



The Center of Excellence for Children's Behavioral Health is part of the Georgia Health Policy Center, housed within Georgia State University's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. The center was created in partnership with the Office of Children, Young Adults and Families at the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

The Center of Excellence employs a three-pronged focus on research, policy and practice. The center is engaged in providing: workforce development through technical assistance and training to build the capacity of the state's behavioral health workforce; research and evaluation to monitor and assess behavioral health services for providers and state agencies to measure program effectiveness; and consultative research and policy analysis services for local, state, and national partners focusing on financing structures and service delivery opportunities for improving behavioral health Systems of Care.

The Center of Excellence has worked extensively throughout the state of Georgia and has developed relationships with other centers of excellence and behavioral health organizations around the country. With a skilled team, working in tandem with a broad array of partners, the Center of Excellence is supporting the development and implementation of a sustainable System of Care that is individualized, comprehensive, coordinated, culturally competent, and driven by child and family needs.

## VISION

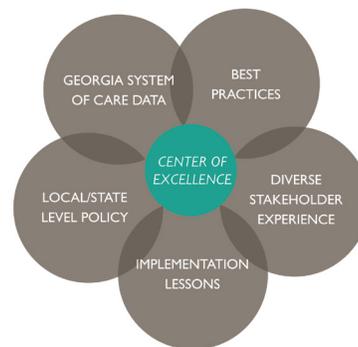
Children, young adults, and families will have improved quality of life and a productive future as a result of systems that promote optimum behavioral health.

## CORE FUNCTIONS

- Creating an integrated data hub
- Conducting objective research and evaluation
- Translating evidence-driven models into practice
- Providing thought leadership with a systems perspective
- Developing community-based workforce capacity
- Providing program implementation support

## OUR APPROACH

*Integration is key*



# OUR WORK

*Translating Evidence into Policy and Practice*

## Workforce Development

The Center of Excellence provides training, technical assistance, and programmatic implementation for local and state partners. The workforce development team's current work to build capacity within the behavioral health workforce includes:

- Providing training in High Fidelity Wraparound, Trauma-Informed Systems, Cultural and Linguistic Competency, and Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for adults with serious emotional disturbances.
- Designing curricula to ensure ongoing quality improvement and post-training capacity sustainability.
- Providing technical assistance to provider groups and behavioral health agencies to enhance peer-to-peer coaching to ensure positive capacity development throughout the behavioral health system.

## Policy and Finance

The Center of Excellence conducts unbiased research on financing structures and service delivery opportunities to inform behavior health practice and policy. We provide administrative oversight, strategic meeting facilitation, and data support to the Interagency Directors Team, a collaborative of multiple child serving agencies in Georgia. Project examples include:

- Research on finance structure and service delivery opportunities for behavioral health
- Facilitation and support for collaborative policy workgroups
- Trusted data compilation, analysis, and dissemination relevant to the development and implementation of a sustainable behavioral health System of Care

## Research and Evaluation

The Center of Excellence provides fidelity monitoring and programmatic and outcomes evaluation for public and private mental health service providers and state agencies. Evaluations support quality improvement and demonstration of program effectiveness. We also provide technical assistance on how data can be translated and used for sound decision making. Types of research and evaluation services include:

- Monitoring fidelity to practice models
- Quality improvement activities
- Cross-agency longitudinal analysis
- Behavioral health and physical health outcomes
- Assessing collective impact and collaboration across agencies involved in Systems of Care
- Survey design, administration, and analysis
- Implementation and operations research

## CONTACT US

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**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR  
CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
*integrating research, policy, and practice*