



## Call for Presentations (Due Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015)

The [Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities' \(DBHDD\)](#) Office of Children, Young Adults and Families and Georgia's [Interagency Directors Team \(IDT\)](#) is pleased to announce this **Call for Presentations** in preparation for the 2015 Georgia System of Care Academy.

The system of care model is an organizational philosophy and framework that involves collaboration across agencies, families and youth to improve services and access, and to expand the array of services and supports that are coordinated, community-based, and culturally and linguistically competent for children and youth with a serious emotional disturbance. The academy's goal is to inculcate attendees with system of care values and principles.

Now in its eighth year, the Georgia System of Care Academy continues to grow in diversity. More than 400 individuals have participated in recent years including representatives from mental health, child welfare, juvenile justice, K-12 education, early childhood education, law enforcement, public health, and other child- and family-serving entities. Our goal is to bring together individuals who make up the child, youth, young adult, and family-serving community, **most importantly Georgia parents and youth**, to improve outcomes, exchange information, share best practices, and highlight effective strategies and cross-cutting partnerships throughout the state.

The 2015 Georgia System of Care Academy is scheduled for **July 14–16** at the [Evergreen Marriott Hotel](#) in **Stone Mountain, Georgia**. The conference planning committee selected “**Embracing Transition**” as the theme for this year's System of Care Academy because of the abundance of transition occurring in Georgia around serving children, youth and families.

## Call for Presentations

The planning committee is seeking workshop proposals. Workshops must support the basic **system of care principles by being family-driven, youth-guided, culturally relevant, and community-based**. Those submitting proposals are also encouraged to consider the suggested tracks for this year's academy as listed below.

### Suggested Tracks

**Enhancing Early Childhood Systems:** The emotional, physical, and system of care development of the 0-5 population has a direct effect on overall development into adulthood. Communities throughout Georgia are working to bridge the gaps that exist within services available to families raising young children. Sessions within this track will feature dynamic leaders and innovative programs aiming to enhance effective early childhood systems, ultimately improving long-term outcomes for Georgia's children and families.

**The Role of Education and Schools:** Among many different needs Georgia's children have, there is one commonality: school. When children and youth feel safe at school and are connected to caring adults, they are more likely to succeed academically. In this track, attendees will learn about Georgia's efforts to ensure a positive and safe school climate, and how educational leaders are prioritizing and promoting the system of care and emotional well-being of their students. If you are an educator or work directly with schools, this track is for you.

**For Youth/Young Adults Only:** Georgia's youth need to be empowered, educated, and given a decision-making role in the care of their own lives. These sessions are for youth only and will provide a unique, interactive learning experience.

**Family-Driven Care:** Family-driven care means families have a primary decision-making role in the care of their children. These sessions will provide insight to the paramount role Georgia families play in ensuring the system of care, emotional and behavioral health needs of their children are met. These sessions will also provide parents and caregivers information on how to get the most out of their experience with Georgia's system of care.

**Transition Age Youth and Young Adults:** Youth and young adults have unique and complex needs that must be addressed as they transition into adulthood. Ongoing efforts are underway to improve the services and outcomes for Georgians ages 14-26, and help them in making successful and seamless transitions towards self-sufficiency and independent living. This track will highlight programs, services, and partnerships that engage transition age youth and youth adults to ensure successful transition to adulthood.

**System Transformation:** Throughout Georgia, child-serving agencies continue to design, manage, facilitate and implement an integrated approach to a child and adolescent system of care that informs policy and practice, and shares resources and funding. Sessions featured in this track will provide insight to new macro level efforts that will ultimately lead to better outcomes for Georgia's children, youth and families.

## Notes

Workshops will be **60 minutes** in length, and some may be requested to be repeated throughout the day.

Those interested in submitting a workshop proposal should complete the attached Call for Presentations Proposal Form. **Submissions must be emailed or postmarked by Monday, March 16, 2015.** The 2015 System of Care Academy planning committee members will review all proposals and make the **final selections by March 31, 2015.**

All who submit a proposal will be notified as to whether the proposal was accepted or declined by email. Please contact **Adriel Jones** at [ajones1957@gsu.edu](mailto:ajones1957@gsu.edu) or at **(404) 413-1049** with any questions.

The 2015 Georgia System of Care Academy planning committee thanks you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Matt Yancey*  
*Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and*  
*Developmental Disabilities*

*Ana Gaona*  
*Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and*  
*Developmental Disabilities*

*Susan McClaren*  
*Georgia State University*

*JaVonna Daniels*  
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*Stephanie Pearson*  
*Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and*  
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*Jewell Gooding*  
*Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and*  
*Developmental Disabilities*

*Erica Fener Sitkoff*  
*Voices for Georgia's Children*

*Kristal Davidson*  
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*Adriel Jones*  
*Georgia State University*

*Dana McCrary*  
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*Sue Smith*  
*Georgia Parent Support Network*

*Maya Carter*  
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*Melissa Robinson Graves*  
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*Marilyn Watson*  
*Georgia Department of Education*

*Donna Johnson*  
*Georgia Department of Public Health*

*Myrtis Smith*  
*Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and*  
*Developmental Disabilities*

*Margaret Cawood*  
*Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice*

# 2015 Georgia System of Care Academy Call for Presentations Proposal Form

**Submission must be emailed or postmarked by Monday, March 16, 2015.**

Name of presenter(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact (this person will be contacted for all correspondence regarding presentation):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this workshop designed for providers, parents, or youth? (Please indicate)

Provider

Parent

Youth

Which suggested track(s) most closely aligns with your presentation?

Enhancing Early Childhood Systems \_\_\_\_\_

The Role of Education and Schools \_\_\_\_\_

For Youth/Young Adults Only \_\_\_\_\_

Family-Driven Care \_\_\_\_\_

Transitional Age Youth and Young Adults \_\_\_\_\_

System Transformation \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach the following:

- **Workshop title and brief description to be included in conference information (up to 80 words)**
- **List of three goals and objectives for the workshop**
- **Short biography or resume for each presenter that includes credentials or personal experience**

Each presentation room will be equipped with LCD projector, laptop computer, flip chart and markers.

If you require additional materials, please indicate here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and submit along with attachments to:

Georgia State University  
C/o Adriel Jones  
10 Park Place South SE, Suite 415  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Completed packets can also be faxed to (404) 413-1047 or emailed to [ajones1957@gsu.edu](mailto:ajones1957@gsu.edu).

**Proposals must be postmarked by Monday, March 16, 2015.**

If your presentation is selected for the 2015 System of Care Academy, you will receive additional registration information.