

Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

BE D·B·H·D·D

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

December 9, 2021



Agenda

Roll Call / Call to Order

Recovery Speaker

Action Items

Commissioner's Report

- Suicide Prevention Update
 - Hospital Update
-

Chair's Report

Public Comment

Next Meeting Date

Roll Call

David Sofferin

Director, Office of Public Affairs

Call to Order

David Glass

Chair

Recovery Speaker

Brhea Wofford

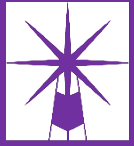
Georgia Council on Substance Abuse

Action Item:

- Board Meeting Minutes – August 26, 2021
- Board Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2021
- Proposed 2022 DBHDD Board Meeting Dates
- Final Adoption of Patient's Rights Rules and Regulations
- Final Adoption of Patient Cost of Care Rules and Regulations
- Final Adoption of Emergency Receiving, Evaluating, and Treatment Facilities Rules and Regulations

Commissioner's Report

Judy Fitzgerald
Commissioner



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#SPM21

Suicide Prevention

Rachael Holloman, MS, LPC

DBHDD Suicide Prevention Director

December 9, 2021



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Kindness

is suicide prevention.

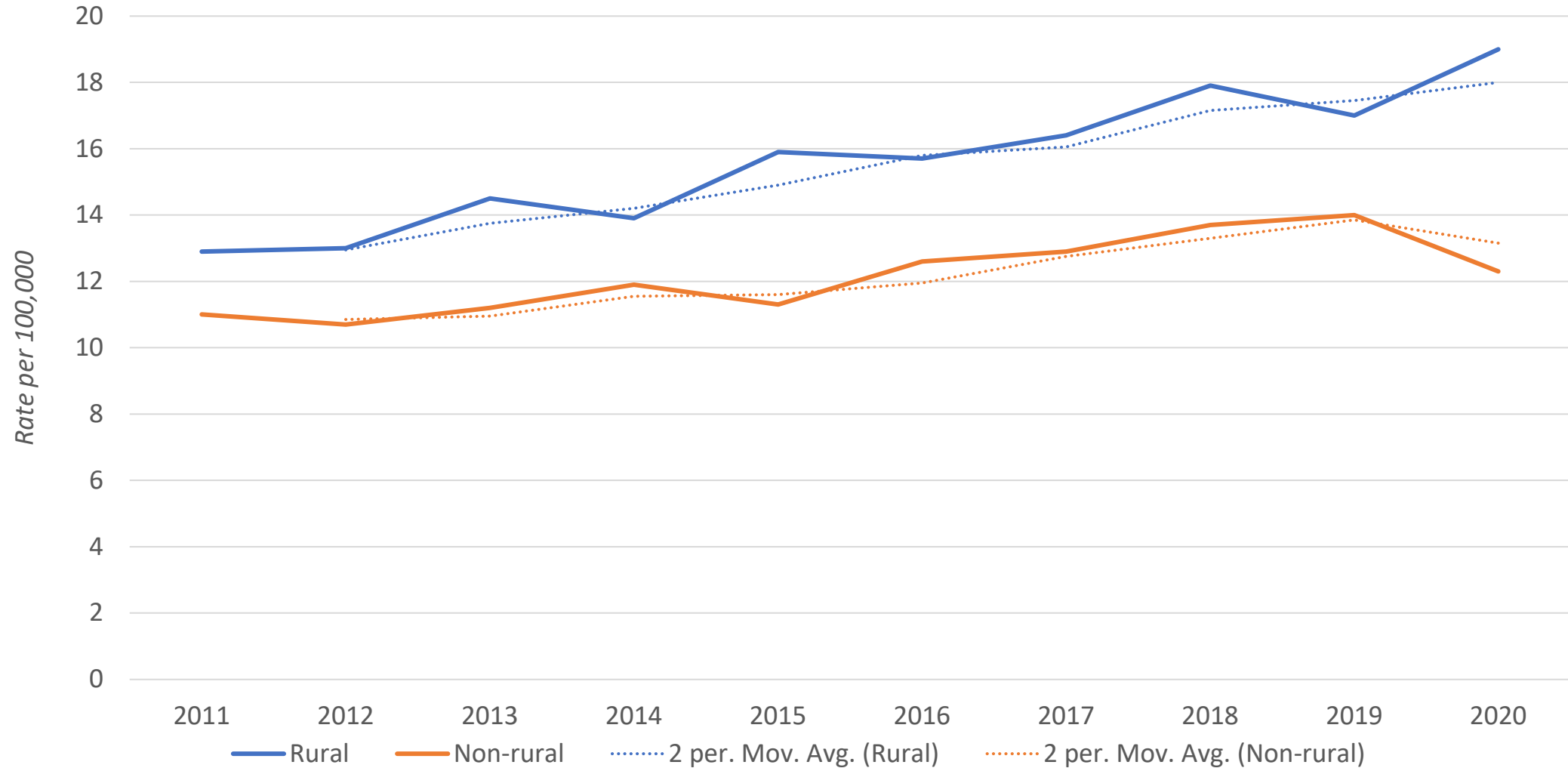


Rachael Holloman

Suicide Prevention Director

Georgia Department of Behavioral
Health & Developmental Disabilities

Age-Adjusted Suicide Death Rates, Georgia





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New Suicide Prevention Initiatives for Georgia

- \$197,350 State Funding for a Youth Prevention Specialist and Suicide Epidemiologist
- \$82,900 State Funding for Suicide Prevention Trainings for School Systems and COVID-19 related suicide prevention
- ARPA Funding for a Veterans Suicide Prevention Coordinator and a new Veterans, Active Duty Military, and Families Suicide Prevention Initiative



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Current Work in Georgia

1394

- # of Georgians trained in Year 3 of our Mental Health Awareness Training Grant
- Year 3 #s of Georgia trained doubled from Year 2 #s

26

- # of Suicide Prevention Coalitions across the State of Georgia
- 2 New Suicide Prevention Coalitions added this year

2

- # of Suicide Prevention First Responder Training Videos Developed this year for use in First Responder and Crisis Intervention Training



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Adolescent Statistics

Emergency department visits for suspected suicide attempts among U.S. girls ages 12–17 have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic*

February–March 2021

51% ↑

From the same period in 2019

* After an initial drop

[CDC.GOV](https://www.cdc.gov)

Suicide can be prevented

- ▶ Increase social connections for youth
- ▶ Teach youth coping skills
- ▶ Learn the signs of suicide risk and how to respond
- ▶ Reduce access to lethal means (like medications and firearms)

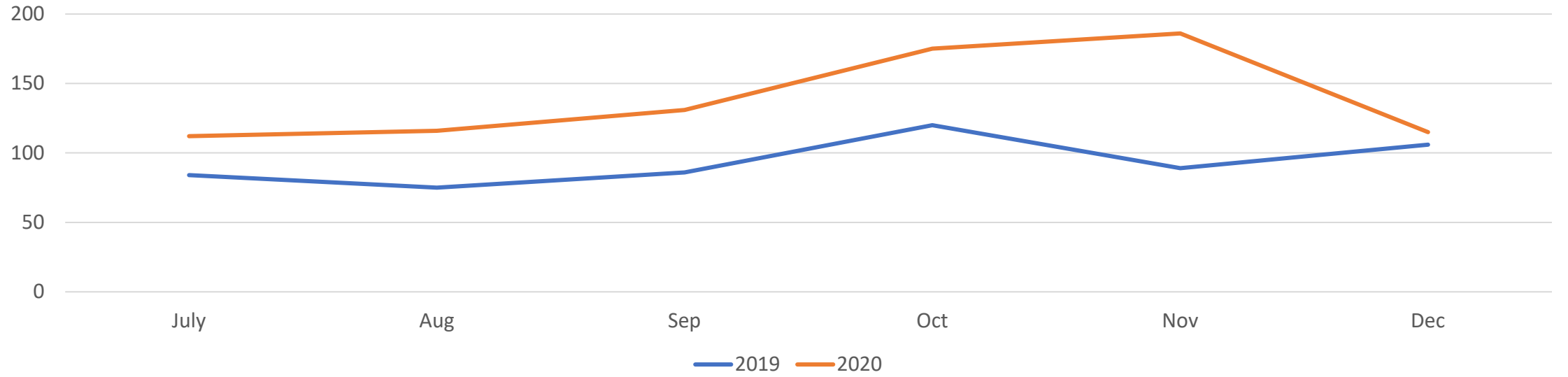


**Help is available 24/7 at
suicidepreventionlifeline.org**

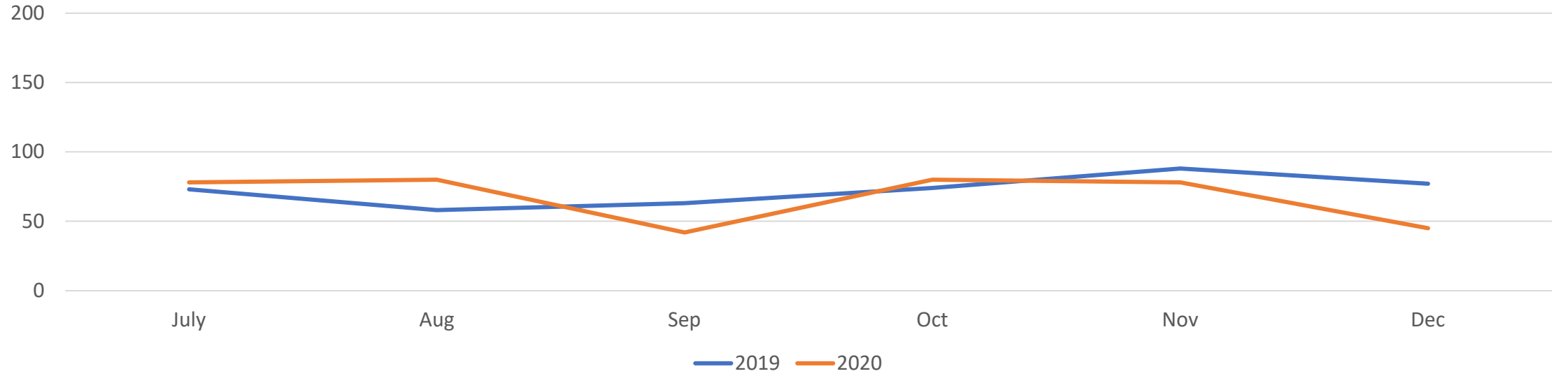
bit.ly/MMWR61121

MMWR

Suicide Attempts, 12-17, Female



Suicide Attempts, 18-25, Female





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2021 Girls Summit



BE KIND TO YOUR MIND
GIRLS SUMMIT

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH AT 10 AM- 3PM
THE DOTTIE AT TRIUMPH STATION

.....
WITH A PERFORMANCE BY

ALESSIA CARA!



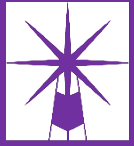
REGISTER AT [RESILIENCYTOOLKIT.ORG/EVENTS](https://resiliencytoolkit.org/events)

ALL GIRLS 13 TO 17 ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE SUMMIT TO
PROMOTE WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH



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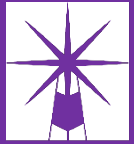


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Tips For The Holidays

- What to look for? Warning Signs of Suicide
 - How do you respond?
- Safety measures that can be taken both during and after the holidays



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Resources

Georgia Crisis & Access Line

1-800-715-4225

mygal.com

Sponsored by the  Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line

866-399-8938

Call or Text 

Available Monday - Sunday; 8 am - 11 pm



NATIONAL

SUICIDE

PREVENTION

LIFELINE

1-800-273-TALK (8255)TM

suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Call the [Georgia Crisis & Access Line](#) for immediate crisis support or access to services. Help is available 24/7 at (800) 715-4225 or through the [MyGAL App](#).

GEORGIA CRISIS & ACCESS LINE (800) 715-4225 [MY G GAL APP](#)

Prevent Suicide [HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [IN GEORGIA](#) [ABOUT SUICIDE](#) [FIND HELP](#)

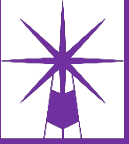
Life can be overwhelming, and anyone can experience depression, anxiety, and thoughts of suicide.

**There is Hope
There is Help**
RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE

PILLARS OF Prevention

- Connect**
Positive personal connections reduce the impact of risk factors for suicide
- Communicate**
Compassionate communication reduces feelings of isolation and desperation
- Care**
Timely, appropriate, and comprehensive care is the pathway to sustainable, long-term recovery

Prevent Suicide GA – Imagine a future without suicide



DBHDD

For more information:
suicide.prevention@dbhdd.ga.gov
Or
rachael.holloman@dbhdd.ga.gov

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is suicide prevention.

YOUR
IMAGE
HERE

Fall 2021 Hospital Governing Body Meetings: Themes and Highlights

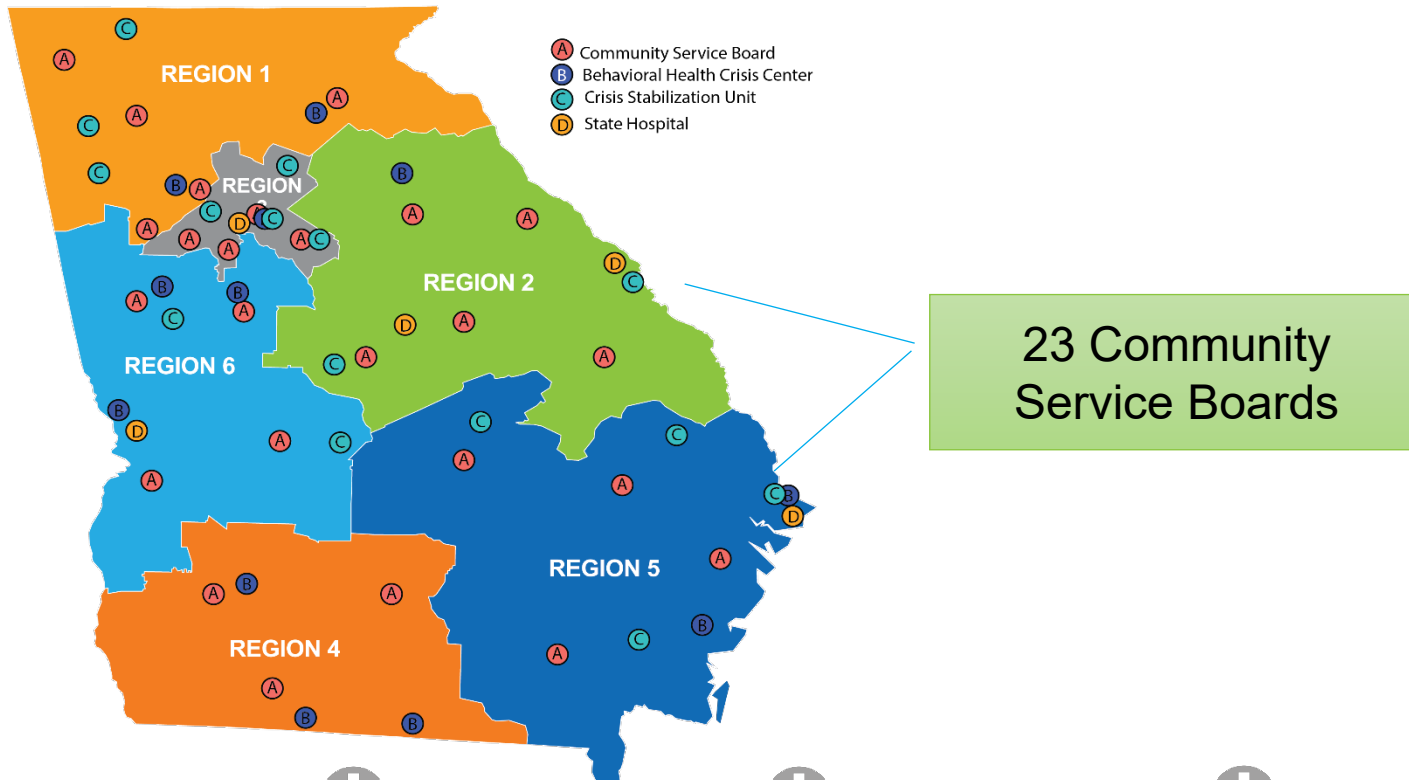
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Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner
December 9, 2021



Georgia's Public Safety Net



Adults: 14 BHCCs, 9 CSUs

Georgia Crisis and Access Line

Statewide Mobile Crisis Services

Crisis Stabilization Units

Children: 4 CSUs

Autism: 1 CSU


 Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah
 SAVANNAH


 Georgia Regional Hospital at Atlanta
 ATLANTA


 East Central Regional Hospital
 AUGUSTA


 West Central Georgia Regional Hospital
 COLUMBUS


 Central State Hospital
 MILLEDGEVILLE

Fall 2021 Governing Body meetings

Themes

- **Workforce is a critical issue to the system**
 - Atlanta: highest volume, most competition for employees
 - Central State: most stable workforce, due to hospital's role in community, still RN vacancy rate is high
 - Savannah: competition with port presents unique challenge
 - West Central: five hospitals within a short distance and a new Veterans Administration hospital opening in February
 - East Central: training ground for Augusta University
- **Resilience and dedication of staff to mission of recovery**
- **Campus maintenance needs are expansive, upgrades support recovery programs**

Fall 2021 Governing Body meetings

Highlights

- **Atlanta:**
 - achieved full accreditation for its Psychology internship program
- **Central State Hospital:**
 - Heroes of Hope film project
- **Savannah:**
 - Psychiatry Residency Program—partnership with Gateway Behavioral Health, Mercer University, Memorial Health—is supporting workforce development and now has a total of 24 residents.
 - New treatment mall's positive impact on recovery
- **East Central:**
 - Daisy International Nursing Award program
 - New state-of-the-art cafeteria
- **West Central:**
 - New 40-bed forensic unit

Upcoming Issues

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Upcoming Issues:

- Legislative Session begins January 10, 2022
 - *The Year of Mental Health*
- Comprehensive Supports Waiver renewal
- 9-8-8
 - Effective date July 2022
 - Planning Coalition

Chair's Report

David Glass

Chair

Public Comment

Next Board Meeting

TBD