

There's a place for you at Highland Rivers!







To our community stakeholders, partners and team members:

The 2023 fiscal year – July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 – was a year of continued change, growth and accomplishment for our agency. Building upon the consolidations of the previous year - adding both Haralson County Behavioral Health Services and Cobb County Community Services Board to our agency in 2022 - Highland Rivers Behavioral Health focused on cohesion and innovation, impacting our community not only through the delivery of services at our facilities, but through partnerships that extend the reach and hope of recovery throughout our communities.

Again, similar to last year, we are interested in identifying ways in which a Community Service Board such as Highland Rivers Behavioral Health interacts with and impacts its communities. The first section of this report contains profiles of all 13 of our counties and our service area as a whole. These profiles represent an innovative perspective about the connection between Highland Rivers Behavioral Health and the communities we serve – and how we target and tailor our service offerings to the specific needs of our counties, communities and population. Finally, leveraging our partnership with Findhelp, one of the nation's largest social care platforms, we have included county-level data about the most pressing challenges facing the population we are most likely to serve.

Following these profiles, we have included program highlights, finances and recovery stories as we always have, including pages about the grants and partnerships that have allowed us to extend our reach in unprecedented ways. The final section of this report contains our service line brochures, reformatted as one-page fact sheets, with information about crisis services, outpatient services, programs for individuals with disabilities, youth services, and much more. Taken as a whole, this report is our reaffirmation of the future of behavioral health in Georgia and our leadership role in it.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health remains one of Georgia's largest safety-net providers of behavioral health services – treatment, recovery and support services for individuals with mental illness, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Now with close to 1000 employees serving a 13-county, 4,700-square mile area of northwest Georgia, Highland Rivers provides a continuum of behavioral health services and supports. We meet people where they are, figuratively but also literally – in clinics, in the community, in jails, homeless shelters and hospital emergency departments, among others – to remind them they are valuable, there is hope, and that recovery is always possible.

Each year, we ask staff to send us a list of significant accomplishments we have realized in the previous fiscal year. For FY23, we had a list of over 300 accomplishments submitted by our team. Each one of them are amazing, and speak to the hard work, dedication and embodiment of our values. On the next page, I would like to share with you just a few that our staff brought forward in this 13+-page document.



From our CEO, Melanie Dallas, LPC

- Fourteen staff have been certified across five different evidenced-based-practices to support justice-involved and accountability court programs
- Highland Rivers opened a dedicated youth services clinic in Floyd County
- We are now serving 54 schools with the Georgia APEX school-based behavioral health program
- Highland Rivers Hired over 300 new staff throughout the year
- We have expanded critical co-responder programs to additional counties across our region
- The agency provided housing vouchers for 272 individuals in need of housing
- We restructured the Behavioral Health Crisis Center (BHCC) in Cobb County to include case management and peer support across the temporary observation, crisis service center and crisis stabilization services
- Program leaders created a more supportive team structure for the developmental disabilities program; each team now has the same caseload with a developmental disability professional/case manager, an RN, LPN and support tech
- In our women's' outreach program, 100% of babies were born drug free
- We completed nearly 1,000 assessments in local emergency departments with a diversion of 50% of those individuals into community-based, supportive services, helping them to avoid unnecessary hospitalization
- Highland Rivers operationalized the SSG Fox Veterans Suicide Prevention Grant, deploying a community-based veteran response team and providing support for close to 200 veterans referred to the program
- Our human resources department developed a new supervisor training program
- We began work on a data warehouse which will be able to house critical data across several different platforms
- One of the most critical measures in which I find encouragement is to hear how our Community Support Team assisted an individual with a history of more than 100 hospital admissions to live in the community with no crisis hospitalizations throughout the year. That is at the heart of who we are, why we are here, and why we focus on fostering hope, empowering change and enhancing the quality of all lives.

As always, nothing we do would be possible without the amazing commitment, passion and dedication of our Highland Rivers Behavioral Health team. Recovery is the heart of our agency, and our team exemplifies that each and every day. It is my pleasure to present Highland Rivers Behavioral Health's Fiscal Year 2023 annual community report.

Melanie Dallas, LPC Chief Executive Officer





FY 2023 Governing Board





Highland Rivers Behavioral Health is governed by a board that includes a representative from every county in the agency's service area. They are appointed by county leadership, primarily by each county's respective Board of Commissioners.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health's board meets every other month (six times each vear). As a quasigovernmental state agency, we are subject to Open Meetings and all Governing board meetings are open to the public and announced in advance.

On board meeting days, the compliance and finance committees meet at 9:30 a.m., and the full governing board meets beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.



To visit our website, scan the QR code or go to www.highlandrivers.org



Chris Mosley, Chair Chair CEO Piedmont Cartersville Medical Center Bartow County

Steve Grimsley Secretary Gordon County Sheriff's Office Paulding County Deputy Clerk

Paulding County

Randal Crider **Public Safety Director** Cobb County Government

Cobb County

Leland Johnson Behavioral Health Advocate

Gilmer County

Chinwe Okoronkwo Chargemaster Analyst Senior Northside Hospital

Cobb County

Scotty Tillery Commissioner (Until June 2023)

Polk County

Karen Sparks Behavioral Health Advocate

Haralson County

Keith Ledford Treasurer Clear Creek Guide, Inc.

Fannin County

Thomas Brown Behavioral Health Advocate

Whitfield County

Vacant

Murray County

Michael McElveen

Assistant Dean of Student

Wellness

Berry College

Floyd County

Mary Ghorley Director of Risk Management **Piedmont Mountainside** Hospital

Dr. Carol Holtz

Vice Chair

Kennesaw State University,

Retired

Cobb County

Lane Bennett

Detective

Gordon County

Pickens County

Larry Maxey Commissioner Floyd County Board of Commissioners

Floyd County

Pete Quinones President & CEO MetroAtlanta Ambulance Service

Cobb County

Tonya Riddick Executive Director, FREEDOM Tax & Financial Services Executive Director Smile Up Charitable Foundation Cherokee County

Connor Hooper Assistant County Manager (Began term June 2023)

Polk County





LEADERSHIP AGREEMENTS

We value:

- Congruency over conformity
- Authenticity over perfection
- Adaptability and inquisitiveness
 over methodology
- Expertise and self-reflection over opinions and behaviors driven by resistance
- Accountability over entitlement

We believe:

- Employees are our first stakeholders
- In treating people beautifully
- In redefining success as the opportunity for service, expressed as passion, experienced as fulfillment
- In conscious leadership and a conscious workplace characterized by self-awareness, wellness and personal development
- We experience success when we work well together

We agree to:

- Create an environment where we can be courageously vulnerable
- Encourage the wholeness and fulfillment of all team members
- Measure our success by the way we touch peoples' lives
- Be fully present, listen empathically and respond compassionately
- Regularly engage in self-reflection and stay fully engaged –
- even when it is uncomfortable
- Communicate succinctly with clarity, respect and kindness
- Practice mental and emotional agility
- Embrace change and stay ready

Melanie Dallas	Francisca MgBodile, MD	Dena Payne
Chair Executive Officer	Chief Medical Officer	Chief Operating Officer
Stephanie Bishop, LCSW CHC Chief Compliance Officer	Marla Flynn, CPA Chief Financial Officer	Albert Chan Vice President of Finance
Erica Collins, MBA	Michelle Hamm, PsyD.	Cheryl Lewis, LPC
Vice President of Human	Vice President of Substance	Vice President of Mental
Resources	Use & Clinical Innovation	Health Services
Rodney Moore, LMHC	Kathleen Varda, MSW	Jamie Allison
Vice President of New Market	Vice President of Community	Director of Quality
Development	Relations & Development	Improvement
Michael Mullet	Sherry McGee, PhD	Melissa O'Brien
Community Relations Director	Foundation Relations Director	Director of Marketing
Melissa Stone Executive Coordinator and Board Liason		



FY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

COUNTY PROFILES





AGENCY SERVICE AREA

FAST FACTS PROFILE

13-county population 2022	1,797,886
Projected 2030	1,895,354
Projected 2040	2,098,117
Projected 2050	2,302,653
% of Georgia population	
within HRBH service area	~17%*
*HRBH is projected to retain ~17% of Ge through 2060 with a growth rate of app	orgia's population roximately 30%
Est. HRBH FY24 budget	\$75,697,140
State investment (approx.)	\$44,661,313
Total annual allocation	
from counties served	\$732,857
HRBH direct jobs in	
counties served	1,026
<u>Payor mix</u>	
DBHDD funding	54%
Medicaid IDD waver	10%
Grants/other contracts	24%
Traditional Medicaid	4%
CMOs	4%
Medicare	1%
Client fees	1%
Other	2%
Individuals served (FY23)	16,747
Total services provided	285,365
Veterans within service	
area (2017-2021)	93,944
Veterans served (FY23)	461
Total services provided	
to veterans	5,622
Investment in services to	
veterans	\$303,857
% veteran services paid by	
state contract	62%
Behavioral Health Cond	itions

Cases calculated by applying SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for adults for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) to the population of the HRBH 13-county service area.

Any Mental Illness (21%)	377,556
Serious Mental Illness (5.6%)	100,681
Substance Use Disorder (14.5%)	260,693

Overall Agency Footprint

- HRBH programs/facilities in service area:
- 13 Outpatient clinics
- 6 Adult Peer Programs
- 1 Psychosocial Rehab Program
- 4 Crisis stabilization units (one is BHCC) total 98 crisis beds
- 3 Adult residential substance use treatment facilities
- 1 Youth residential substance use treatment facility
- 10 Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Programs (SAIOP) 3 Youth clubhouses
- 4 IDD day program facilities
- 1 Specialty services facility
- 7 Community crisis-level programs (ACT, ICM, CST, HUM)
- 1 Veteran community response program (serving 2 counties)
- 4 Crisis co-response programs (with local law enforcement)
- 3 Transitional housing programs
- 2 Transitional residential facilities (ITR etc.)
- 2 Crisis respite programs (1 enhanced)
- 46 IDD Host Homes
- 5 IDD Group Homes (1 run by HRBH)
- 200 Housing Voucher slots (approx.)
- 45 Supported employment slots
- 1 Jail services contracts (Paulding County)
- 12 Accountability Court programs
- 54 APEX schools-based programs (in 10 counties)
- 1 MAT program

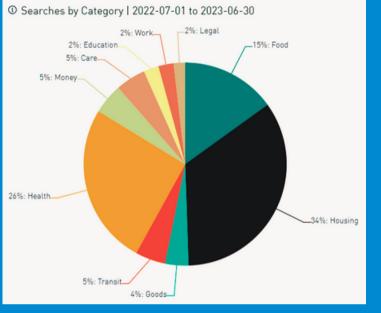
Highland Rivers Behavioral Health (HRBH) provides comprehensive treatment, recovery and support services for individuals with mental illness, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

One of Georgia's largest public safety-net providers, the agency serves individuals who are low-income, uninsured, underinsured or who have Medicaid or Medicare – individuals who otherwise may not have access to critical behavioral health services – including adults, youth, families and veterans.

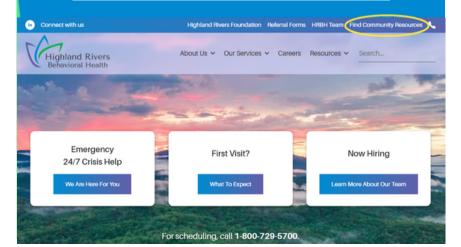
Highland Rivers serves a 13-county region of northwest Georgia that is approximately 4,700 square miles (including Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties), and one of the fastest-growing regions in Georgia – with a diverse population in urban, suburban and rural communities.

For more information, visit http://highlandrivers.org





Ø Most Common Search Terms 2022-07-01 to 2023-06-30		
TERM	DOMAIN	SEARCHES
help find housing	housing	227
food pantry	food	183
help pay for housing	housing	172
temporary shelter	housing	135
housing vouchers	housing	133
emergency food	food	115
food delivery	food	107
residential treatment	health	102
dental care	health	100
long-term housing	housing	85
outpatient treatment	health	70
help pay for car	money	68
help pay for utilities	housing	68
job placement	work	62
bus passes	transit	53



findhelp

In fall 2022, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health began an innovative new partnership with Findhelp to make it easier for individuals served by the agency to connect with other local resources they may need. As one of the largest nationwide social care platforms, Findhelp allows users to search by zip code for local services and resources across 10 broad categories that include healthcare, housing, employment, food, legal help and more. Highland Rivers' Findhelp site that can be used by anyone seeking to identify local social help resources using the QR code below. Highland Rivers has also added a link to its Findhelp page on the agency website homepage called "Find Community Resources" (circled in yellow on homepage image below left).



One of the most valuable features of the Findhelp partnership is Highland Rivers' ability to track searches made on it page by time period, category and zip code. In other words, we can see in nearly real time the most pressing needs and challenges facing the communities we serve - especially among segments of the population that are likely consistent with the population Highland Rivers serves.

According to our site analytics, there were 6,821 searches on the Highland Rivers site during the 2023 fiscal year (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023). As shown on the charts at left, during those 12 months the most commonly searched categories were housing, healthcare and food. The three most frequent searches related to housing were for help finding housing, help for paying for housing, and temporary shelter.

Toward that end, on the following pages of county profiles, we have included Findhelp search data for each county - a pie chart that shows the most common search terms for each, and by extension, the most common needs in each county. These insights are invaluable to our agency, helping us be aware of other life challenges those we serve might be facing, as well as to identify key community partnerships we can foster in order to ensure our individuals are able to access additional resources they might need in their community.



COMMUNITY PROFILE BARTOW COUNTY

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Population 2022	112.816
Projected 2030	
Projected 2040	
Projected 2050	
Projected 2050	131,080

Ages 5 and under 5.9% 6-17 23.1%

18-64 56.0% **65**+ 15.0%

Male 49.6% Female 50.4%

White 84.1% Black/African American 11.6% Native American 0.6% Asian 1.2% Pacific Islander 0.1% Two or more races 2.3%

Hispanic/Latino 10.4%*

*Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 5,998 Veterans 5.3%

Median income \$65,559 Poverty 11.6% Uninsured, under age 65 17.1% Medicaid enrollment 10,943 Medicaid percentage 9.4%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

16,820
4,485
11,614
4,299
2,606

SERVICES AND VALUE - Bartow County

HRBH facilities in county: 2

Outpatient clinic

Youth resiliency clubhouse (The ROC)/youth outpatient clinic (co-located)

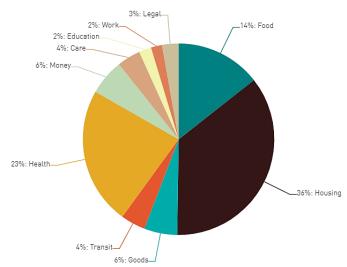
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Bartow County: 30 Annual allocation from county: \$60,688

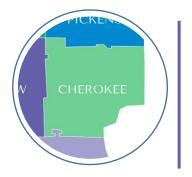
Bartow County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 1,523 # of services delivered to Bartow County residents: 19,872 Value of services to Bartow County residents: \$1,214,398

HRBH services provided in Bartow County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Community Support Services (adult; youth)
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Assertive Community Treatment
- Peer Support Services
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- Intensive Case Management
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Youth mental health resiliency clubhouse
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Bartow County FY23: 648





COMMUNITY PROFILE CHEROKEE COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

 Population 2022
 281,278

 Projected 2030
 331,014

 Projected 2040
 406,740

 Projected 2050
 494,713

Ages 5 and under 5.3% 6-17 22.5%

18-64 56.1% 65+ 16.1%

Male 49.6% Female 50.4%

White 86.2% Black/African American 8.3%

Native American 0.6% Asian 2.6% Pacific Islander 0.1% Two or more races 2.3% Hispanic/Latino 11.5%* *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 14,854 Veterans 5.2%

Median income \$90,681 Poverty 7.0% Uninsured, under age 65 12.6% Medicaid enrollment 23,011 Medicaid percentage 8.1%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

42,017
11,204
29,011
10,442
6,328

SERVICES AND VALUE - Cherokee County

HRBH facilities in county: 1 Outpatient clinic

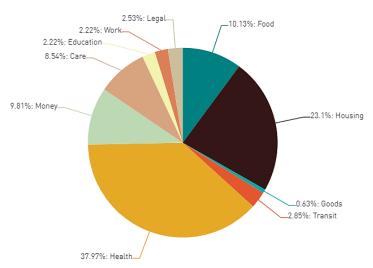
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Cherokee County: 21 Annual allocation from county: \$0

Cherokee County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 1,808 # of services delivered to Cherokee County residents: 20,594 Value of services to Cherokee County residents: \$1,146,021

HRBH services provided in Cherokee County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- Community Support Services (adult; youth)
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- APEX school-based services
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention
- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)
- Intensive Case Management (ICM)
- Community crisis co-response (with Cherokee Sheriff's Office)
- Veteran response team
- Veterans counseling groups

Total Findhelp searches in Cherokee County FY23: 667





Behavioral Health COMMUNITY PROFILE COBBCOUNTY

Highland Rivers

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Population 2022	<mark>2</mark> 771,952
Projected 2030	0 863,236
Projected 2040	0 930,413
Projected 2050	0 984,089

Ages 5 and under 5.5%

6-17 18-64	22.2% 58.4%
	13.9%
Male	40.8%

Female 51.2%

White 61.2% Black/African American 29.5% Native American 0.5% Asian 5.8% Pacific Islander 0.1% Two or more races 2.8% Hispanic/Latino 13.8%* *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 39,732 Veterans 5.1%

Median income \$86,013 Poverty 9.6% Uninsured, under age 65 13.3% Medicaid enrollment 54,530 Medicaid percentage 7%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	117,205
SMI (5.6%)	
SUD (14.5%)	80,927
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	
SED (10%)	17,137

SERVICES AND VALUE - Cobb County

HRBH facilities in county: 7

Adult outpatient clinic; youth outpatient clinic and youth resiliency clubhouse (co-located with administrative offices); Behavioral Health Crisis Center; specialty services facility; IDD Day Program facility; youth residential substance use treatment facility; women's residential substance use treatment

HRBH staff/direct jobs in Cobb County: 194 Annual allocation from county: \$440,710

Cobb County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 3,123 # of services delivered to Cobb County residents: 55,330 Value of services to Cobb County residents: \$2,974,866

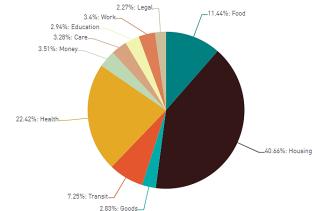
HRBH services provided in Cobb County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Behavioral health crisis stabilization
- Community crisis co-response (PATH Team with CCPD)
 - Assertive Community Treatment; Intensive Case Management
- Community Support Services (adults; youth); Addictive Disease Supp. Svcs.
- Intensive Recovery Treatment Housing (New Start)
- Peer Support Services

•

- Women's residential substance use treatment (Mothers Making a Change)
- Youth residential substance use treatment (George W. Hartmann Center)
- APEX school-based services
- Psychosocial rehabilitation group
- Youth mental health resiliency clubhouse (Bright Changes Clubhouse)
- Mental health treatment court provider
- IDD Day program and Family Support Services
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Cobb County FY23: 1,546





Behavioral Health COMMUNITY PROFILE FANNIN COUNTY

Highland Rivers

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Population 2022	25,737
Projected 2030	24,348
Projected 2040	23,655
Projected 2050	22,951

Ages 5 and under 3.6%

6-17 15.2% 18-64 49.7% 65+ 31.5%

Male 49.4% Female 50.6%

White 96.0%

Black/African American 1.1% Native American 0.5% Asian 0.7% Pacific Islander 0.1% Two or more races 1.6% Hispanic/Latino 3.1%* *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories Veterans (2017 to 2021) 2.237

2,237 (2017 to 2021) 2,237 Veterans 8.7%

Median income \$49,810 Poverty 13.2% Uninsured, under age 65 18.3% Medicaid enrollment 3,835 Medicaid percentage 15%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder

(SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	4,388
SMI (5.6%)	1,170
SUD (14.5%)	3,030
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	645
SED (10%)	391

SERVICES AND VALUE - Fannin County

HRBH facilities in county: 0

There is currently no HRBH facility in Fannin County. Highland Rivers provides community-based services in the county, and Fannin residents can access outpatient services at Highland Rivers' clinic in Gilmer County.

HRBH staff/direct jobs in Fannin County: N/A Annual allocation from county: \$0

Fannin County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 180 # of services delivered to Fannin County residents: 3,893 Value of services to Fannin County residents: \$405,178

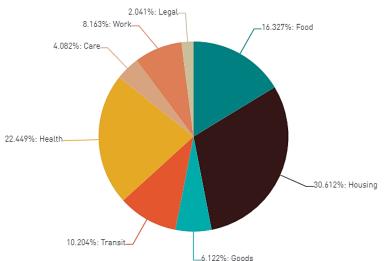
HRBH services provided in Fannin County

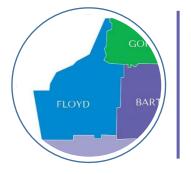
- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth (*in Gilmer County*)
- Peer Support Services (in Gilmer County)

Community-based services delivered in Fannin County:

- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Community Support Team
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Fannin County FY23: 78





COMMUNITY PROFILE

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

	OFILE
Population 2022	99,443
Projected 2030	101,508
Projected 2040	103,213
Projected 2050	104,391
Ages 5 and under	5.6%
6-17	22.4%
18-64	55.0%
65+	17.0%
Male	49.0%
Female	51.0%
White	80.1%
African American	14.9%
Native American	0.9%
Asian	1.6%

Pacific Islander 0.3% Two or more races 2.3% Hispanic/Latino 12.3%* *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Black/

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 4,981 Veterans 5.0%

Median income \$52,388 Poverty 16.2% Uninsured, under age 65 18.4% Medicaid enrollment 11,184 Medicaid percentage 11%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	15,035
SMI (5.6%)	4,009
SUD (14.5%)	10,381
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	3,675
SED (10%)	2,227

SERVICES AND VALUE - Floyd County

HRBH facilities in county: 3

Outpatient clinic/Women's residential treatment (co-located) Youth substance use clubhouse (Choices Clubhouse)/Youth outpatient clinic (co-located) Crisis stabilization unit

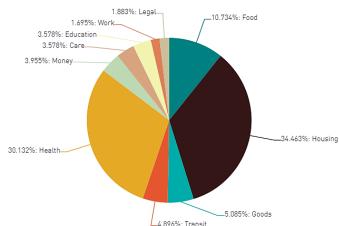
HRBH staff/direct jobs in county: 112 Annual allocation from county: \$90,000

Floyd County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 1,801 # of services delivered to Floyd County residents: 33,220 Value of services to Floyd County residents: \$2,495,387

HRBH services provided in Floyd County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Behavioral health crisis stabilization and substance detoxification
- Women's substance use residential treatment (Women's Outreach)
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Assertive Community Treatment; Intensive Case Management
- Intensive Treatment Residential
- APEX school-based services
- Peer Support Services
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Youth substance use prevention clubhouse

Total Findhelp searches in Floyd County FY23: 921





Behavioral Health COMMUNITY PROFILE GILMER COUNTY

Highland Rivers

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

 Population 2022
 32,407

 Projected 2030
 31,094

 Projected 2040
 32,172

 Projected 2050
 33,748

Ages 5 and under 4.7% 6-17 18.3% 18-64 50.0% 65+ 27.0%

Male 51.6%

Female 49.4%

White 94.9% Black/African American 1.5% Native American 0.8% Asian 0.8% Pacific Islander 0.6% Two or more races 1.6% Hispanic/Latino 13.0%* *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 2,899 Veterans 8.9%

Median income \$60,504 Poverty 14.0% Uninsured, under age 65 20.4% Medicaid enrollment 4,058 Medicaid percentage 12.5%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	5,239
SMI (5.6%)	1,397
SUD (14.5%)	3,618
Children ages 6-17	
AMI (16.5%)	
SED (10%)	593

SERVICES AND VALUE - Gilmer County

HRBH facilities in county: 1 Outpatient clinic

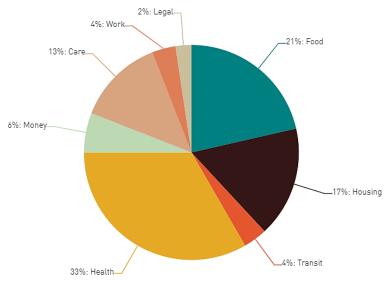
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Gilmer County: 9 Annual allocation from county: \$0

Gilmer County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 431 # of services delivered to Gilmer County residents: 7,937 Value of services to Gilmer County residents: \$933,697

HRBH services provided in Gilmer County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Correctional facility behavioral health services
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Community Support Team
- APEX school-based services
- Peer Support Services
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Gilmer County FY23: 166





COMMUNITY PROFILE GORDON COUNTY

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

 Population 2022
 58,954

 Projected 2030
 63,965

 Projected 2040
 67,045

 Projected 2050
 69,290

Ages 5 and under 5.5% 6-17 22.7%

18-64 56.1% **65**+ 15.7%

Male 49.6% Female 50.4%

White 90.7%

Black/African American 4.6% Native American 0.6% Asian 1.7% Pacific Islander 0.4% Two or more races 2.0% Hispanic/Latino 17.3%* *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 2,449 Veterans 4.2%

Median income \$50,520 Poverty 12.8% Uninsured, under age 65 21.7% Medicaid enrollment 5,494 Medicaid percentage 9.3%

Behavioral health conditions

County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	8,889
SMI (5.6%)	2,370
SUD (14.5%)	6,137
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	2,208
SED (10%)	1,338

SERVICES AND VALUE - Gordon County

HRBH facilities in county: 1 Outpatient clinic

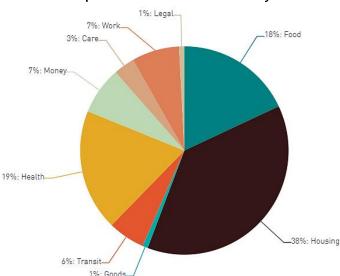
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Gordon County: 16 Annual allocation from county: \$0

Gordon County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 866 # of services delivered to Gordon County residents: 10,413 Value of services to Gordon County residents: \$716,640

HRBH services provided in Gordon County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Community Support Services (adult; youth)
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- Hospital emergency department behavioral health
 assessments partnership
- Employee assistance program (EAP) provider for local employer
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Intensive Case Management
- Residential Recovery Services
- APEX school-based services
- Supported Employment
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Gordon County FY23: 189





COMMUNITY PROFILE HARALSON COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Population 2022	31,337
Projected 2030	31,173
Projected 2040	31,719
Projected 2050	31,87
•	

Ages 5 and under 6.3%

0 47	04.000
6-17	24.3%
18-64	53.7%
65+	15.7%
Male	49.2%
E a ser a l a	F0.000
Female	50.8%

White 92.0%

Black/African American	4.8%
Native American	0.4%
Asian	0.9%
Pacific Islander	N/A
Two or more races	2.0%
Hispanic/Latino	2.4%*
*Hispanics may be of any race, included in applicable race	

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 1,524 Veterans 4.8%

Median income \$57,752 Poverty 14.9% Uninsured, under age 65 15.4% Medicaid enrollment 3,779 Medicaid percentage 12%

Behavioral health conditions

County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	4,566
SMI (5.6%)	1,217
SUD (14.5%)	3,153
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	1,256
SED (10%)	761
3ED (10%)	/01

SERVICES AND VALUE - Haralson County

HRBH facilities in county: 1

Outpatient clinic; IDD Day Program facility (co-located)

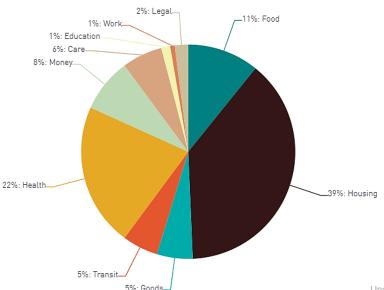
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Haralson County: 15 Annual allocation from county: \$90,000

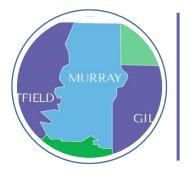
Haralson County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 622 # of services delivered to Haralson County residents: 10,994 Value of services to Haralson County residents: \$758,662

HRBH services provided in Haralson County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Community Support Services (adult; youth)
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Intensive Case Management
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- APEX school-based services
- Supported Employment
- Residential Recovery Services
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention
- Day program and Family Support Services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Total Findhelp searches in Haralson County FY23: 319





COMMUNITY PROFILE MURRAY COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Population 2022	40,472
Projected 2030	40,325
Projected 2040	39,019
Projected 2050	36,739
and E and under	

Ages 5 and under 5.9%

6-17	23.5%
18-64	54.7%
65+	15.9%

Male49.6%Female50.4%

White 94.8%

Black/African American	1.6%
Native American	1.1%
Asian	0.7%
Pacific Islander	0.3%
Two or more races	1.5%
Hispanic/Latino	16.7%
*Hispanics may be of any race, s included in applicable race	
Veterans (2017 to 2021)	1 5 7 7

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 1,577 Veterans 3.9%

Median income \$53,821 Poverty 15.7% Uninsured, under age 65 20.1% Medicaid enrollment 3,622 Medicaid percentage 8.9%

Behavioral health conditions

County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	6,000
SMI (5.6%)	1,600
SUD (14.5%)	4,143
Children ages 6-17	
AMI (16.5%)	1,569
SED (10%)	951

SERVICES AND VALUE - Murray County

HRBH facilities in county: 1

IDD group home

Highland Rivers provides community-based services in Murray County, and residents can access outpatient services at Highland Rivers' clinic in Whitfield County.

HRBH staff/direct jobs in Murray County: 10 Annual allocation from county: \$0

Murray County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 494 # of services delivered to Murray County residents: 11,889 Value of services to Murray County residents: \$4,031,934* *The majority of this cost reflects the operation of a group home for individuals with disabilities who are also medically fragile

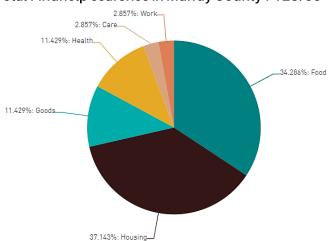
HRBH services provided in Murray County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth (in Whitfield County)
- Peer Support Services (in Whitfield County)
- Hospital emergency department behavioral health assessments
- APEX school-based services

Community-based services provided in Murray County:

- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Community Support Team
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Murray County FY23: 55





COMMUNITY PROFILE PAULDING COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

 Population 2022
 178,421

 Projected 2030
 209,745

 Projected 2040
 253,979

 Projected 2050
 304,620

Ages 5 and under 5.9% 6-17 25.2%

18-64 57.1% **65**+ 11.8%

Male 49.1% Female 50.9%

White 69.8%

Black/African American 25.4% Native American 0.5% Asian 1.5% Pacific Islander 0.1% Two or more races 2.8% Hispanic/Latino 8.6% *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 9,835 Veterans 5.5%

Median income \$80,234 Poverty 7.6% Uninsured, under age 65 11.5% Medicaid enrollment 13,339 Medicaid percentage 7.5%

Behavioral health conditions

County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	25,815
SMI (5.6%)	6,884
SUD (14.5%)	17,825
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	7,418
SED (10%)	4,496

SERVICES AND VALUE - Paulding County

HRBH facilities in county: 1 Outpatient clinic

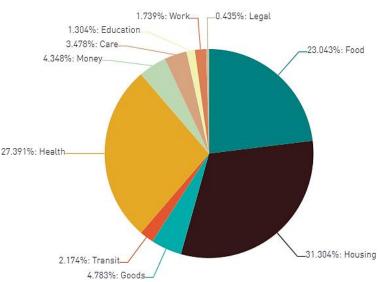
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Paulding County: 19 Annual allocation from county: \$50,000

Paulding County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 1,167 # of services delivered to Paulding County residents: 15,795 Value of services to Paulding County residents: \$1,158,148

HRBH services provided in Paulding County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Assertive Community Treatment
- Intensive Case Management
- APEX school-based services
- Veterans counseling groups
- Correctional facility behavioral health services
- Clinical services provider for local residential program for teen victims of human trafficking
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Paulding County FY23: 369





Behavioral Health COMMUNITY PROFILE PICKENS COUNTY

Highland Rivers

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

 Population 2022
 34,826

 Projected 2030
 34,610

 Projected 2040
 37,109

 Projected 2050
 40,028

Ages 5 and under 4.4% 6-17 18.5%

18-64 54.2% 65+ 22.9%

Male 50.0% Female 50.0%

White 95.6%

Black/African American 1.5% Native American 0.5% Asian 0.7% Pacific Islander N/A Two or more races 1.6% Hispanic/Latino 3.7%* *Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 2,549 Veterans 7.3%

Median income \$71,637 Poverty 10.3% Uninsured, under age 65 16.6% Medicaid enrollment 4,828 Medicaid percentage 13.8%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	5,638
SMI (5.6%)	2,503
SUD (14.5%)	3,893
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	1,063
SED (10%)	644

SERVICES AND VALUE - Pickens County

HRBH facilities in county: 1

Outpatient clinic; men's residential treatment facility (Highland Recovery Center) (co-located)

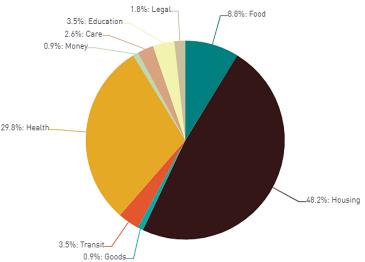
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Pickens County: 26 Annual allocation from county: \$0

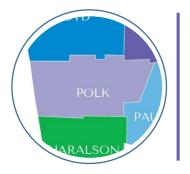
Pickens County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 436 # of services delivered to Pickens County residents: 6,284 Value of services to Pickens County residents: \$454,428

HRBH services provided in Pickens County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Men's residential substance use treatment (Highland Recovery Center)
- Veteran response team/community crisis co-response team
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Mental health treatment court provider
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- Community Support Team
- APEX school-based services
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention

Total Findhelp searches in Pickens County FY23: 184





Highland Rivers Behavioral Health COMMUNITY PROFILE POLK COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Population 2022	43,709
Projected 2030	45,166
Projected 2040	46,136
Projected 2050	46,579

Ages 5 and under 6.5%

6-17	25.2%
18-64	52.7%
65+	15.6%

Male 49.3% Female 50.7%

White 83.0%

Black/African American	12.8%
Native American	0.9%
Asian	0.8%
Pacific Islander	0.2%
Two or more races	2.2%
Hispanic/Latino	14.4%'
*Hispanics may be of any race, s included in applicable race	

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 1,894 Veterans 4.3%

Median income \$48,958 Poverty 17.7% Uninsured, under age 65 17.6% Medicaid enrollment 5,159 Medicaid percentage 11.8%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

6,268
1,671
4,328
1,817
1,101

SERVICES AND VALUE - Polk County

HRBH facilities in county: 3

Outpatient clinic/IDD Day Program facility (co-located) Crisis stabilization unit Addiction recovery support center (Mosaic Place)

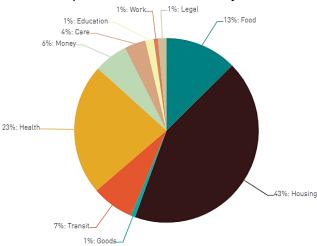
HRBH staff/direct jobs in Polk County: 72 Annual allocation from county: \$0

Polk County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 939 # of services delivered to Polk County residents: 17,255 Value of services to Polk County residents: \$1,035,412

HRBH services provided in Polk County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Behavioral health crisis stabilization
- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Assertive Community Treatment
- Intensive Case Management
- Peer Support Services
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Peer-led addiction recovery support (Mosaic Place)
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention
- Day program and Family Support Services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Total Findhelp searches in Polk County FY23: 225





COMMUNITY PROFILE WHITFIELD COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

OGRAPHIC PR	OFILE
Population 2022	103,132
Projected 2030	114,277
Projected 2040	117,828
Projected 2050	119,343
Ages 5 and under	6.0%
6-17	24.9%
18-64	54.3%
65+	14.8%
Male	50.1%
Female	49.9%
White	90.4%
African American	4.4%
Native American	1.5%
Asian	
Pacific Islander	0.070
wo or more races	1.8%
Hispanic/Latino	37 7%*

*Hispanics may be of any race, so are also included in applicable race categories

Veterans (2017 to 2021) 3,415 Veterans 3.3%

Black/

Median income \$52,439 Poverty 13.4% Uninsured, under age 65 23.4% Medicaid enrollment 6,778 Medicaid percentage 6.5%

Behavioral health conditions County cases calculated using SAMHSA national prevalence estimates for Any Mental Illness (AMI), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)

<u>Adults</u>	
AMI (21%)	14,965
SMI (5.6%)	3,990
SUD (14.5%)	10,333
<u>Children ages 6-17</u>	
AMI (16.5%)	4,237
SED (10%)	2,567

SERVICES AND VALUE - Whitfield County

HRBH facilities in county: 3

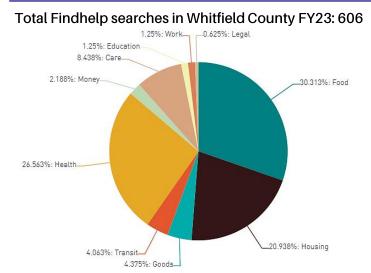
Outpatient clinic/crisis stabilization unit (co-located) IDD Day program facility Administrative offices

HRBH staff/direct jobs in Whitfield County: 178 Annual allocation from county: \$0

Whitfield County residents served by HRBH (FY23): 1,574 # of services delivered to Whitfield County residents: 27,229 Value of services to Whitfield County residents: \$2,779,578

HRBH services provided in Whitfield County

- Outpatient mental health and substance use treatment and recovery services for adults and youth
- Behavioral health crisis stabilization
- Community Support Services (adults; youth)
- Addictive Disease Support Services
- Peer Support Services
- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- Intensive Case Management
- APEX school-based services
- Residential Recovery Services
- Supported Employment
- Suicide prevention, education and post-vention
- Day program and Family Support Services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities





FY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Community Outreach and Engagement









Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

For scheduling, call 1-800-729-5700.

For crisis call Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) 1-800-715-4225.



Every year, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health participates in hundreds of community events, builds partnerships, provides trainings and so much more to engage with the communities we serve. Some of our agency's outreach and engagement activities in FY23 include:

- Partnered with Cobb County DFCS for Pinwheels for Prevention during Child Abuse Awareness Month in April 2023, placing pinwheels in the front yard of Cobb Outpatient clinic.
- Participated in two mental health panels for "Parent University" for Cherokee County School District.
- Collaborated on a Fentanyl training for Murray County Schools to provide the mental health/wellness component for a parent night and student education.
- System of Care sponsored a free family wellness fair, "Splash into Wellness," at the Mack Gaston Community Center in Dalton in May.
- Floyd Choices Clubhouse (youth substance use prevention program) volunteer community service at Salvation Army to help sort clothes and food for local families in need.
- Continued collaboration with Floyd Against Drugs, and in its annual Teen Maze.
- Implemented new navigator staff in Cobb County magistrate and probate courts.
- Created the cold-call initiative looking up all veterans currently being served by Highland Rivers Behavioral Health and calling them to offer SSG Fox services.
- Set up resource tables at nearly 50 community health fairs and events across our service area to provide information about Highland Rivers and our services.
- Provided training to Whitfield County school counselors and social workers on safety planning in school.
- Served on Child Fatality Review committees in Bartow/Gordon and Cherokee counties.
- Hosted a veteran suicide prevention and discussion roundtable to raise awareness of mental health resources for veterans.
- Joined two Georgia Department of Veteran Services (GDVS) veteran suicide prevention task forces to enhance collaboration throughout the state.
- Attended and taught classes to Bartow County youth at Youth Explosion Summit.
- Worked with local school systems (Gilmer, Cartersville City, Cherokee, Pickens) to present screening of "Screenagers," along with resources for school counselors and parents on parenting strategies in the digital age.
- Provided numerous CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) classes to law enforcement agencies in our service area.







Expanding Co-response Programs

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health received three grants in FY23 to expand co-response programs. These multi-year grant partnerships include: a three-year \$897,435 grant from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget to fund the development of a co-response program in Pickens County; a four-year, \$2.8 million grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to fund the development of a co-response program in Cherokee County with the Cherokee County Sheriff Office; and a three-year, \$549,959 grant from the Bureau of Justice to fund the development of a co-response program in Catoosa County, in partnership with Bridge Health and the Catoosa County Sheriff's Office.

Mental Health Clinicians in Local Government Agencies

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health received three grants from Cobb County, utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funding the county received, to add mental health clinicians within local government agencies. These multi-year grant partnerships include: a three-year \$470,000 grant to fund a licensed mental health clinician within the county's 911 center; a three-year \$1,962,244.72 grant to increase the number of Cobb PATH co-response teams in the county; and a three-year \$1,177,607 grant to add case managers and licensed clinicians in State, Superior, Probate and Magistrate Courts in Cobb County, as well as at the Wellstar Kennestone Regional Medical Center emergency department.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Center

A Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) is a nationally-recognized organizational practice model designed to ensure access to coordinated, standardized and comprehensive behavioral health care. Highland Rivers received a two-year, \$4 million grant from the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to support the agency's transition to a CCBHC.

Veteran Suicide Prevention

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded Highland Rivers Behavioral Health \$750,000 through the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant program (renewable annually). In partnership with the Marietta Vet Center, Cherokee County Homeless Veterans Program, and the Center for the Advancement of Military and Emergency Services at Kennesaw State University, Highland Rivers is employing a mobile response team for veterans in Cherokee and Pickens counties who are in crisis or at risk of suicide.

Promoting Mental Health Awareness

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health was awarded a four-year, \$500,000 grant by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to promote mental health awareness. The grant supports trainings for elected officials, first responders and city workers to increase their knowledge of mental health needs and resources in their communities, with the goal of increasing resource allocation to improve and sustain mental health and wellness in their communities.

Recovery-to-Work

Focused on supporting individuals in recovery from substance use disorder as they re-engage into employment, this three-year, \$600,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission INSPIRE/Recovery to Work program provides training and technical assistance to local chambers of commerce and employers. Targeting Polk, Haralson, Whitfield, Fannin and Murray counties, the recovery-to-work initiative helps businesses learn how to become more supportive of employees who are engaged in treatment, and how to connect their employees to local treatment and resources.

Community Mental Health Center

During the second year of this two-year, \$2 million grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health will continue implementing community outreach and engagement activities, its ED Diversion Program and expanding its APEX school-based mental health program. In this second year, Highland Rivers will also be able to expand these grant activities into Cobb and Haralson counties.



Partnerships





PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS THROUGH THE APEX PROGRAM

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Through the Georgia APEX Project, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health provides mental health professionals onsite at elementary, middle, or high schools. In partnership with school staff, Highland Rivers' therapists will assess and identify a student's mental health needs and determine how best to meet his or her individual needs. Appointments can be scheduled during the school day, before or after school, or at home, if desired. Services provided in school are during non-core academic time, and all efforts are made to support academic goals. In FY23, Highland Rivers served 907 individuals in 54 schools across our service area through the APEX program, and have served more than 1,600 since the program began in 2015.



PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS

A highly innovative collaboration begun in 2017 with Redmond Regional Medical Center in Rome, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health provides onsite assessments in the emergency departments of local hospitals for individuals presenting with behavioral health needs. These partnerships have proven highly effective in diverting individuals with behavioral health needs from more intensive and costly emergency crisis services and connecting them with community-based care when appropriate. Highland Rivers currently partners with three local hospitals in our 13-county service area to provide this collaborative service, with three additional hospitals interested in the same service. In FY23, the impacts of these partnerships to our communities and the state continue to be significant:

- 956 Assessments
- 50% of all cases were diverted
- 244 cases were self-pay (i.e. uninsured)
- Savings to state since 2017: approx. \$5M



A CRITICAL PARTNERSHIP WITH WELLSPRING LIVING

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health partners with Wellspring Living to provide clinical services and programming for youth in the Receiving Hope Center in Paulding County, Georgia's first intake center for trafficked and commercially sexually exploited youth. Operating since July 2020, we have served 203 unique youth. This program's collaborative funding, initiated through DBHDD COVID funds, had been set to end in June 2023; however the program proved so valuable that DBHDD has chosen to continue to fund it through its own budget.



DATA FROM THE MENTAL HEALTH STATISTICS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Georgia Network Results



Georgia Developmental Disabilities Satisfaction Survey	2021 NCI US	FY23 HRBH %
Do you like where you live?	90	95%
Are you satisfied with your job / day program?	92	98%
Can you see your friends when you want to?	79	95%
Do people at your work / day program / home treat you with respect?	93	98%
Do you get the services that you need?		98%
Are you happy with the staff and services you receive here?		100%
Do you feel safe at home?		98%
Is there someone you can go to when you feel afraid?	94	100%
Can you get help quickly when things go wrong at home?		98%

Every year, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health surveys those who receive services from our agency, including individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as adults, families and youth. Satisfaction levels among the individuals we serve consistently exceed national benchmarks (FY21 was the last year for which national benchmark data is available). We have also shared several comments received with the FY23 survey.

Behavioral Health Family and Youth Satisfaction Survey FY23	US Benchmark 2021	FY23 HRBH %
Satisfaction with Services	87%	90%
Access to Services	88%	94%
Participation in Treatment	89%	88%
Positive About Outcomes of Services	72%	76%
Improved Social Connectedness	88%	94%
Cultural Sensitivity of Service Providers	94%	92%
Overall Averages	86%	89%

Behavioral Health Adult Satisfaction Survey FY23	US Benchmarks 2021	FY23 HRBH %
Satisfaction with Services	88%	93%
Access to Services	87%	91%
Participation in Treatment	86%	89%
Quality and Appropriateness of Services	89%	92%
Positive About Outcome of Services	78%	84%
Improved Social Connectedness	78%	87%
Overall Averages	85%	89%



"This is a great program that has changed my life for the better. The staff here are very understanding and helpful."

"Having a neutral party to confide in who gives good strategies to help my child."

"They are very good at communication. I feel the workers will lead me towards the right way. They help me stay and remain focused & positive."

"Dr M and Kenneth both are great with my 2 children. I can call and they will see them."

"To us the services are great and the workers care."

"I came in just because - I'm so glad now though. Look forward to my classes and the staff so friendly!"

"They stayed with my son when he needed help."

"MMAC (Mothers Making a Change, women's residential substance use program) and its staff have helped me change my life. I can't imagine having been this successful without the knowledge and support of everyone that works here. I will never forget what I have learned and I can't wait to continue growing and sharing my progress with the world!"

"The support at school from (HRBH therapist) Kimberly. She has never given up on my child."

"They make you feel at home and make you feel like you can talk about anything you need to they do a good job."

"The staff here are very friendly and are willing to help me with the things I need."

"The staff is great! They really help! They're there when needed. I really enjoy being sober this place and the people in it make it worth it I feel worth it!"

"Highland Rivers services are a vital part of my life."



Recovery Stories







HEATHER'S STORY

I have been affected by mental illness since early childhood. I'm a person who lives with bipolar one, complex PTSD and intermittent explosive disorder. I'm contributing to our annual report in order to spread hope and to help break any stigma.

My life was a constant state of dramatic ups and downs, fights, shopping sprees, crying spells, suicide attempts, days without sleep followed by weeks in bed, pure chaos and misery. Arrests and drug use finally led me to get the help I needed. It took months in jail on medication before I started to feel what I imagined other people felt—calm, happy, peaceful—even in jail. The wrap-around support I received really saved my life and getting to know other people with my same issues was such a relief.

Today, I hold two jobs. I have put myself through trade school: I have balance in most of my days. I'm a grandmother of four with years off of drugs and ten-plus years of a clean record of no fights and arrests. I'm happy.

One of my jobs is in peer support, and I absolutely feel blessed to get to work in the field of mental health. Mental illness effects so many people and due to stigma and lack of education, many individuals like me don't often get the help they need early on. The effects can be devastating for individuals, families and communities. My ask from you today would be to speak up and speak out, educate yourselves and help spread awareness. You just might save a life.



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JAMES'S STORY

I am Georgia State-Certified Peer Specialist for behavioral health, and I am part of the Staff Sargent Fox Suicide Prevention Grant's Veteran Response Team at Highland Rivers Behavioral Health. As a United States Air Force veteran and a peer, I am able work with veterans who may be struggling mental health challenges.

Working as a peer specialist is very rewarding. Veterans are unique, and when we raise our right hand to take an oath to our country, we're taught to be a protector. This role often makes it difficult for veterans to open up about their personal circumstances. When peers talk about their own circumstances, veterans understand that they are not alone, and they do not need to be ashamed to talk about mental health and substance use issues.

The transition from military to civilian life can be hard. When in the military, we don't have to worry about rent or food—all that is paid for. When you get out, sometimes a veteran can be confused to as to what the next steps, and they may not know they're entitled to certain monies, benefits and services. -those type of things lead to depression, not knowing that there are these services available. There are certain things I was no not aware of working in this program has helped me to help others.

For me, as a person in long-term recovery, I had issues with trust, and it was hard for me to open up to another person. My support came through my church group where I began to open up, and then I elevated myself to being an ordained deacon. It's important to me to talk about my recovery and share my personal experience with other veterans. As someone who is in dual recovery, not only can I talk about behavioral health, but I also can offer a perspective of a lived experience.



FY23 Individuals Served









FY23 PERCENTAGE BY AGE SERVED

Age 66 +

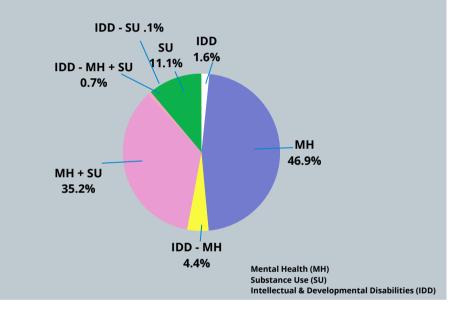
3.2%

Age 0-17

15.6%

Age 18-34

33.6%



Tunkey

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For crisis call Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) 1-800-715-4225.

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Age 35-65

47.6%

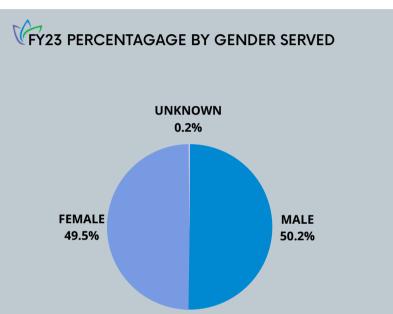


FY23 Individuals Served









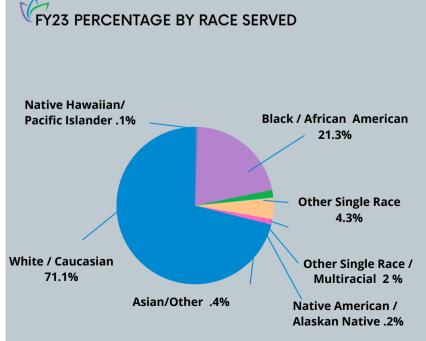


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FY2023 Investment & Revenue by Source







Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

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2023 INVESTMENT IN SERVICES BY PROGRAM AREA

Program	Investment
Crisis	\$20, 971,898
Adult Mental Health	\$12,816,600
Youth & Emerging Adult Mental Health	\$1,767,615
Outpatient (expense-based)	\$5,564,756
Addictive Disease Residential Treatment	\$5,276,747
Intensive Community & Veteran Programs	\$1,167,386
Adult Addictive Disease	\$3,549,122
Addictive Disease Other	\$1,513,970
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities	\$9,818,264
Peer Services	\$1,628,602
Residential Services	\$6,226,073
Department of Justice Programs	\$3,586,698
Community Rehabilitation and Wellness (expensed based)	\$1,209,766
TOTAL	\$75,097,497

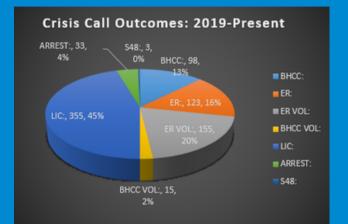
2023 REVENUE BY SOURCE

Program	Investment
DBHDD	\$42,046,752
Developmental Disabilities Waiver	\$7,718,748
Medicaid	\$6,475,680
Medicare	\$262,883
Transportation	\$230,393
Funding from Counties/Local	\$732,857
Client Fees	\$314,515
Other Fees	\$46,545
Commercial Insurance and VA	\$369,606
Contracts	\$18,465,275
Other Contract Revenue	\$1,132,376
TOTAL	\$77,795,630





EXPANDING CO-RESPONSE



COBB

PATH

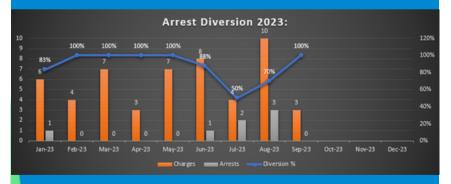
Partnership

for Assistance.

Treatment & Health

Outcomes 2019 - 2023:

- LIC Left in communit
- BHCC Transport to Behavioral Health Crisis Center (BHCC) on 1013
- ER Transport to ER on 1013
 BHCC VOL Voluntary
- transport to BHCC
- ER VOL Voluntary transport to ER
- Arrest Individual Arrested





Co-response programs pair a uniformed law enforcement officer with a licensed mental health clinician to respond to individuals in the community in behavioral health crisis. Coresponse teams are typically dispatched by the local 911 operator. Depending on the circumstances, the officer may affect an arrest, the clinician may order involuntary committal (1013), or in partnership, the co-response team may determine on-site mitigation precludes needing to do either.

Co-response programs have three primary goals: 1) to reduce arrest and incarceration rates for individuals with mental health concerns; 2) to reduce unnecessary transport of individuals with mental health concerns to local hospital emergency departments (EDs); and 3) to reduce use-of-force during responses involving individuals in behavioral health crisis by utilizing de-escalation techniques, if possible

When not dispatched on a 911 crisis call, the co-response team makes follow-up visits to persons they have seen previously in the community. Maintaining more frequent contact with individuals with complex needs that cause them to engage with law enforcement/EMS helps break the 'cycle of crisis.'

Cobb PATH (Partnership for Assistance, Treatment and Health) is a co-response between Highland partnership **Rivers** Behavioral Health and the Cobb County Police Department which has been in operation in the county since 2019. As the data graphics from the Cobb PATH program show (left), in the vast majority of cases, a situation can be mitigated onsite by the team, and the individual is able to remain in the community, or the individual is voluntarily admitted to an emergency department or crisis stabilization unit.

These compelling results -- along with growing public recognition that individuals with behavioral health needs are often not best served by the criminal justice system or incarceration -- has led to an increase in funding for co-response programs from a variety of interested sources. Such funding is allowing Highland Rivers to expand its co-response programs in partnership with several law enforcement agencies (*see Grants page*). Not only is Cobb County PD adding another coresponse team and a behavioral health clinician in its 911 center, Highland Rivers has been funded to establish co-response programs in Cherokee, Pickens and Catoosa counties.

Veterans Services



Highland Rivers Behavioral Health







In September 2022, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health was awarded a \$750,000 grant to enhance suicide prevention efforts among veterans and their families in Cherokee and Pickens counties. Awarded by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program (SSG Fox SPGP) is renewable at that amount for three years.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health, along with partner organizations of the Cherokee Veterans Mental Health Coalition – Cherokee County Homeless Veterans Program, Marietta Vet Center, and Center for the Advancement of Military and Emergency Services Research at Kennesaw State University – have created a unique and cohesive set of services for veterans, as well as enhanced community outreach and education.

As part of grant activities, Highland Rivers has created a community veteran response team with a clinician, case manager, and peer specialist - all of whom are veterans - that can be deployed anywhere in Cherokee or Pickens counties to respond to veterans in crisis. Recently notified of additional funding, Highland Rivers is working to expand the program into Cobb County.



The Green Zone in Baghdad is a location recognized by military personnel as a safe and secure place. Highland Rivers Behavioral Health developed the Green Zone Veterans Community Center focusing on the same idea: to provide veterans a place to come together in a safe environment.

To make a tax-deductable donation to the Green Zone initiative, contact Sherry McGee, Foundation Relations Officer, (706) 590-9238; sherrymcgee@highlandrivers.org.

GREEN ZONE VETERAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health continues to work with the Highland Rivers Foundation to develop funding resources for the Green Zone, a veteran-focused community center that will offer support and resources for veterans with mental health challenges or substance use disorders, as well as their families and significant others. The peer-led center will provide a supportive environment where veterans can find camaraderie with those who share similar military experiences, understand each other's challenges, and 'speak their language.'

The Green Zone will provide linkages to community partners as needed for housing, food and household assistance, clothing, transportation and other family needs. As a service of Highland Rivers Behavioral Health, veterans will also have expedient access to clinical treatment services, crisis intervention, residential treatment programs, clinical treatment groups, and family counseling.

Initial funding for the Green Zone is estimated to be \$1.4 million. It is a development priority for the Highland Rivers Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable foundation that is independent of Highland Rivers Behavioral Health, and includes capital costs to purchase a program facility, any necessary renovations, furnishings and office supplies, as well as outreach and promotion to local veterans. Sponsorship opportunities are available, including naming rights for the facility, group rooms and outdoor recreation areas.

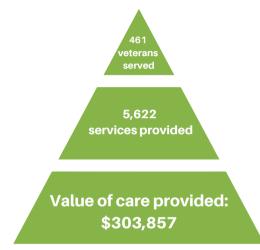
Veterans Services

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health



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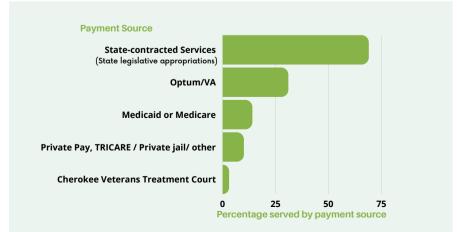
VETERANS SERVED



PAYMENT SOURCE

Veterans were enrolled in almost every level of care and service provided by Highland Rivers Behavioral Health including crisis, residential, outpatient, assertive community treatment, intensive case management, crisis respite apartments, supported employment, high utilization management, housing voucher and peer support services, as well as veterans court.

Fully 69% of the veterans we served received some level of state-contracted services. Georgia's statefunded Core services package provides a rich variety of options that allowed Highland Rivers to meet the unique needs of every veteran we served, regardless of their insurance status or their ability to pay.



Through Highland Rivers Behavioral Health Health, veterans have expedient access to clinical treatment services, crisis intervention and stabilization, residential treatment programs, clinical treatments groups, and family counseling.

The Highland Rivers Foundation is working towards building a free-standing "Green Zone" that will offer non-clinical support and peer services as well as expanded clinical services for veterans. To make a tax-deductable donation to the Green Zone initiative, contact Sherry McGee, Foundation Relations Officer, (706) 590-9238; sherrymcgee@highlandrivers.org.

The Highland Rivers Foundation

The Highland Rivers Foundation is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt charitable foundation that exclusively supports Highland Rivers Behavioral Health, one of Georgia's largest providers of treatment and recovery services for individuals with mental health disorders, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

As one of Georgia's safety-net providers, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health provides crucial behavioral health services to those who might otherwise be unable to receive the help they need: those with limited income, those who are uninsured or underinsured, or who have Medicaid, Medicare or other public insurance. For thousands of members of our community, Highland Rivers is the sole point of access for behavioral health services.





The need for community-based behavioral health services has never been more pressing. Not only has the pandemic impacted the mental health of millions of Americans of all ages, but a growing recognition that behavioral health challenges are common and treatable has resulted in unprecedented demand for recovery services.

Although Highland Rivers Behavioral Health is a state-designated agency, only about 40% of its funding comes directly from state service contracts. The remainder is generated through billing, some direct payment from those served (on an income-based sliding fee scale), and other service-related revenue. Nearly 90% of every dollar earned is invested directly into services, but in its commitment to truly fulfilling its mission, delivering uncompensated care also is a daily reality.

The Highland Rivers Foundation exists to help its namesake agency fill the funding gaps – to remove any remaining barriers to service for those in need, to expand and enhance services, to ensure that agency facilities are adequate for delivering care, and so much more. Your gift to the Foundation helps ensure our community's most vulnerable individuals and families continue to receive the help they need.

Toward that critical end, the Foundation's current funding and gift development priorities include:

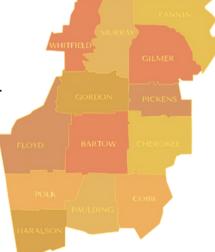
- Child and adolescent mental health services
- Crisis Stabilization Unit renovations
- The Green Zone veterans community center
- Mosaic Place addiction recovery support center
- Mothers Making a Change substance use treatment and recovery program
- Back-up generators for mission-critical facilities
- Personal care and household items
- Employee scholarship and mini-grant fund

Gifts to the Highland Rivers Foundation, whether monetary or inkind, are tax-deductible. Equally important, because Highland Rivers Behavioral Health is a large agency with a variety of programs and services, giving to the Highland Rivers Foundation allows donors the opportunity to be creative. Donors can direct their gifts to support the unique needs of certain populations, or programs within specific counties or regions. Your gift can stay right in your community, or can be used across our service area for longer-term priorities or emergent needs. No gift is too small and every gift can help change someone's life.

To make a tax-deductible financial or in-kind gift to the Highland Rivers Foundation, contact Kathleen Varda, Foundation Director, (678) 558-4847; kathleenvarda@highlandrivers.org; or Sherry McGee, Foundation Relations Officer, (706) 590-9238; sherrymcgee@highlandrivers.org.

Highland Rivers Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable foundation. All donations to the foundation are tax- deductible (Federal tax ID: 81-4628046). Learn more or donate securely online at: https://highlandriversfoundation.org.





Highland Rivers Behavioral Health's 13-county service area is home to nearly 1.8 million Georgians



Join our Impact.

Impact Snapshot

Hope Begins Here

THREE YEARS WITH UNIQUE CHALLENGES

The Highland Rivers Foundation has left a profound mark on our community, from renovating a women's and children's playground to replacing 104 mattresses in our facilities, offering REAL Life Kits to those experiencing homelessness, providing peer scholarships, and allocating funds for overdose prevention and substance use education.

These initiatives have collectively enriched the lives of countless individuals in our community, reflecting our unwavering commitment to fostering positive change.

\$17,500

Created a safe playground space at Womens Outreach

\$85,000

Continued education and certifications for individuals who have lived experience

\$140,000

Education,and training for the prevention of Overdose Death and the Education of Substance Use Disorder.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

700 Naloxone kits distributed to community members

500 REAL Life kits distributed

450 Deterra safe drug disposal systems distributed

350

Community members trained for Naloxone administration

140

Mattresses were replaced in our Crisis Stabilization Units and Men's Residential Recovery Program





FY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

PROGRAM FACT SHEETS



PROGRAMS & SERVICES OVERVIEW







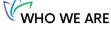


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> For scheduling, call 1-800-729-5700.

For crisis call Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) 1-800-715-4225.

To visit our website, scan the QR code or go to www.highlandrivers.org



We are a behavioral healthcare agency offering services for adults, youth, and families with mental health and addictive disease challenges as well as adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities. We area a public safety net provider serving individuals who have little to no financial resources, as well as veterans and persons with state and federal benefits such as Medicaid and Medicare. For individuals who are uninsured, our services are provided on a sliding fee scale based on income.

No one is denied services due to inability to pay, and we will work with you on a payment plan to best meet your needs and circumstances.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

We provide services to adults and youth experiencing mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, behavioral issues, poor impulse control and thoughts of harming themselves or others. Our substance use services provide treatment and illness management education-supporting the development of skills necessary to function in the community.

We begin with a comprehensive assessment of individual needs and strengths. Our treatment team of psychiatrists, nurses, therapists and counselors develop individualized, person-centered plans addressing the specific needs of individuals to assist them in meeting their recovery goals.



CRISIS SERVICES

We have four crisis stabilization units (CSUs) in Cobb, Floyd, Polk, and Whitfield counties that operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week as emergency receiving and evaluation facilities for adults age 18 and over. Our CSUs offer support to individuals who need immediate assessment and/or a temporary, monitored stay-providing the opportunity for detox and behavioral stabilization. Our goal is to assure individuals receive the services needed in times of crisis, to link them to important ongoing services, and to develop a person-centered plan to prevent crises in the future.



Our youth programs address the social and emotional needs of individuals in mental health and substance use recovery. Youth-guided and family-driven programs encourage selfexploration and growth and teach early recovery skills, alternative decision making, coping skills, and age-appropriate life skills.

INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

We assist adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities with supports that promote personal choice and community inclusion. We work to improve individuals' activities of daily life and to enhance quality of life through exercise, education, arts and crafts, and recreational/leisure activities.

Our Supported Employment program works with individuals to identify skills for competitive employment. Family Supports offers supports like respite, personal care items, and special dietary supplies for individuals with an IDD.



PROGRAMAS Y SERVICIOS









Sirviendo las comunidades de Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, y Whitfield.

Para programar una cita llamar al 1-800-729-5700 si está atravesando una crisis de salud mental/conductual, por favor llama a la línea de crisis y acceso de Georgia (GCAL) 1-800-715-4225

www.highlandrivers.org



Nosotros somos a una agencia de salud mental/conductual que ofrece servicios para adultos, jóvenes y familias con retos de salud mental/conductual y enfermedades de adicción, así como también para adultos con discapacidades del desarrollo/intelectuales. Nosotros somos una agencia pública con resguardos de seguridad sirviendo a individuos que tienen pocos o no recursos financieros, así como también a veteranos y personas con beneficios federales y estatales, tales como Medicaid y Medicare. Para Individuos sin seguro médico el costo de servicios es determinado mediante tarifas fijas, usando una escala de porcentaje basada en su ingreso.

No se le negaran servicios a nadie debido a su inhabilidad de pago y trabajaremos con usted para formular un plan de pago que reúna sus necesidades y circunstancias.

SERVICIOS DE CRISIS

Nosotros tenemos cuatro unidades de estabilización (CSUs) en los condados de Cobb, Floyd, Polk, Y Whitfield respectivamente, las cuales operan 24 horas al día, siete días a la semana, ingresando casos de emergencias y evaluaciones mentales/conductuales para adultos de 18 años en adelante. Nuestras unidades de estabilización de crisis ofrecen apoyo para quienes necesiten una evaluación inmediata y/o estadía monitorizada de plazo temporario para estabilización mental y desintoxicación de sustancias.

Nuestra meta es asegurarnos de que cada individuo reciba los servicios necesarios durante un estado de crisis, para vincularlos con servicios respectivos y continuos también para planificar un plan de cuidado individualizado basado en las necesidades y aspiraciones del individuo de acuerdo a sus circunstancias y para prevenir crisis en el futuro.

SALUD MENTAL

Nosotros proveemos servicios para adultos y jóvenes afrontando problemas de salud mental, tales como depresión, ansiedad, trastorno bipolar, esquizofrenia, trastorno de estrés post-traumático, problemas de comportamiento, trastorno de control de impulso, y pensamientos de hacerle daño a los demás o a sí mismo. Nuestros servicios de tratamiento de abuso de sustancias proveen educación estratégica desenvolviendo el desarrollo de tácticas necesarias para el funcionamiento en la comunidad. Nosotros iniciamos con una evaluación comprensiva tomando en cuenta sus fortalezas y necesidades individuales. Nuestro equipo de tratamiento compuesto por psiquiatras, enfermeros, terapistas y consejeros, desarrollan un plan de tratamiento individualizado centrados en la persona el cual es formulado/basado en las necesidades específicas del individuo para asistirles a reunir sus metas de recobro.



Nuestro programa juvenil toma en cuenta las necesidades sociales y emocionales del individuo en proceso de recuperación de salud mental y uso de sustancias.

El programa implementa las aportaciones de los jóvenes y sus familias las cuales fomentan autoexploración y crecimiento personal y facilita herramientas para una temprana recuperación, tomar decisiones alternativas, herramientas de adaptación y estrategias de vida apropiadas de acuerdo a su edad.

C

Nosotros asistimos a adultos con discapacidades intelectuales y del desarrollo con apoyos que promueven opciones personales e inclusión en la comunidad. Trabajamos para superar las actividades de la vida diaria y para mejorar la calidad de vida a través de ejercicio, educación, arte, manualidades y actividades de recreación.

Nuestro programa de apoyo de empleo trabaja con individuos para identificar herramientas estratégicas para un empleo competitivo. Apoyo familiar ofrece apoyos como de intermisión, artículos de cuidado personal y suministro de dietas especiales para individuos con Discapacidades Intellectuales y Del Desarrollo.













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For scheduling, call 1-800-729-5700.

Intellectual/Developmental Disabilties lost Homes also include Douglas, Dade, and Catoosa counties.

Visit our www.highlandrivers.org for IDD referral forms



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our Outpatient Services for adults and youth assist individuals who may experience mental health challenges such as depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, poor impulse control, and/or thoughts of harming oneself or others. We assist those with substance use disorders through treatment, illness management education, and community supports. We begin with a comprehensive assessment of individual needs and strengths. Our treatment team of psychiatrists, nurses, therapists and counselors develop individualized, person-centered plans addressing the specific needs of individuals to assist in meeting their recovery goals. Our agency is a public safety net provider serving individuals who have little to no financial resources, and persons with state and federal benefits such as Medicaid and Medicare. For individuals who are uninsured, our services are provided on a sliding fee scale based on income.

GROUP COUNSELING & TRAINING

Individuals who choose group counseling can develop tools to achieve independent living through skills training-discussing topics like coping, social skills, empowerment, healthy living and recovery/wellness.

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY THERAPY

Our individual therapy programs identify any barriers or ongoing concerns that hinder an individual from functioning within the role he/she has in daily life. Family therapy is used to assist individuals in problem-solving skills that impact relationships with family members. Our sessions strive to improve communication and provide conflict resolution.

CASE MANAGEMENT

We assist adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities with supports that promote personal choice and community inclusion. We work to improve individuals' activities of daily life and to enhance quality of life through exercise, education, arts and crafts, and recreational/leisure activities. Our Supported Employment program works with individuals to identify skills for competitive employment. Family Supports offers supports like respite, personal care items, and special dietary supplies for individuals with an IDD.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES

We provide services for incarcerated and court-involved adults with a mental illness or substance-related disorders including assessment and evaluation, court interfacing, individual counseling, linkage and referral, and medication monitoring.



PEER SUPPORT

We provide services for incarcerated and court-involved adults with a mental illness or substance-related disorders including assessment and evaluation, court interfacing, individual counseling, linkage and referral, and medication monitoring.



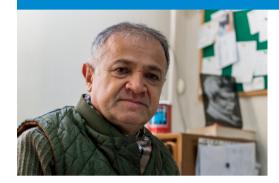
HEALTHCARE PHARMACY

We have a number of on-site pharmacy services throughout our agency. Ask your clinician which one is nearest you.













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For crisis call Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) 1-800-715-4225.

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our substance use treatment is based upon the American Society of Addiction Treatment (ASAM) philosophy that addiction is a treatable chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual's life experiences. Selfdetermination and self-direction are the foundations for recovery as individuals define their own life goals and path towards those goals. We provide a comprehensive, integrative array of personcentered substance use and mental health services (co-occurring) to adults ages 18 years of age and older. We offer best practice, abstinence-based protocols, based on an individualized service plan. Referrals for case management and medical needs are also a part of our integrated program.

WHAT WE OFFER

Individual Therapy: Provides a safe space to Identify and process barriers or concerns that hinder an individual from functioning in sobriety and healthy roles.

Group Counseling (Intensive & Non-intensive): We provide individuals with a safe zone to develop skills and tools to achieve abstinence. Discussion topics include healthy coping, social skills, trauma, stress and anger management, diet and health, wellness, elimination of stereotypes, and empowerment.

Family Therapy (intensive & Non-Intensive): Conjoint family sessions are safe places that assist individuals to process the roles and relationships with family members. We provide education to help identify the consequences of addictive behaviors including how to address legal issues, child concerns, and medical issues. We educate on family systems and assist family members to develop goals while embracing the benefits of abstinence from substance use.

Substance Use Counseling & Education (Intensive & Non-Intensive): We provide psycho-education on the neurobiological, social, environmental and genetic factors and processes that occur during addiction and promote healing from substance use and mental health challenges. We offer brain health education; design coping tools of medication assisted treatment (MAT); and offer diet, exercise, stress, and anger management skills -utilizing best practice interventions.

Sober Support-Abstinence Tools: Our program assists with linkage and referrals to community programs of support including Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Al-a-Teen, Nar-Anon, Celebrate Recovery, and National Alliance on Mental Illness, (NAMI). We support our individual's choices in other secular, faith and community based programs of support.

Relapse Prevention Skills: We focus on coping skills that assist with the implementation of tools that reduce stigma and foster empowerment, with an emphasis on utilization of best practice interventions that are abstinence-based to address base causes and consequences of chemical use.

Communication Skills: In the progressive addiction phase, challenges like anger, violence, trauma, environmental, and social factors are just a few of the issues that present in ongoing addictive behavior patterns. We assist with providing a safe space for individuals to release and process concerns and self-manage negative to positive thoughts and feelings.

Stress Management Skills: Our program offers interventions to self-manage stressors using assistance of the group and in the individual sessions. We will help identify psychological and physical signs and symptoms of stress, and provide coping tools to manage barriers to sobriety to promote long-term recovery.

Anger Management Skills: The program utilizes brain education to provide information to assist individuals in program to identify signs and/or symptoms that trigger and or increase anger. We take into consideration history of chemical use, progression of substance use and duration of use and abstinence. We offer therapeutic coping tools that provide avenues in recovery to self- regulate feelings.

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT): We offer the oral form of Naltrexone-safe for most individuals struggling with cravings from alcohol and/or opioids. We recommend scheduling a doctor appointment to assess need and protocols of care.

Criminal Justice Services: We offer services for incarcerated and court-involved adults with substance related and mental health disorders. We complete assessment and evaluation, court interfacing, individual and group therapy linkage and referrals, and medication monitoring.

















Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

For scheduling, call 1-800-729-5700.

For crisis call Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) 1-800-715-4225.

To visit our website, scan the QR code or go to www.highlandrivers.org

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We understand that people in crisis need immediate assistance. Our Crisis Stabilization Units (CSUs) located in Cobb, Floyd, Polk, and Whitfield counties serve a 17-county area 24 hours a day, seven days a week and offer support to individuals who need immediate assessment and care. CSU services provide psychiatric stabilization and detoxification for adults age 18 and over on a short-term basis as emergency receiving and evaluation facilities. Individuals seeking mental health or substance use services may walk into our CSUs and receive an initial assessment, regardless of your ability to pay.

This service is available for individuals who are in crisis, urgent, or routine need who walk-in on their own, are brought in by family or friends, or are under the custody of law enforcement. Our CSUs are not medical hospitals but rather a place where individuals receive diagnostic evaluation by a treatment team of compassionate experts including a physician, a registered nurse, and a case manager. If the evaluation finds treatment is needed, an individual can be admitted to the CSU on a voluntary or involuntary basis.

THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT & AFTER

The initial assessment provides us with information in order to better determine the level of care and service that is needed. Our goal is to reduce or resolve the crisis and/or provide a higher level of care. After assessment, if an individual is in need of a higher level of care and cannot be released to go back to his or her living environment, we can voluntarily or involuntarily admit him or her into the CSU. Individuals typically stay in a crisis unit for about one week. Our Plan of Care is comprehensive and involves the individual in need of care, the clinical staff, and a pathway to recovery through our outpatient and other services once the crisis has subsided.

We are a public safety net provider serving individuals who have little to no financial resources, as well as veterans and persons with State and Federal benefits such as Medicaid and Medicare. For individuals who are uninsured, our services are provided on a sliding fee scale based on income. No one is denied services due to inability to pay, and we will work with you on a payment plan to best meet your needs and circumstances.

OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY / 7 DAYS A WEEK

Behavioral Health Crisis Center at Cobb 1758 County Services Parkway Marietta, GA 30008

Crisis Stabilization Unit at Floyd 1 Woodbine Ave. Rome, GA 30165 Crisis Stabilization Unit at Polk 180 Water Oak Drive Cedartown, GA 30125

Crisis Stabilization Unit at Whitfield 900 Shugart Road Dalton, Georgia 30720





INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL **DISABILITIES SERVICES**









Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

For scheduling, call 1-800-729-5700.

Intellectual/Developmental Disabilties Host Homes also include Douglas, Dade, and Catoosa counties.

Visit our www.highlandrivers.org for IDD referral forms



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We work with individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) to support increasing their community presence and participation, valued social roles and contribution of choice in decisions over their life goals. Our programs focus on community activities that individuals enjoy: helping them discover common interests with others.

Community participation helps develop relationships with natural supports and promotes discovering the individual's unique gifts, strengths, skills, and talents. We are a Medicaid enrolled provider of the Comprehensive (COMP) and New Options Waivers (NOW) that deliver a continuum of care array of services to support individuals with IDD in their communities of choice. We are a contracted provider with the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) to provide additional IDD services to individuals who are not enrolled in a Medicaid Waiver.

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL ALTERNATIVE SUPPORTS

Our residential services are for individuals who require formal supports 24 hours a day/7 days per week. Our residential homes are staffed to provide a range of supports and training for daily living skills. These services occur in certified Host Homes.

COMMUNITY ACCESS SERVICES

Our Community Access Services are individually planned to meet the person's needs and preferences for active community participation. This service may be provided in group actitivies or individually one-on-one. The services are designed to be teaching and coaching in nature and assist in acquiring, retaining, or improving socialization and networking, independent use of community resources, and adaptive skills required for active community participation outside of the individual's place of residence.



FAMILY SUPPORT

Family Support is a state-funded resource serving individuals 3 years old and up with IDD who are not enrolled in the NOW or COMP waiver. This program arranges disability-specific services related to each individual and family's unique needs. It's based on the value that families belong together, and individuals are best served in the community setting. These supports meet every day needs that are often critical in avoiding family crises.

Veterans Services



Highland Rivers Behavioral Health







Through Highland Rivers Behavioral Health Health, veterans have expedient access to clinical treatment services, crisis intervention and stabilization, residential treatment programs, clinical treatments groups, and family counseling.

The Highland Rivers Foundation is working towards building a free-standing "Green Zone" that will offer non-clinical support and peer services as well as expanded clinical services for veterans. To make a tax-deductable donation to the Green Zone initiative, contact Sherry McGee, Foundation Relations Officer, (706) 590-9238; sherrymcgee@highlandrivers.org.

WE SALUTE YOUR SERVICE

If you have served in the United States armed forces, you may have had unique and sometimes unimaginable experiences that result in a need for behavioral healthcare services. Highland Rivers Behavioral Health provides mental health and substance use recovery services tailored specifically to the unique needs and experiences of veterans.

WHAT WE OFFER

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health services for veterans include:

- Crisis intervention and stabilization
- Psychiatric and health assessment
- Outpatient, group and/or peer counseling for PTSD, prolonged exposure, military sexual trauma (MST) and couples therapy
- Outpatient and residential substance use recovery
- Assertive Community Treatment
- Intensive Case Management
- Community Support Services
- Home for Recovery and other housing assistance
- Supported Employment
- Linkage and referral to community resources
- Referral to services for family members

YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT

When you call us for the first time, a member of our team will take your basic information and arrange a time for you to come in. Highland Rivers designs an individual treatment program for every veteran. In order to develop the best treatment plan for you, your initial appointments will focus on assessing your needs, strengths and goals for recovery. Then you will be scheduled for regular visits with a therapist and/or for other services depending on your needs and preferences.

To schedule an appointment, call Highland Rivers Behavioral Health toll-free at: (800) 729-5700 (Note this is a non-emergency contact; calls received after-hours will be returned the next business day.)

If you need crisis services after hours or on weekends and are not yet enrolled in Highland Rivers Behavioral Health services, call the Georgia Crisis and Access Line: (800) 715-4225.



PROGRAMS FOR MOTHERS, EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND WOMEN WITH SUBSTANCE USE CHALLENGES









Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

For Mothers, Expectant Mothers and Women's programs contact:

Cobb: 678-793-8849 Floyd: 706-291-7201

To visit our website, scan the QR code or go to www.highlandrivers.org



Highland Rivers Behavioral Health has two residential treatment and recovery programs for women with substance use disorders: our Mothers Making a Change program in Cobb County and our Women's Outreach program in Floyd County. Priority is given to pregnant women, but services are also for postpartum women and/or those working on reunification with children, as well as women without children. These programs offer hope, love, and assistance for women in recovery by removing substance use as a barrier to employment and living in the community. Services support women in achieving abstinence, maintaining recovery, avoiding illegal activity and meeting parenting responsibilities. The program also provides supports to help women obtain employment and transition into safe and stable housing. Children 13 or younger are allowed to stay with their mothers while they are in residential treatment, and therapeutic child care is available to them.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health is a public safety net provider serving individuals who have little to no financial resources, as well as veterans and persons with state and federal benefits such as Medicaid and Medicare. For individuals who are uninsured, our services are provided on a sliding fee scale based on income. No one is denied services due to inability to pay, and we will work with you on a payment plan to best meet your needs and circumstances.

WHAT WE OFFER

Our women's programs are highly structured, gender-specific, and trauma responsive. We offer intensive services to pregnant women and women who have substance use disorders. (Priority admission is given to pregnant females and IV users). We also provide outpatient and residential treatment and accommodations for individuals in Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). Individuals are empowered to maintain their recovery, resolve legal obligations, obtain and maintain employment, and meet parental responsibilities.

We make referrals for safe, affordable housing and work with the Department of Family & Children Services (DFCS) and the courts to safely transition children back into the care of their mothers, as appropriate. Here are a few of our services:

- Individual counseling
- Group training/counseling
- Couples/family sessions
- Case management
- Family education
- Random urinalysis drug screens
- Evidence-based practices



Life skills groups

Psychiatric services

Healthcare literacy

HIV/AIDS/HEP C testing & education

Matrix model curriculum

Accommodations for medication assisted treatment

[™]THERAPEUTIC CHILD CARE (TCC)

Therapeutic Child Care provides services only to the children of women with substance use disorders who participate in our women's residential treatment program. This nurturing environment for children ages birth through five years offers a healing atmosphere for children to cope with traumatic issues that may surface.



JOB READINESS

We teach strategies for resume development, interviewing, job searches, obtaining and maintaining employment, and conducting individual self-assessments. We offer basic computer skills courses, customer-relations training, and conflict resolution training.



PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH & EMERGING ADULTS









Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health offers mental health and substance use services for youth, their families and emerging adults. We provide assessment and therapy for youth and families at our outpatient services and offer programs that address behavioral health challenges. For youth in need of 24-hour substance use care, we offer residential services facilitated by a team of experts. Our agency is a public safety net provider serving individuals who have little to no financial resources, and persons with State and Federal benefits such as Medicaid and Medicare. For individuals who are uninsured, our services are provided on a sliding fee scale based on income.

OUTPATIENT SERVICES

Our outpatient mental healthcare services include one-to-one counseling to help youth and emerging adults recover from mental health challenges such as depression, anxiety and mood disorders, as well as grief, trauma, and more complex problems such as schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders. Family members can be included at the individual's request, and family involvement is encouraged to enhance improvement in family functioning and assist in maintaining recovery goals and objectives.

APEX SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH

The Georgia APEX Project provides school-based mental health services to referred students in participating schools grades K-12. Students can experience traumatic events during their childhood that lead to anxiety, depression, grief, self-injurious behavior, substance use, and/or suicidal thoughts. Some students show difficulty adjusting to a new school or the learning environment. The APEX staff work closely with school staff to identify the needs of students and link them with appropriate services. Some of the services provided within the school setting include assessment, diagnostic evaluation, individual, family, and group therapy and case management/community support.

MENTAL HEALTH CLUBHOUSES

We offer two youth mental health clubhouses: ROC (Reaching Our Community) in Bartow County and Bright Changes Clubhouse in Cobb County. We provide a safe environment during the after-school hours and during summer where kids can engage in social activities and community engagement. Club members receive case management, therapeutic services, age-appropriate life skills, homework support, career exposure, and hobbies.



SUBSTANCE USE RECOVERY CLUBHOUSES

Our substance use recovery clubhouses (T.E.A.M.- Together Everyone Achieves More in Cobb County and Choices Clubhouse in Floyd County) are where youth ages 13-17 can learn recovery and coping skills in an effort to prevent the continued use of psychoactive substances. Our services include social activities, educational and employment support services, community engagement, peer and family support, and relapse prevention services.









SUBSTANCE USE RECOVERY RESIDENTIAL

The George W. Hartmann Center is a co-ed, substance use disorder recovery residence for youth ages 13-17. We provide 24-hour supervised living and recovery services in a therapeutic environment and an accredited educational curriculum.



SYSTEM OF CARE/FAMILY SUPPORT FUNDS Fact Sheet









Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

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The Georgia System of Care Enhancement and Expansion (SOC-EE) program provides funding support for Tier 1 providers like Highland Rivers Behavioral Health and community organizations to provide direct services and supports; supplement expansion of youth and family voice; provide training on system of care-related topics; and work collaboratively with other agencies, organizations and community providers to support SOC efforts statewide. The program is supported and administered by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Office of Children, Young Adults & Families (OCYF). Services and supports provided for youth age (4 years old) through age 26.

🐊 SYSTEM OF CARE (SOC) DEFINED

System of Care is an organizational framework for how a behavioral health services and supports delivery system should perform. A system of care is a spectrum of effective, community-based services and supports for children and youth with or at risk for mental health or other challenges and their families organized into a coordinated network. SOC builds meaningful partnerships with families and youth and addresses their cultural and linguistic needs in order to help them function better at home, in school, in the community, and throughout life.

🕞 GEORGIA SYSTEM OF CARE GOALS

The State of Georgia's SOC goals are to improve outcomes for children, young adults, and families who are managing serious mental health challenges and/or substance use concerns by focusing on social determinants such as education, employment, social connectedness, accessing behavioral health services, resiliency, and vocational/independence development.













EXAMPLES OF TYPES OF SUPPORT

• Fees for Drivers

• Vehicle Repair

Assistance

License

Grocerv

- Karate
- Summer Camps
- **Culinary class**
- Music Class
- **Equine Therapy**
 - **Music Class** RENT ASSISTANCE

These are examples of previous approvals and are not all inclusive

WHO CAN REFER?

Anyone internally within Highland Rivers Behavioral Health or external community partners can make referrals for SOC funding supports; all external referrals are reviewed on a case by case basis.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Population served are children, young adults up to the age of 26 and their respective families
- Request must align with individual goals and the intent for funding request should be to improve treatment outcomes
- Amount of referral cannot exceed \$400 without approval directly from DBHDD
- · SOC coordinator will review all request and will give approval or denial within a 72 HR period
- · Services are for a max of 90 days after which the family will take over payments for the service provided
- If parent cannot resume payments after 90 days has elapsed, the family may not be a good fit for these supports

HOW REFERRALS ARE MADE

- Internal referrals are made by submitting a request through Carelogic indicating the reasoning for funding request and amount being requested
- Once requests are submitted, they are reviewed by the SOC Coordinator for approval. Request will be approved or denied within 72 hours of submission
- Once request has been approved, SOC Coordinator will provide instructions to referring person on what the recipient needs to do to redeem service.

PLEASE AVOID PROMISING SERVICES AS THEY ARE NOT GUARANTEED













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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Students can experience traumatic events during their childhood that lead to anxiety, depression, grief, self-injurious behavior, substance use, and/or suicidal thoughts. Some students show difficulty adjusting to a new school or the learning environment. Mental health challenges are common among youth, and the first signs of mental or emotional problems often can appear at school. Children and adolescents with unmet mental health needs can struggle academically, sometimes missing school, receiving lower grades, and often dropping out altogether.

The Georgia APEX Project provides school-based mental health services to referred students in participating schools grades K-12. The APEX staff work closely with school staff to identify the needs of students and link them with appropriate services. Some of the services provided within the school setting include assessment, diagnostic evaluation, individual, family and group therapy, and case management/community support.

SCHOOL-BASED PARTNERSHIPS

APEX staff work closely with school staff to identify the needs of students and link them with appropriate services. This school collaboration provides families with streamlined access to mental health services and serves to help improve academics, behavior, school attendance, and ultimately, graduation rates.

Parents and school staff can make referrals to the school's counselor or social worker, who then refer the student to the APEX therapist. There is an online referral form completed by the counselor/social worker and emailed to the therapist. Upon receipt of the referral form, the therapist would initiate contact with the family within one day.

YOUTH-CENTERED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

APEX services are youth centered and family focused with an emphasis on accessible and individualized treatment for young people and their families. Services may include the following:

- Behavioral Health Assessment
- Psychiatric & Nursing Assessment
- Individual and Family Counseling
- Community Support Services
- Medication Management
- Referral Linkage
- Resource Coordination



HOW IT WORKS

Through the Georgia APEX Project, Highland Rivers Behavioral Health provides mental health professionals onsite at elementary, middle, or high schools (check with your local school district to see if APEX is in your school). In partnership with school staff, Highland Rivers' therapists will assess and identify a student's mental health needs and determine how best to meet his or her individual needs. Appointments can be scheduled during the school day, before or after school, or at home, if desired. Services provided in school are during non-core academic time, and all efforts are made to support academic goals.



SUBSTANCE USE RESIDENTAL RECOVERY FOR YOUTH At the George W. Hartmann Center









Serving Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield counties.

For the George W. Hartmann Center program information and referrals, call 770.971.7801.



To visit our website, scan the QR code or go to www.highlandrivers.org



Highland Rivers Behavioral Health offers hope to teens with substance use disorder at its long-term substance use recovery program, the George W. Hartmann Center. Located in Marietta, GA, the Hartmann Center is a structured, trauma informed ASAM (American Society of Addiction Medicine) Level 3.5 program for adolescents, ages 13 -17 that provides 24-hour, supervised, planned living and recovery services in a therapeutic environment. We offer comprehensive assessments, individualized treatment planning, substance use recovery groups, individual/family counseling, life - skills group, recreational activities, psychiatric and nursing services, and an accredited educational curriculum.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health is a public safety net provider serving individuals who have little to no financial resources, and persons with state and federal benefits such as Medicaid and Medicare. The Hartmann Center accepts referrals from various sources including the Department of Juvenile Justice, DFCS, individuals and families, and other treatment providers.

CLINICAL SERVICES

The Hartmann Center provides treatment and support to adolescents through a highly structured therapeutic community. The program is designed to address substance use, underlying emotional/traumatic issues and other needs/deficits within the whole person.

This comprehensive approach utilizes a continuum of services and therapeutic learning interventions designed to promote healthy social functioning. Opportunities are provided for individuals to participate in group therapy, individual therapy, multi-family education, family counseling, chemical dependency education, cultural social recreational and spiritual activities. The recovery program is based on the Matrix (evidence-based) and also utilizes a cognitive behavioral approach to therapy. Group therapy is provided Monday – Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Hartmann Center believes that addiction is a family disease; therefore, the whole family should be educated. Multi-family education is offered three times a month to help families understand the cycle of addiction and teach methods to manage and support their youth through the recovery process.



EDUCATION VIA MARIETTA CITY SCHOOLS

All individuals are offered an on-site educational opportunity while residing at the Hartmann Center. This is facilitated by highly qualified educators from Marietta City Schools through the academic online program Edgenuity. Through our educational component, students have the opportunity to accrue and/or recover high school credit.

When there is a disruption in the education program day, students are allowed to makeup time before school begins and/or following therapeutic groups. Education is an important component of the George W. Hartmann Center's program; therefore, all students are to actively participate and put forth their best efforts.



FY2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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