

Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Meeting

BE D·B·H·D·D

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

May 14, 2026



Agenda

Roll Call

Call to Order

Recovery Speaker

Action Items

- February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes

BHCC Initiative Updates

- Mindworks Georgia
-

Closing Comments

Next Meeting Date

Roll Call

Chelsee Nabritt

Board and Special Project Manager

Call to Order

Christopher Nunn
Vice-Chair

Recovery Speaker

Ursula Berger

Outreach Coordinator, Respect Institute

Action Items:

- February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes

BHCC Initiatives

Mindworks Georgia



Twanna Nelson
Assistant Project Director

Mindworks Georgia
Georgia Health Policy Center
May 14, 2026



Georgia Department of
Behavioral Health &
Developmental Disabilities

Overview

Implementation
Highlights

HMA
SOC Action
Plan



Implementation Highlights



Now available on the Mindworks Georgia website, this scan serves as a centralized resource connecting partner agencies and key data systems, laying the foundation for future dashboards, shared reporting tools, and coordinated, data-driven decision-making across the behavioral health system.



This Environmental Scan provides an overview of the core data systems used across Georgia's child-serving agencies and collaboratives. It highlights key data sources, access points, available content, populations represented, and the types of metrics collected, with sources organized by topic area. The findings are intended to inform next steps toward a more coordinated and transparent data approach for the Georgia System of Care.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES UTILIZATION	✓
POPULATION HEALTH	✓
HEALTH AND EDUCATION	✓
SCHOOL-BASED POPULATION	✓
EARLY CHILDHOOD	✓

Implementation Highlights

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES UTILIZATION X				
SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	AGENCY UTILIZATION	METRICS COLLECTED	POPULATION
GeorgiaUnify : a Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) platform Contact info	GeorgiaUnify is a Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) platform that connects community-based organizations with healthcare providers and state agencies. It securely protects personal health information while enabling a closed-loop referral system between clinical and social care organizations.	Click to view the Social Care Use Case example graphic.	• Social care data • Clinical data	Georgia residents of all ages, with county-level estimates.
GeorgiaDirect : a Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) messaging service Contact info	GeorgiaDirect is a secure email messaging service that enables authorized providers to send and receive authenticated, encrypted patient health information over the internet with trusted recipients in Georgia and nationwide. The Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) offers GeorgiaDirect at no cost to authorized, credentialed providers.	1. Patient referrals between providers 2. Discharge summaries sent to the primary care provider 3. Lab reports transmitted to the ordering physician 4. Data sent to public health organizations 5. Care summaries transmission	Encrypted private health information	Georgia residents of all ages, with county-level estimates.
GeorgiaConnX : Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) Contact info	GeorgiaConnX provides robust patient search functionality that allows providers to query directly from within their electronic health record (EHR) systems to quickly access patient health information from hospitals, physician practices, state health systems, and other participating organizations.	1. Supports care plan exchange and ADT alert notification 2. Provides connection to public health organizations 3. Supports data exchange for Accountable Care Organizations and patient centered medical homes	Electronic health records	Georgia residents of all ages
Find Help Georgia (800) 244-5373 Contact info	Find Help Georgia is an online platform that helps parents, caregivers, and families connect with local support services. It features thousands of programs, including parenting support, after-school activities, counseling, legal referrals, resources for grandparents, and assistance related to family violence and safety concerns.	Community-based organizations can use Find Help Georgia to connect families with accurate, up-to-date services by claiming their program listings and keeping resource information current on the platform.	1. Directory of community resources including behavioral health and social services 2. Service categories and descriptions 3. Provider organization details 4. Eligibility requirements 5. Service area/geography 6. Contact and referral information	Georgia residents of all ages

Existing Work Advancing SOC



- LIPT Expansion
- Unite Us/MATCH Coordination
- Funding Framework 2.0
- IECMH Work
- School-based Behavioral Health
- Workforce Conversations
- Environmental Scan
- Evaluation/ROI Efforts

Advancing Georgia's Behavioral Health System of Care

Introducing the Health Management Associates (HMA)
Action Plan and Its Alignment with Mindworks Georgia



Georgia Department of
Behavioral Health &
Developmental Disabilities

Why This Moment Matter



- Rising behavioral health needs among children and youth
- Workforce shortages continue to strain access and continuity of care
- Families still experience the system as fragmented and difficult to navigate
- Earlier intervention and coordinated care remain inconsistent across communities
- This moment presents an opportunity to align around a stronger statewide System of Care

Executive Committee Strategic Session



Themes from the April EC Strategy Session

- Need for shared priorities
- Clarify governance and accountability
- Strengthen SOC messaging
- Align around measurable impact
- Sustain the work beyond individuals
- Focus on strategic vs operational leadership

GA System of Care Planning: Two Aligned Plans Working Together



“This work reflects the continued evolution of a shared statewide System of Care effort led collaboratively across agencies, partners, providers, families, and communities.”



- The HMA Comprehensive Strategic Plan and the Mindworks Strategic Plan are intentionally designed to complement one another — not compete with each other.
- The HMA plan establishes the statewide vision, priorities, and system-level recommendations for Georgia’s child behavioral health System of Care (SOC).
- The Mindworks Strategic Plan serves as the operational and collaborative implementation framework that helps move those priorities into action across agencies, partners, and communities.

HMA Statewide Action Plan: The What and Why



Three Strategic Priorities: Youth Crisis & Services Continuum; Integrated Care, Best Practices & Training; BH Workforce.



System Infrastructure Pillars: statutory & regulatory authority, CMO contracting, parity & accountability, technology & data, cross-agency governance & system, funding & sustainability.



Reinforces the essential role of family-driven, youth-centered System of Care principles.

Mindworks Strategic Plan: The How & Who



Five priorities: Equitable Access; Sustainable Workforce; Whole-Person Health; Purposeful Funding; System Evaluation.



Mindworks is the collaborative engine connecting people, policy, and practice to implement the work.



Operational tools: learning collaboratives, evaluation, financial mapping, and workforce pathways.

What Executive Committee Identified as Next Steps



- Align on top 3 SOC priorities
- Clarify EC role and authority
- Strengthen SOC messaging
- Identify policy/funding/data levers
- Prepare for leadership transitions

Shared Priorities Emerging



- HMA workforce recommendations align with Mindworks’ “Sustainable Workforce” priority.
- HMA integrated care recommendations align with Mindworks’ “Whole-Person Health” priority.
- HMA infrastructure and accountability recommendations align with Mindworks’ “System Evaluation” and “Purposeful Funding” priorities.

Where Leadership Alignment Matters



- Shared ownership of SOC priorities
- Cross-agency coordination
- Data-sharing support
- Sustainable financing strategies
- Consistent messaging
- Long-term infrastructure investment

Moving Forward—Together



- A shared roadmap
- A strengthened system, better outcomes.
- A better future for Georgia's children and families

“Together, we have an opportunity to strengthen Georgia's System of Care through shared leadership, coordinated action, and sustained commitment to children and families.”

Closing Comments

Next BHCC Meeting:

August 6th, 2026

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