

2012 Annual Report

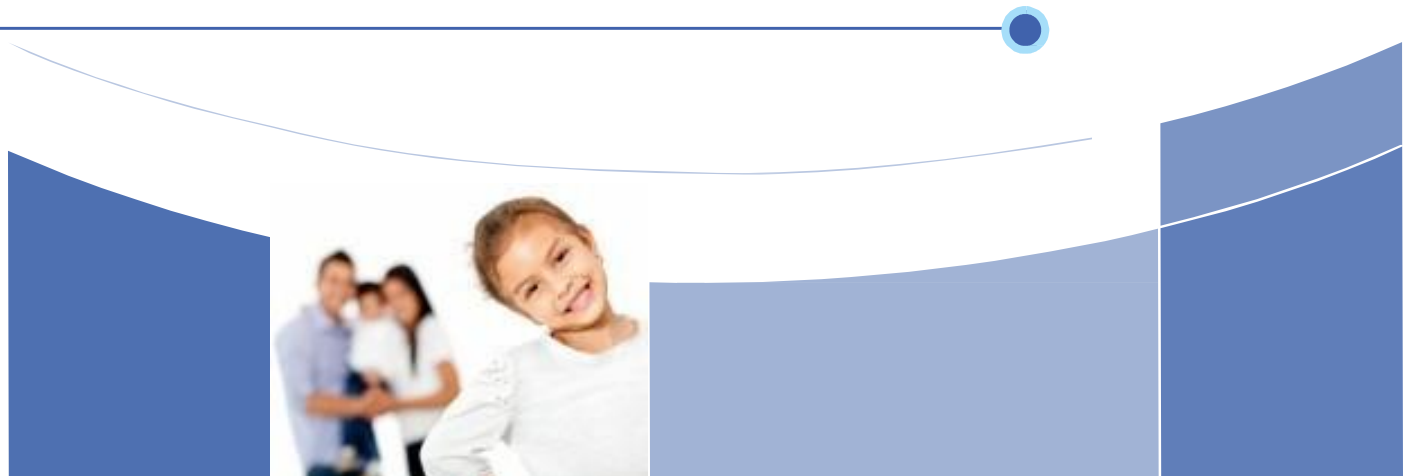
HEARTS
for Families



"Strengthening Families
And Those who Serve Families"

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Focus

Who is HEARTS ?

We truly have a "heart for families" and the agencies that are dedicated to serving them. Because we now serve more areas beyond Georgia, our name describes the scope and reach of our services. The acronym "HEARTS" explains the different ways we support communities and help parents raise healthy and successful children.

Help

Enrichment

Assessment

Research

Training

Support

Three Areas of Focus for 2012

- HEARTS for Families continued to be a Provider through The Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) and began shifting the focus towards the education and prevention of underage drinking.
- HEARTS also received funding through the Governor's Office for Children & Families to provide technical assistance to the local grantees offering the Nurturing Parenting Programs through their Systems of Care (SOC).
- This year we expanded new services to local Treatment Behavioral Health partners by providing free training, program materials, and technical assistance for the Nurturing Parenting Programs through the Community Innovations project. This funding built capacity for various agencies across the state of Georgia serving families with one or more children with a Severe Emotional Disorder (SED).



Statewide Initiative to Prevent Underage Drinking

Underage Drinking Fact for Georgia:

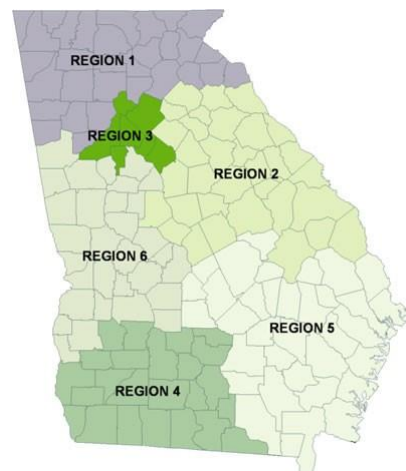
- 23% of Georgia youth consume alcohol before the age of 13

HEARTS for Families has been approved to serve all six (6) Regions in the State of Georgia through the Alcohol Prevention Project (APP) funded by DBHDD. Our Regional Community Involvement Specialists worked diligently in their area to gain community support by putting together a STEP Up Workgroup. These Workgroups are designed to engage local stakeholders Start Teaching Early Prevention (STEP) in the selected communities and to provide a call to action for community members to STEP Up Prevention, to take note of community needs and to take steps to increase prevention efforts.

Each workgroup assisted in collecting information for a Needs Assessment which included surveys from:

- Individuals
- Promotional outlets
- Retail establishments
- Law enforcement

These assessment surveys were analyzed and compared with national, state, county and community data to determine specific goals and contributing factors needing to be addressed. A community level assessment is the first step in creating community level change.

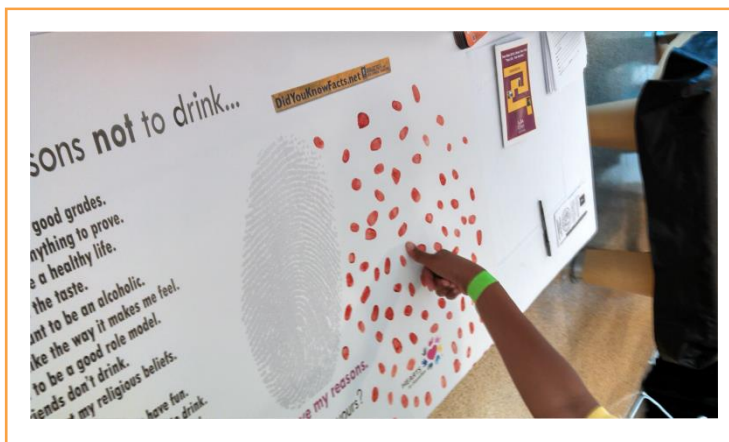


Media Campaign

Participating in the Alcohol Prevention allowed Project (APP) allowed HEARTS to create its inaugural Media Campaign. HEARTS desired both youth and adults to take action against underage drinking. Making good choices was the theme, therefore, HEARTS used billboards, fliers, newspaper & magazine ads, community events, and banners to communicate the message of '21 Reasons Not to Drink.... I Have My Reasons, What are Yours?'

Georgia Communities most impacted by the message were:

- Region 1 - Lavonia, Toccoa & Carnesville, GA
- Region 2 - Millen, Sylvania & Swainsboro, GA
- Region 3 - Jonesboro, Riverdale & Oxford, GA
- Region 4 - Adel & Colquitt, GA
- Region 5 - Waycross, GA
- Region 6 - Hamilton & Buena Vista, GA



“Community Innovations” Project



In 2012, HEARTS for Families was tasked to train facilitators of local providers and community support staff who serve children with a diagnosed severe emotional disability. By providing the four-part evidence informed training model for the Nurturing Parenting Programs, which have a therapeutic value for children (ages 4-21) with Severe Emotional Disturbance (SED) who are served by the State and their parents. HEARTS was able to meet and often exceed in this mission throughout six service regions identified by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

Some highlights for the School Age and / or Adolescents Programs include:

- In Region 1, (Paulding and Whitfield counties) 75% of training participants completed all four parts of the training.
- In Region 2, (Bibb and Baldwin counties,) 100% of participants completed the four-part training model
- In Region 3, (Fulton and Gwinnett counties), 40% of targeted staff completed the training model
- In Region 4, (Baker, Calhoun, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Miller, Terrell and Worth counties), 100% of participants completed the four-part training model, Program Coordinators advocated for wide implementation of the programs and faith community leaders and other community partners in Region 4 indicated an interest in receiving training to implement program in the communities throughout the region.



Continued ...

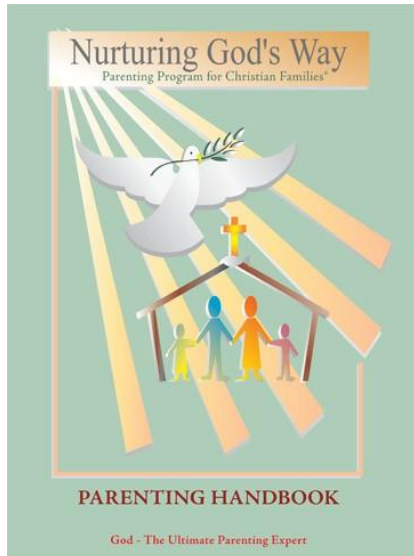


- In Region 5, (Ware, Pierce, and Jeff Davis counties), 100% of participants completed the four-part training model. Program Coordinator in the Region engaged in discussions to continue and grow the program throughout the region.
- In Region 6, (Henry, Harris, Marion and Sumter counties), 66% of participants completed the four-part training model. Efforts are being made to sustain the program beyond the contract period.

HEARTS for Families remains committed to consulting with all agencies that continue to offer NPP and provide additional training to staff and community partners. Through concerted community effort, HEARTS hopes to build a brighter future for families in need.



Nurturing God's Way Parenting Program



In 2012 HEARTS was able to have volunteers assist in presenting the Nurturing God's Way Parenting Program for Christian Families (NGW) in two prison facilities within the state of Georgia which consisted of Lee Arrendale State Prison, a maximum security facility for women, as well as the Transitional Center at Phillips State Prison for men. Both programs ran for 21 sessions over a six (6) month period of time.

HEARTS was beyond grateful to Mr. Gus Arrendale who not only donated enough Parent Handbooks for both programs, but also donated a Parent Handbook to send to the caregiver of the inmates children so that the techniques taught in the program could be implemented and practiced with the family. Mr. Arrendale was presented with a 'Thank You' card from each inmate who received the books for his kind donation.

The Golden Heart Award

Deputy Warden Brooks Benton was awarded the Golden Heart Award in 2012 for his continuous efforts in allowing NGW to be presented and available to the inmates at Lee Arrendale State Prison (LASP). Mr. Benton has been trained on how to implement the program along with several other staff members at LASP and has been diligent with the continuation of support towards NGW over the past four (4) years.



Finance Report / Funders

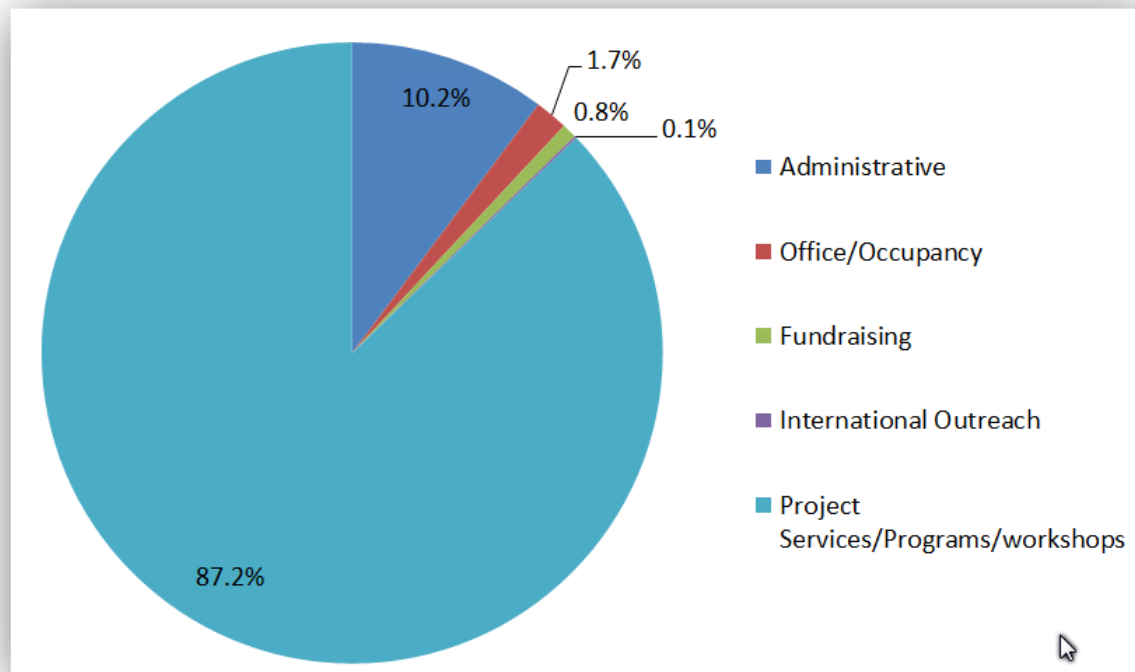


Georgia Department of
Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities



Governor's Office for
Children and Families

Our 2012 Expenses



Ways You Can Help

Your donation goes directly to help fund our training, programs, and mission trips to reduce child abuse and neglect as well as our efforts to prevent the early onset of underage drinking and to reduce heavy and binge drinking in 18 - 25 year olds.



Red Heart Donors: \$10 - \$99



Purple Heart Donors: \$100 - \$499



Gold Heart Donors \$500 +



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