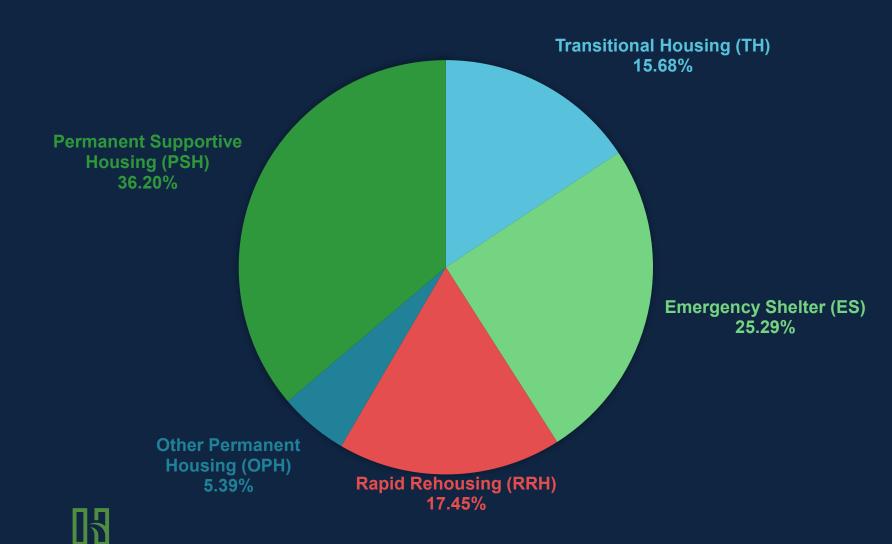


Housed by Project Type Totals

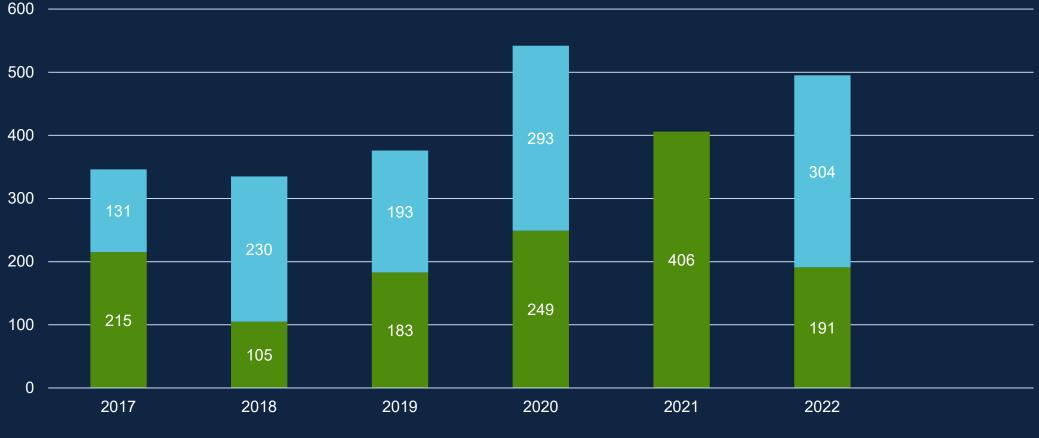




2022 Housing / Beds Available



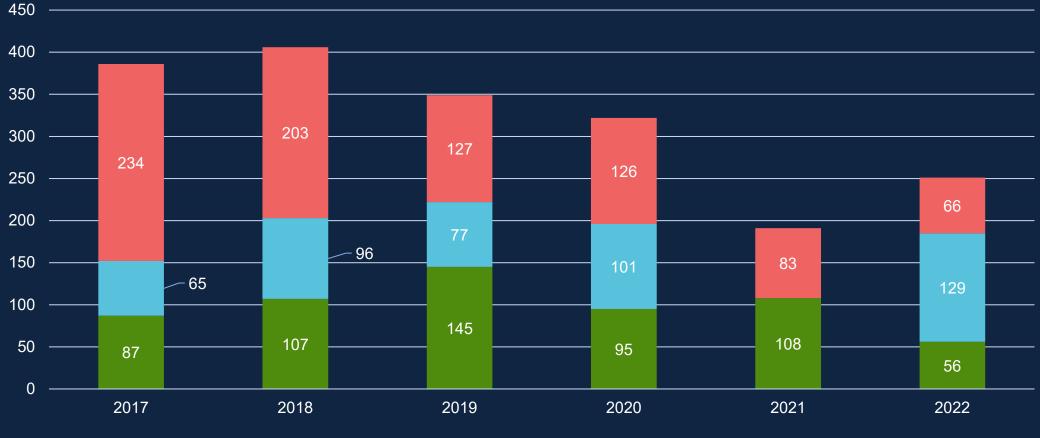
Chronic Sub-Population PIT Totals



Emergency Shelter (ES) Unsheltered



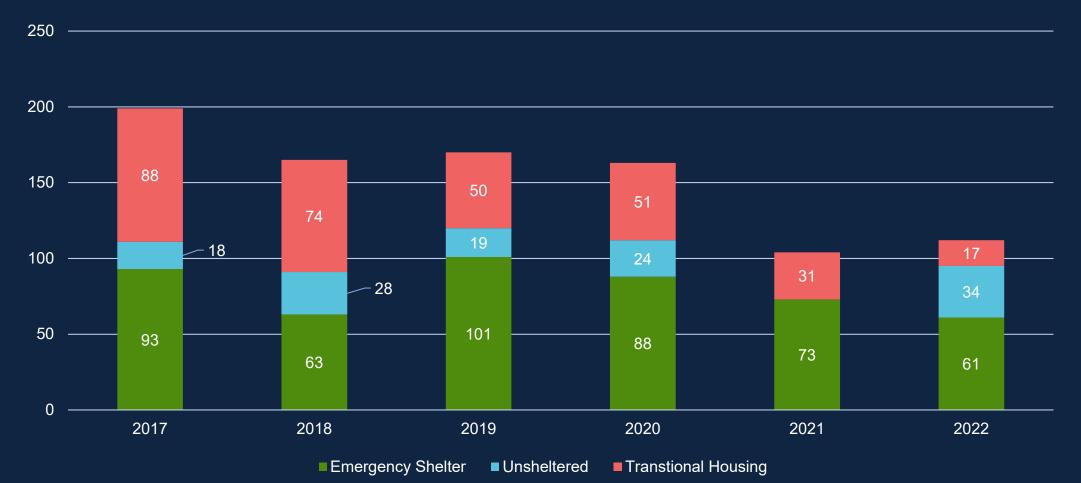
Veteran Sub-Population PIT



Emergency Shelter Unsheltered Transtional Housing



Unaccompanied Youth Sub-Population PIT (18-24)





Adults with Children PIT Population



Emergency Shelter Unsheltered Transtional Housing

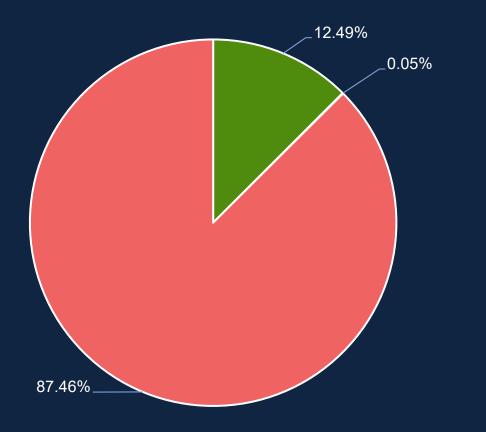


2022 Reported Subpopulations

Other Homeless Subpopulations						
	Sheltered			Unsheltere d	Total	
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven			
Adults with a Serious Mental Illness	290	253	0	197	740	
Adults with a Substance Use Disorder	213	245	0	181	639	
Adults with HIV/AIDS	39	66	0	20	125	
Adult Survivors of Domestic Violence	33	3	0	18	54	



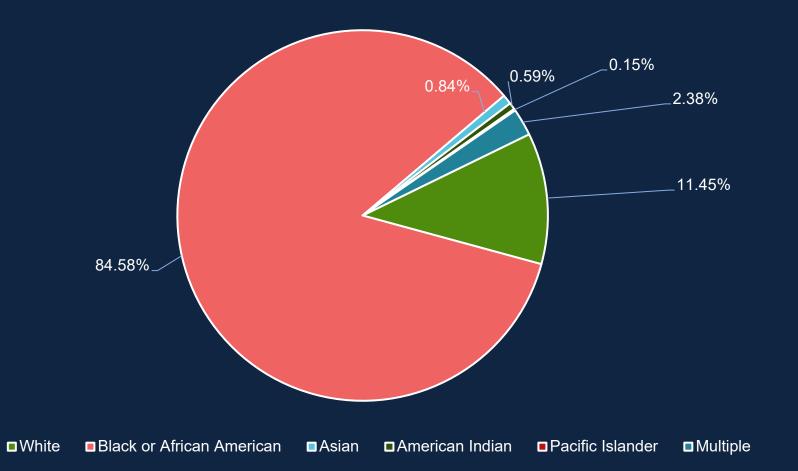
2022 Household Type



Households with Adults & Children
Households with Children Only
Households without Children

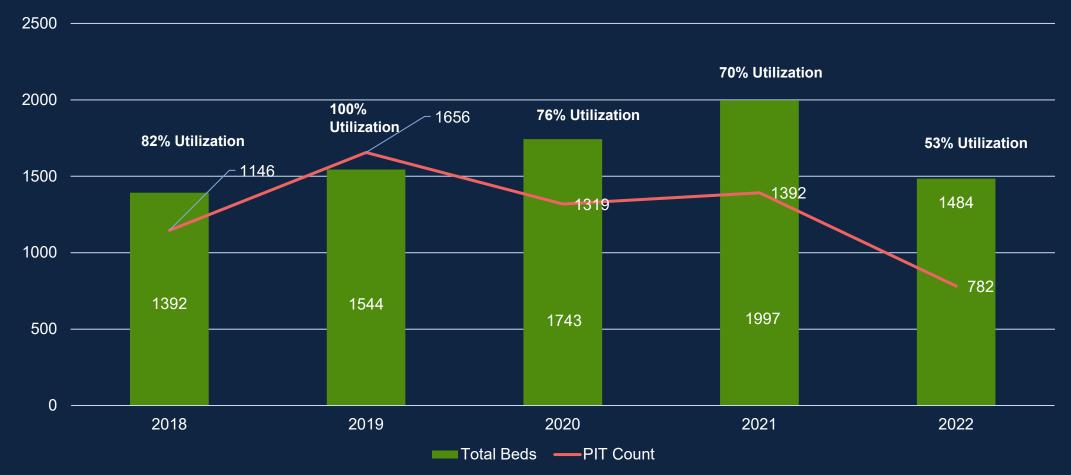


2022 Reported Race



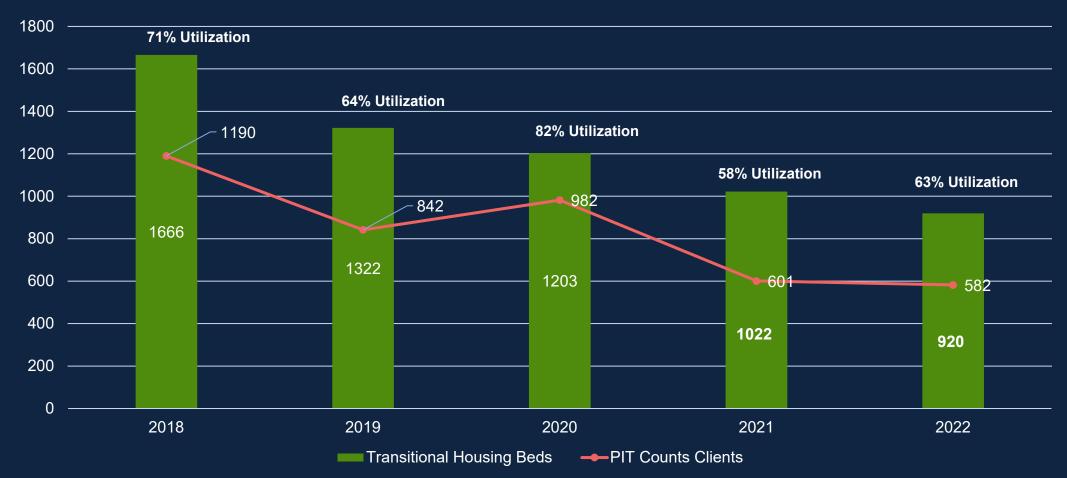


HIC: Emergency Shelter Beds





HIC: Transitional Housing Beds





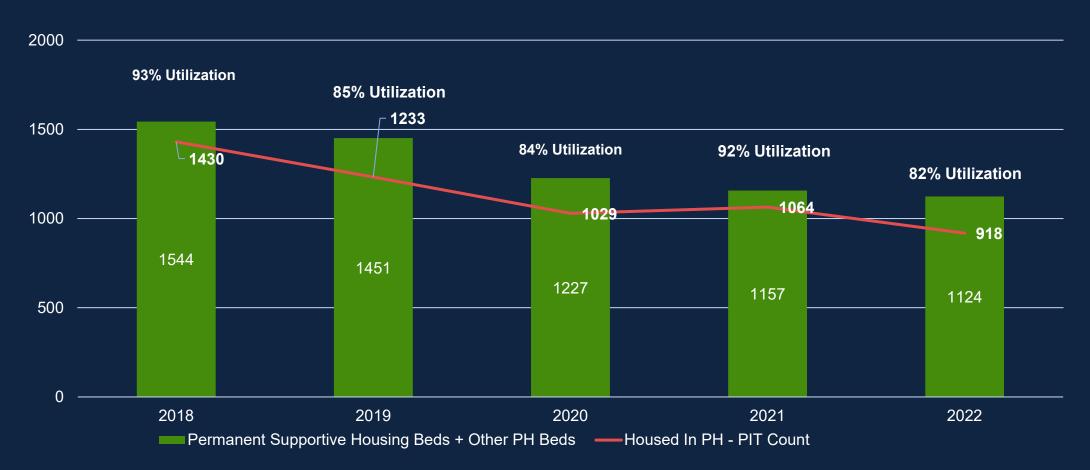
AHAR Occupancy Rates

EXHIBIT 1.4: Occupancy Rates of Programs for People in Sheltered Locations 2020–2021

	2020	2021
Total	82.1%	73.2%
Emergency Shelter (ES)	83.2%	73.7%
Safe Haven (SH)	85.9%	68.3%
Transitional Housing (TH)	78.2%	71.5%

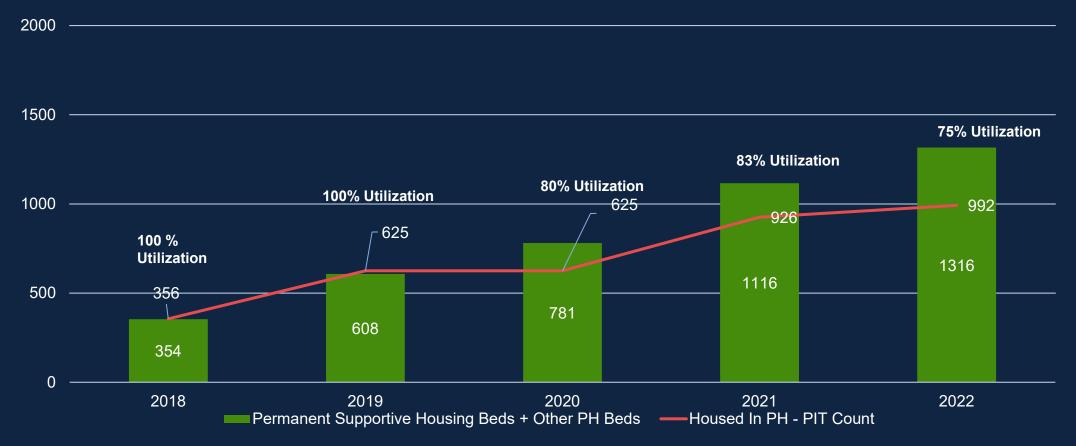


HIC: PSH + OPH Site-Based



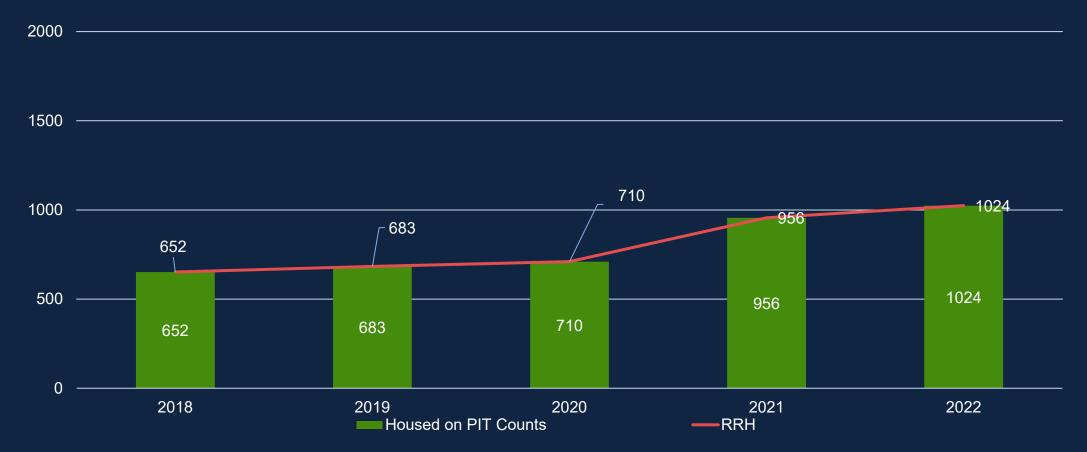


HIC: PSH + OPH Tenant-Based





HIC: RRH





Prioritization – LIFT 2.0

Prioritization for Rapid Rehousing units and subsidy provided through the LIFT 2.0 project will be for unsheltered, highly vulnerable homeless households. Examples of highly vulnerable households may include those where the head of household is chronically homeless, has a disabling condition, is over the age of 62, families with children, and those with high VI-SPDAT scores.

RRH	Priority group	Prioritization factors	
	Unsheltered highly vulnerable households	Current living situation	
		Chronic status	
		Disability	
		Length of time homeless	
		VI score	
		Length of time on housing queue	



Prioritization – LIFT 2.0

- For chronically homeless individuals referred to RRH as a bridge to PSH, as PSH units become available, the previous coordinated entry prioritization will resume.
- Non-chronically homeless unsheltered households who require ongoing assistance beyond the term of Rapid Rehousing should be assisted by Rapid Rehousing case management to identify appropriate supports including vouchers, senior living facilities, personal care homes, nursing homes and ongoing services that fit their needs.



Housing Resource Connection

Emergency Shelters utilizing HMIS for bed management

Increased Housing Assessments in Privately Funded Emergency Shelters

Area Hospitals onboarding for view access into the HMIS System

Inform and educate on resources and build capacity within the COC

Data helps to better understand system needs

Hospitals have been identified as a potential gap in access to resources. The following hospitals have reported their numbers of high utilizer patients – 6 visits within six months.

Northside
Piedmont
Grady
Emory



Continued Focus

- Increase participation for area Emergency Shelters to utilize Client Track
- Continue to engage with area hospital staff in utilizing Client Track and assist in Housing Navigation.
- Online Resource Access

• Education and Capacity Building

System Performance Vital Signs



Housing placements



Housing retention



Returns to homelessness



PSH Housing **Placements**



Source data: HMIS



RRH Housing Placements



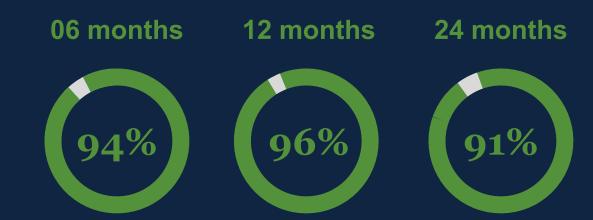
RRH Housing Placements

Source data: HMIS



PSH Retention and Returns Q1 (Jan - Mar 2022)

% of individuals that Met the Milestone that either Retained PSH (Stayers) or Exited to a Permanent Housing Solution in Q1



% of Individuals that Exited PSH & Returned to Homelessness: 2 Year lookback during Q1

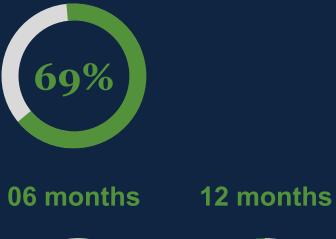
< than 6 months 6-12 months 13-24 months



RRH Retention and Returns Q1 (Jan - Mar 2022)

Exits to Permanent Housing 69%

% of Individuals that Returned to Homelessness: 2 Year lookback during Q1



01%





24 months

RRH Exits to Permanent Housing



232 (69%) Exits to Permanent Housing out of 334 Total Exits 232 (80%) Exits to Permanent Housing out of 290 Total Exits



Collecting all exit data through improved data quality will likely increase the percentage of exits to permanent destinations.



HMIS Data Quality



Data Quality in HMIS



Data Quality Submissions



Possible Solutions to Improve Data Quality



Data Quality in HMIS

Data Type	Benchmark (Minimum)	Actual CoC Data Quality
Project Descriptor Data Elements (Completeness)	95%	68%
Universal Data Elements (Completeness)	95%	85%
Project Specific Data Elements (Completeness)	95%	81%
Timeliness (Documentation entered/updated within 48 operating hours)	48 hours	Average over 19 days
Bed Utilization (ES)	65% - 100%	43%
Bed Utilization (PSH)	85% - 105%	85%



CoC Data Quality Submissions





partnersforhome.org

Possible Solutions to Improve Data Quality





Require data quality submissions for NOFO scoring and contract expectations



Non-compliant organizations could be placed on a data quality improvement plan



Funding Opportunities

- Racial Equity Training
 - Training/consultation to create a racial equity and justice framework
 - Deadline is July 22, 2022
 - https://partnersforhome.org/rfp

- HUD CoC Special Program
 Notice
 - Maximum award is \$5,726,650 over three years
 - Deadline is October 20, 2022
 - Currently reviewing priorities and timeline



Funding Updates

• YHDP Awards

- Outreach/Navigation \$253,000
 - Hope Thru Soap
- Empowerment Advocate \$181,500
 - Hope Thru Soap
- Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing \$1,857,867.63
 - Project Community Connections/Youth Empowerment Success Services
- LIFT 2.0
 - Award selections by July 15, 2022
 - Awardees will need to participate in DCA training next week



Volunteers Needed

Meal Distribution

- 5 volunteers on Friday at hotel from 2 to 4 p.m.
- 5 volunteers on Sunday in downtown Atlanta
- Contact <u>sduperon@partnersforhome.org</u> to volunteer





The opportunity for Medicaid expansion in Georgia

Laura Colbert, MPH, MCHES July 12, 2022

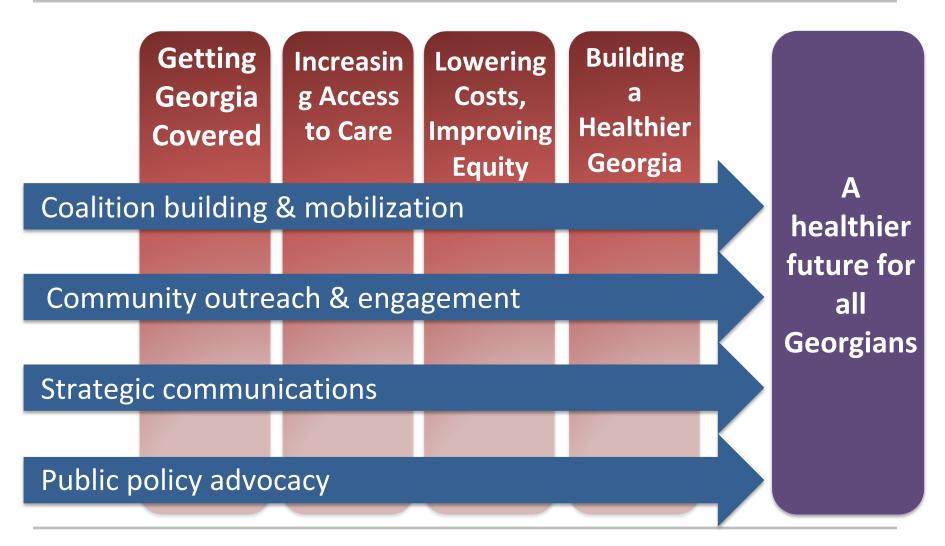
Outline



- Georgia's coverage gap
- Medicaid expansion can close the gap
- Action steps

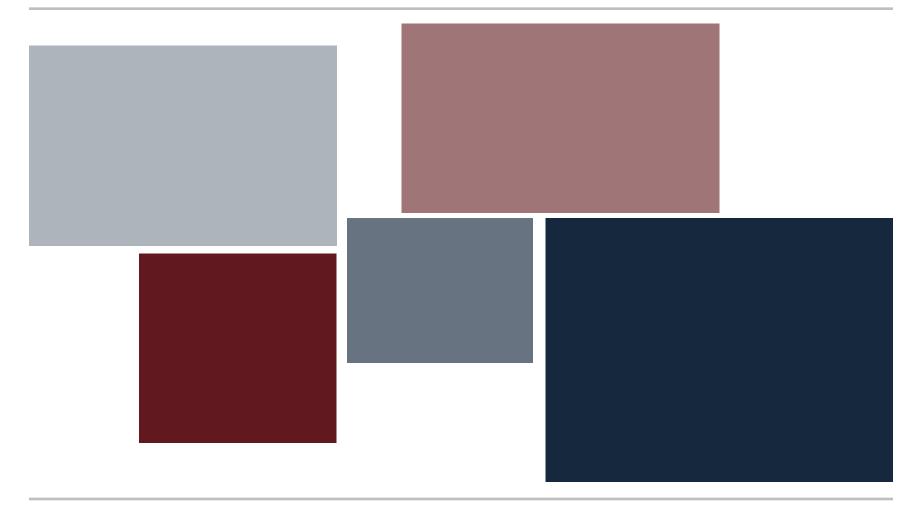


Georgians for a Healthy Future



GEORGIANS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE

How have you seen Georgia's coverage gap in your work?





There are many ways that Georgians fall in the coverage gap

A low-income parent gets a new job but they make "too much money" now so they lose their Medicaid coverage.

> An unhoused mother gains Medicaid during her pregnancy only to lose it a few months after giving birth.

A client needs health services to be able to return to work but can't receive them because they are uninsured. They are trapped in an uninsured, unemployed loop.

> A person's wages are garnished because of medical debt that they owe because they are uninsured. Now they can't pay their rent.

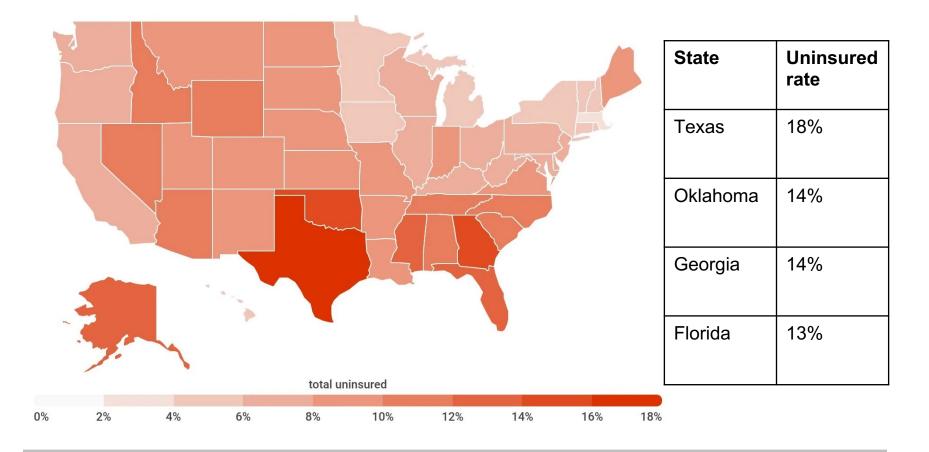


Georgia's coverage gap



Georgia's high uninsured rate

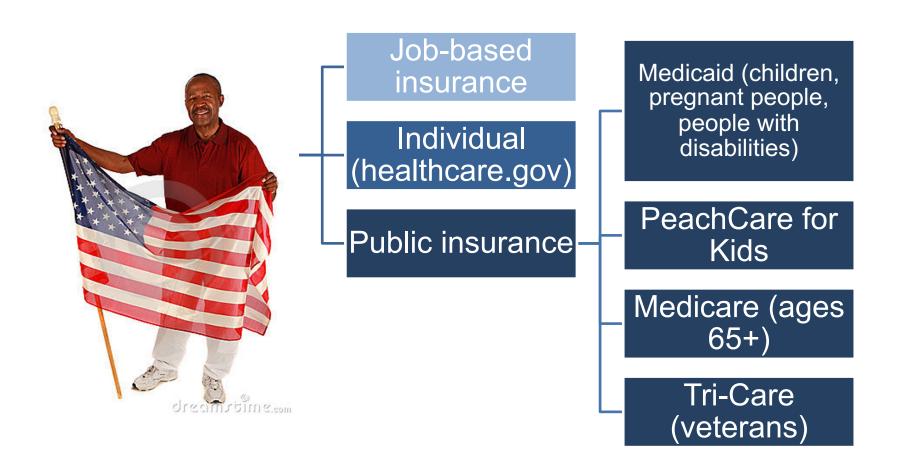
Uninsured Rates by State



GEORGIANS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE

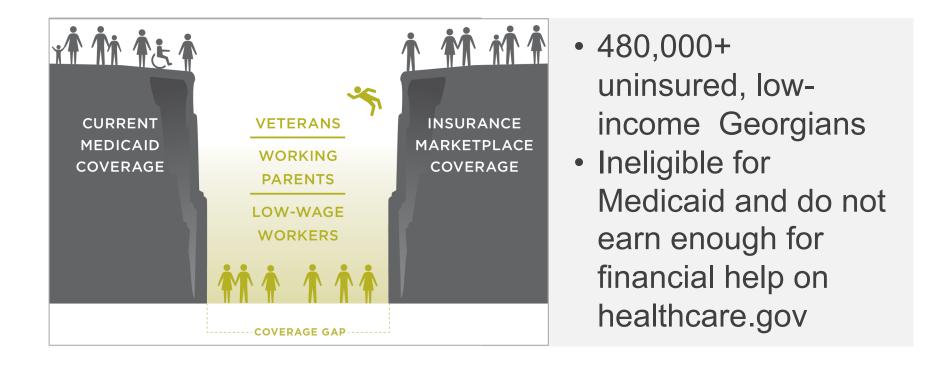
Image credit: ValuePenguin.com

Pathways to coverage under the Affordable Care Act





Georgia's Medicaid coverage gap





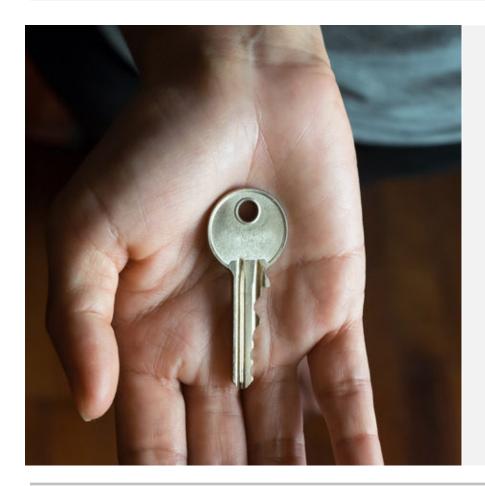
Hard-working Georgians are left in the gap



- 37% white, 36% Black, 22% Hispanic
- 60% ages 18 to 39
- 1 in 4 are parents
- Working in construction, food service, grocery stores, retail, education & childcare, trucking



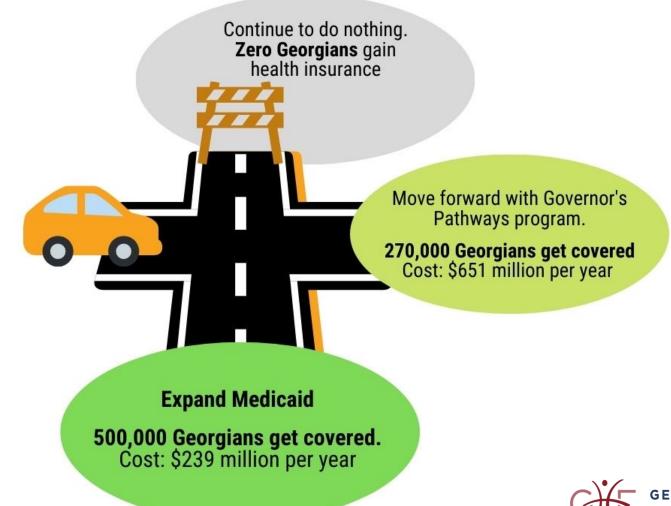
Closing the coverage gap is essential for ending homelessness



- Inst. of Medicine: "Poor health is a primary cause of homelessness"
- Ppl experiencing homelessness have <u>higher rates</u> of chronic, acute, behavioral health conditions
- Medicaid would provide services for ppl in permanent supportive housing
- Prevents ppl in poverty from having financial crises related to a health issue, which may lead to homelessness.



Our state leaders can close the coverage gap



GEORGIANS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE

39 other states have expanded Medicaid

Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision

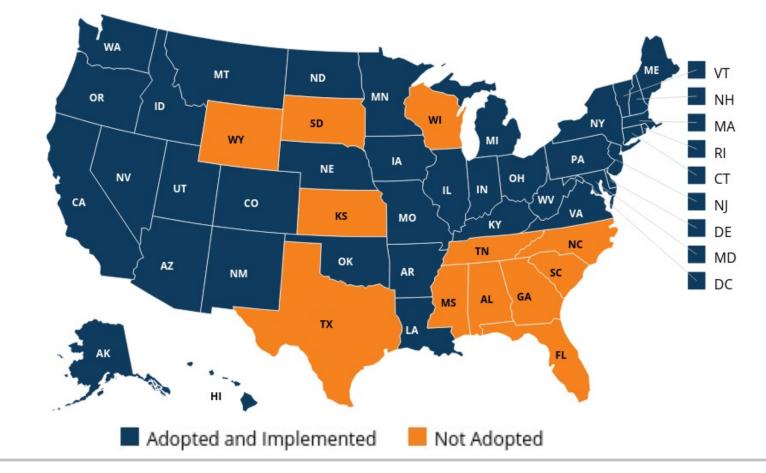




Image credit: Kaiser Family Foundation, kff.org

Medicaid expansion has big benefits



- Increased access to health care for people experiencing homelessness (primary care, MH services, SU Tx)
- Increased supported employment and transportation to medical appointments
- Better health outcomes (lower opioid deaths, earlier cancer detection, etc.)
- CA study: Every 1,000 new Medicaid enrollees == 22 fewer evictions per year



How you can help



Advocacy opportunities



Join the Cover Georgia coalition

Help Cover Georgia collect & amplify stories from Georgians in the coverage gap

Share the Cover Georgia survey with uninsured Georgians Visit coverGA.org to learn more & take action



First steps

Join Cover Georgia

 Contact Knetta Adkins, Organizing Manager at GHF <u>kadkins@healthyfutu</u> <u>rega.org</u> 404-567-5016 x 2

Story collection

 Contact Lois Hairston, Content Manager at GHF
 <u>Ihairston@healthyfut</u>
 <u>urega.org</u>
 404-567-5016 x 4

Cover Georgia survey tool

- Identifies people in the coverage gap.
 Provides them with info. about free health care, other resources.
- Available here: coverga.org/getinvolved/covergeorgia-survey/



Advocacy Resources

- Georgians for a Healthy Future | healthyfuturega.org
 - FB & Twitter: @healthyfuturega
 - #coverGA
- Cover Georgia | coverGA.org
- Georgia Health News | georgiahealthnews.com
- Georgia General Assembly | legis.ga.gov



Thank you!

Laura Colbert Executive Director Icolbert@healthyfuturega.org



404-567-5016

healthyfuturega.org



YOUTHEMPOWERMENT SUCCESS SERVICES

Organization & Program Overview

Mission

To help youth obtain affordable and stable housing, practical life skills and an identifiable support system to propel them towards their future goals.



Vision



We envision a world where transition aged youth live in communities with safe and stable housing, they are educated and employed with life sustaining skills and a lifetime of supportive adults and resources to help them create a successful future.

Who We Serve

- Youth in DFCS Custody
- Ages of 18 21
- Homeless youth 18-24



About The Founder

- Youth Empowerment Success Services- Founder & CEO
- Pillar Training & Consulting Group Managing Partner
- Over 22 Years of Child Welfare Experience
 - Foster Care
 - Independent Living
 - Adoption
 - Therapeutic Group Care
 - Head Start
 - Promise Neighborhood/Department of Education
- Former State ILP Director Georgia
- Former ILP Coordinator/Adoptions Florida
- Child Welfare Specialist Illinois
- Casey Family Programs- Casey Life Skills Trainer Since 2000



Ebony Harris

- Bachelors in Psychology
- Masters in Organizational Management

Vice President of Programs



Kyle 'Marco' Berry

- Over 15 years of experience in Education & Child Welfare
- Previous experience includes Fulton County Administrator for DFCS
- Day-to-Day Program Operations

Program Leadership

- Independent Living Program Rapid Re-Housing
- Rebound Support (Aftercare Services)

Independent Living Program Director

- Independent Living Program
- Youth Transitioning from Foster Care
- Ages 18-21



Homeless Services Program Manager



• Homeless youth 18-24

- Rapid Re-Housing
- Aftercare services for former foster youth
- Rebound Support Services for episodically homeless youth
- Case Management Services

Joyce Buehner

Rapid Rehousing and Rebound Support Services



2021 Rapid Rehousing Services

Rapid Rehousing for homeless youth provides individual stability plans for rental assistance, supportive services, and in home case management to individual and parenting youth between the ages of 18-24.



City of Atlanta-RRH-ESG

- 61 Referrals
- 43 Housed with RRH
- 3 Reunified with Family Prior to RRH Unit
- 11 Transferred to PSH or Alternate RRH Programs
- 4 Disappeared after enrollment

RSS and **RRH** Services

First 30 Days

- Initial Assessment
 - TIP Model & MI Approach
- Youth Assignment
- Individual Service Plan
 - Identify client goals



Rebound Support Services

Case Management Services

- Service Coordination and Information and Referral
- Advocacy
- Mentor Connection
- Life Skills- Individual and Groups
- Behavior Management Individual
- Emergency Supports/ Transportation
- Education/ Employment/ Money Management



Rebound Support Services

Case Management & Emergency Assistance	Emergency Support	Rapid Re-Housing/Homeless Prevention Services
Services •Initial Assessment • Intake • Casey Life Skills Assessment/ Casey Homeless Assessment • TIP model assessment • TIP model assessment • TIP model assessment • Case Management- up to 18 months • Service Coordination • Information and Referral • Advocacy •Mentoring • Information and Referral • Advocacy •Mentoring • Information and Referral • Advocacy • Mentoring • Information and Referral • Information and Referral • Advocacy • Mentoring • Housing/temp shelter/rental assistance • Utilities • Temp childcare • MARTA • Employment Support • Educational Support	Services •Rent Assistance (1x payment) •Utility Assistance •Food -Stipend -Food Pantry	Services •Housing Stability Case Management • Rental Assistance • Housing Search and Locator •Move-In Supplies and Furnishings

Rebound Support Services

Case Management & Emergency Assistance	Emergency Support	Rapid Re-Housing/Homeless Prevention Services
Criteria •18-21 •Former foster care youth (Non-YESS) •Homeless youth •19 ½ - 20 ¾ Transitioning from YESS YouthQuest ILP	Criteria •18-21 (RSS) •22-24 (Non-RSS)-EFSP ONLY •Former foster care youth •Homeless • Atlanta, Fulton, Dekalb residency / housing	Criteria •18-24 •Referred through CoC Coordinated •Unaccompanied youth and young adults experiencing homelessness

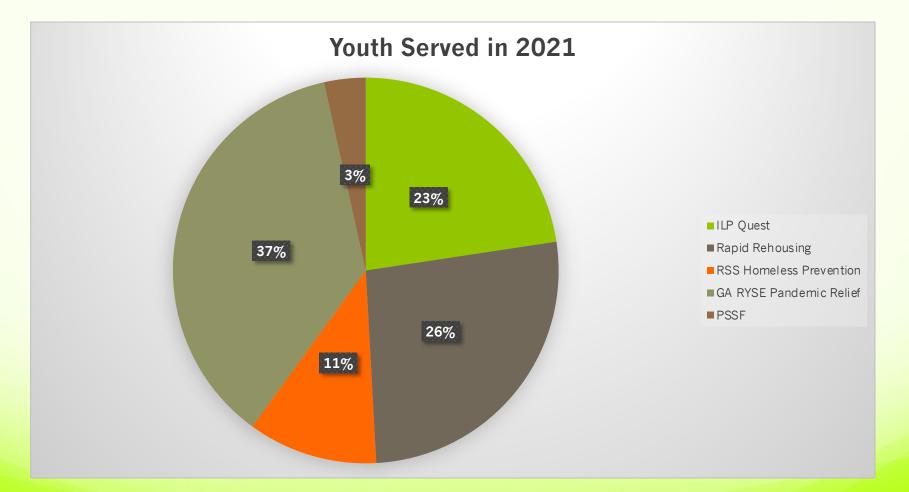


- Young adults who request Emergency Support Services **do not** have to be enrolled in Rebound Support Services and can access emergency support on a one time as needed basis.
- The current funding that is available is specifically for young adults who reside in City of Atlanta, Fulton and Dekalb counties.

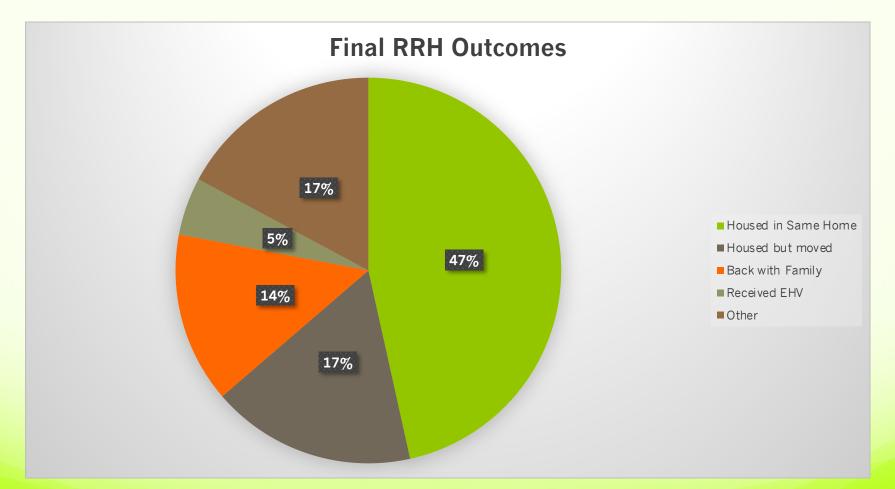
Youth Services Data



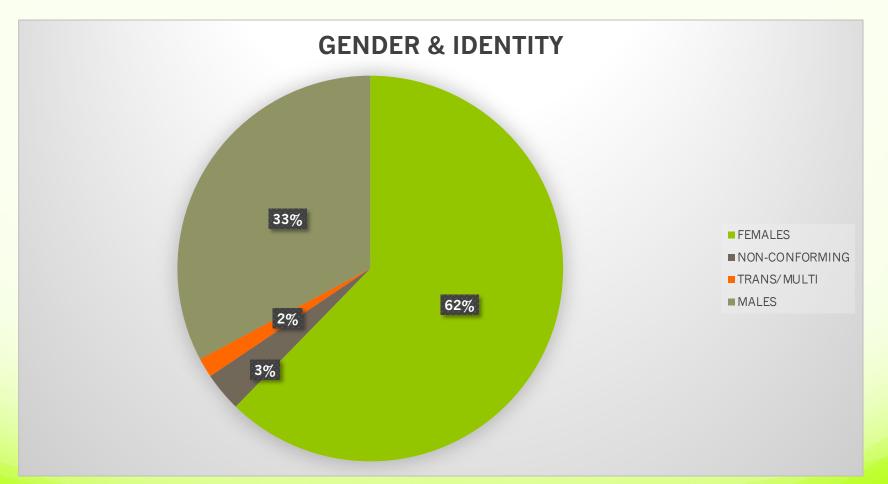
YESS Served a total of 230 Youth in 2021



Final RRH Outcomes

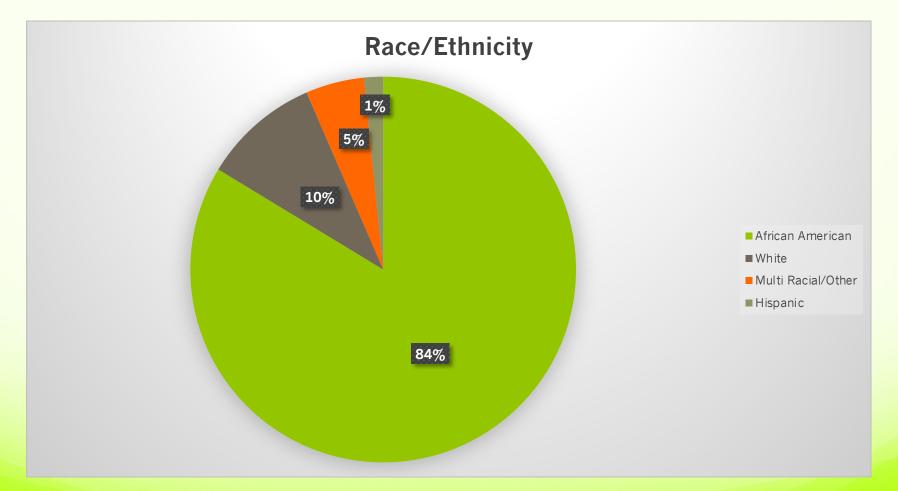


Gender & Identity



12.31.2021

Race/Ethnicity









www.YESS4YOUTH.org

SENATOR CARDEN H. SUMMERS District 13 320-B Coverdell Legislative Office Building 18 Capitol Square, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Tel: (404) 463-5258

Email: carden.summers@senate.ga.gov



COMMITTEES:

Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Economic Development & Tourism Public Safety Retirement - Secretary

The State Senate Atlanta, Georgia 30334

TO: Senate Study Committee on Unsheltered Homelessness

Senator Kim Jackson, 41st Senator Gail Davenport, 44th Senator Mike Dugan, 30th Senator Randy Robertson, 29th

From: Senator Carden Summers, 13th

DATE: Thursday, August 4, 2022

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Meeting

Break

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Part 2

LOCATION: 450 Capitol

AGENDA:

Senate Study Committee on Unsheltered Homelessness

• SR 659 (Sen. Summers, 13th) Study the increase in unsheltered homelessness in Georgia and its capital city, Atlanta; assess the evidence for the success or failure of different policies in reducing street homelessness, etc.

cc: Geoff Duncan, Lt. Governor David Cook, Secretary of the Senate Senator Butch Miller, President Pro Tempore Senator Mike Dugan, Majority Leader Senator Gloria Butler, Minority Leader Governor's Office, Miranda Bradford Andrew Allison, Senate Press Office Alex Azarian, Senate Research Office James Beal, Lt. Governor's Office