

# Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative





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## About the Resilient Georgia Regional Grants

[Resilient Georgia](#) has been working with 16 regions across Georgia to provide an emphasis on trauma-informed awareness and care, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and child sexual abuse prevention training as a basis to transform systems and procedures crossing both public and private sectors.

- Resilient Georgia serves as a supportive and guiding resource during each region's planning and implementation process.
- These regional action plans each address the behavioral health needs of individuals birth through 26 years old and families in the community and surrounding counties using the Collective Impact framework (a diverse, robust, and well-planned public-private partnership).
- Trauma-Informed Care, ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and child sexual abuse prevention can be the basis for systemic changes in a community. Each region has identified how one or more of these content areas are delivered to diverse community members through formal training, education, marketing, and communications.
- Round 1 grants were awarded in November 2019 to regional coalitions based out of Athens, Augusta, Macon, Savannah, and surrounding areas. Round 2 grants were awarded in July 2020 to regional coalitions based out of Albany, Columbus, Rome, Thomasville, and surrounding areas. Round 3 grants were awarded in March 2021 to regional coalitions based out of Clayton, Cobb, Gwinnett, Valdosta, and surrounding areas. Round 4 funding was awarded in December 2021 to regional coalitions based out of Atlanta, Brunswick, Gainesville, and Waycross and the surrounding areas.

## Coalition Mission

To lead a state-wide coalition to develop a closely aligned and trauma-informed public and private network working toward a united vision to create a birth through 26-year-old integrated behavioral health system. Key components to be implemented by our partners include prevention, early intervention, research, advocacy and policy, and System of Care implementation and coordination. Visit our website to learn more at <https://www.resilientga.org/mission> and follow us on Facebook ([@resilientga](#)) and Instagram ([@resilientgeorgia](#)).



## Summary

The Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative (ACSRI) is the name given to our **cross-sector engagement strategy** to raise awareness of (and prevent) trauma in the Clayton County community.

The Aligning Community Systems for Resilience Initiative consists of the following:

- Engage Servant Leaders and Trusted Messengers as Core Partners to tell the story
- Discuss and define the need to **raise awareness of (and prevent) adverse childhood experiences (ACES)** and **trauma** in its many forms
- Core partners **engage their respective circles of influence** to; **1) raise awareness** of ACES & trauma in our community; **2) engage new partners** and **3) promulgate training and capacity building resources**
- Agencies, organizations, and **Clayton stakeholders from various sectors work collaboratively** to develop a countywide strategy **to prevent childhood trauma**

## Leadership Team and Contributors

### **Public Sector Contributors**

**Danielle Smith\***

*Deputy County Tax Commissioner*

**Lisa Wood\***

*County Tax Commissioners Office*

**Charles Brooks \***

*County Solicitor*

**Chief Kevin Roberts**

*Chief Clayton County Police*

**Dr. Aleika Anderson**

*School Board Member Clayton Public Schools*

### **Faith Based Contributors**

**Pastor Kenneth Paden**

*President, Forest Park Ministers Association*

**Pastor Michelle Clinkscates**

*The Rock Church*

**Pastor Michael Clinkscates**

*The Rock Church*

### **Business Contributors**

**Tamika Summers**



*President/Owner, Georgia Counseling Inc.*

***Pastor Emmett McCord***

*President Airport Rotary*

***Non-Profit Contributors***

***Coty Martin***

*Founder, President Adversity University*

***Kristen Coleman***

*Counselor, Youth Advocate*

***Angel Young***

*Community Based Initiative Director for GCAPP (Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential)*



Coalition Partners with pictures





## Message from the Principal Investigator

Project year 2023 was extremely challenging for some members of our project team. The theme of “resilience” became much more than a notion. “Resilience” became the guiding principle for a form a self-talk that would confirm (and rea-affirm) our commitment to individual and community healing.

## Key Impacts/Accomplishments

Among the key accomplishments for ACSRI Project years 1 and 2, was our ability to raise awareness of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) through catalytic conversations within and among small groups of servant leaders and constituents. In communities like Clayton, where trauma is so incredibly pervasive, the concept of trauma (and the lived experiences therein) can be normalized. In small group meetings in restaurants, homes, and churches throughout Clayton, the ACSRI project team curated safe spaces for community leaders to reflect on what ACES are, how they show up in our lives and the lives of our family members and constituents, and how we can respond as a community. These conversations often translated into a call to action and provided the fodder needed to feed our movement through difficult times.

A core element of ACSRI, was the diffusion of the Community Resilience Model (CRM) and Connections Matter Training opportunities throughout the Clayton Community. The ACSRI project team prioritized youth serving organizations and youth facing staff that work with vulnerable youth. Despite several obstacles, the ACSRI Project Team provided CRM training to 14 vulnerable youth serving community partners in collaboration with Rainbow House Child Advocacy Center. Project partner, Tamika Summers, President of Georgia Counseling Inc, provided the training and the feedback from participants was extremely favorable.

Following a series of introductory and exploratory meetings culminating with a meeting with the Chief Judge Beitra Burney-Butler, the ACSRI project Team successfully partnered with the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy to deliver Connections Matter Training to 18 Juvenile Court staff members which included probation officers. Following a series of difficult obstacles and setbacks, the ACSRI project team anticipates that the relationship with the Clayton County Juvenile Courts will provide further opportunities to strengthen the continuum of ACES prevention support in Clayton.

Engaging the faith community is a strategic priority for the ACSRI Project Team. Team members crafted a tailored message for faith community leaders, as a vehicle for garnering support for our efforts and raising awareness of ACES. Project partners provided an opportunity for ACSRI



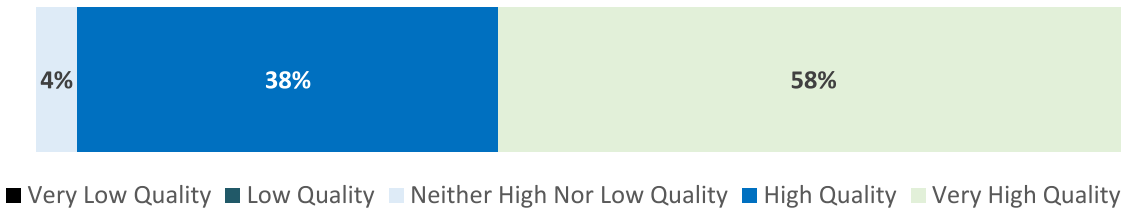
project team members to present the project to leaders of the faith community in and around Forest Park at the Forest Park Ministerial Alliance Meeting. Through our collective efforts, we successfully coordinated (and delivered) Connections Matter Training to 54 members of the faith community at the Rock Church in Forest Park in January of this year. The training generated significant interest in our work and the opportunity to identify potential partners.



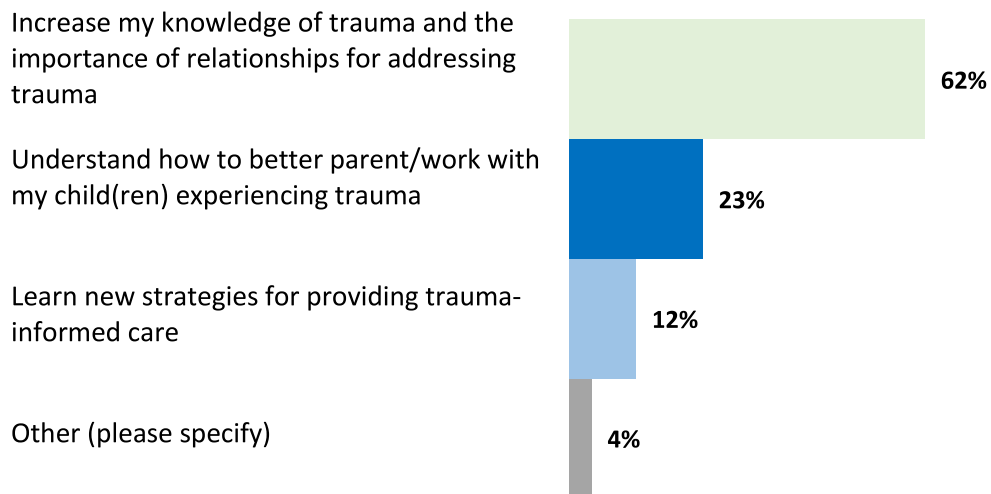


The following section provides survey feedback and evaluation results for Connections Matter Trainings:

96% of participants rated the Connections Matter training as either "High Quality or "Very High Quality"



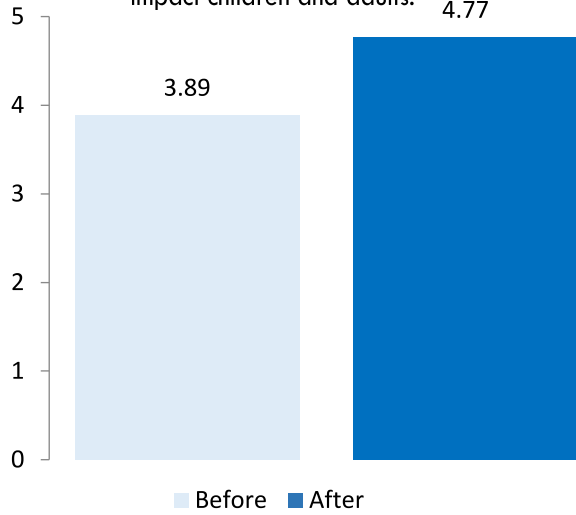
Most Connections Matter participants (62%) were hoping to increase their knowledge on trauma and the importance of relationships.



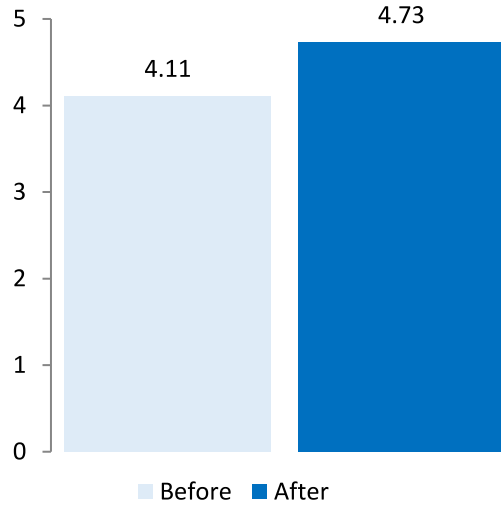
Connections Matter participants rated their knowledge of the following concepts before the training on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being Not at all Knowledgeable and 5 being Very Knowledgeable. The average score on knowledge gained was higher for each concept after the training.



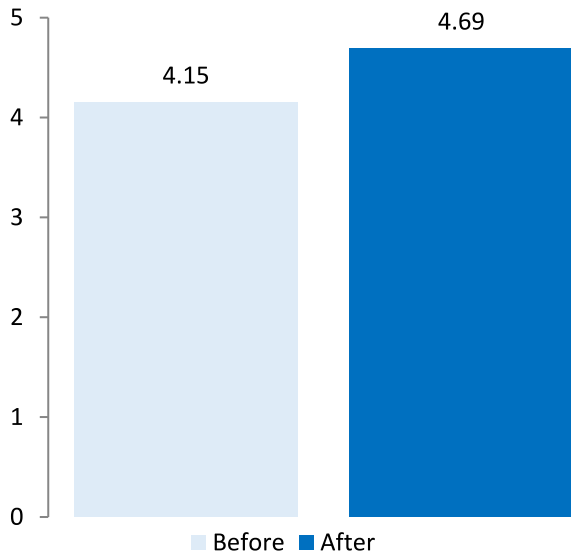
I understand what the Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) tool measures and how ACEs impact children and adults.



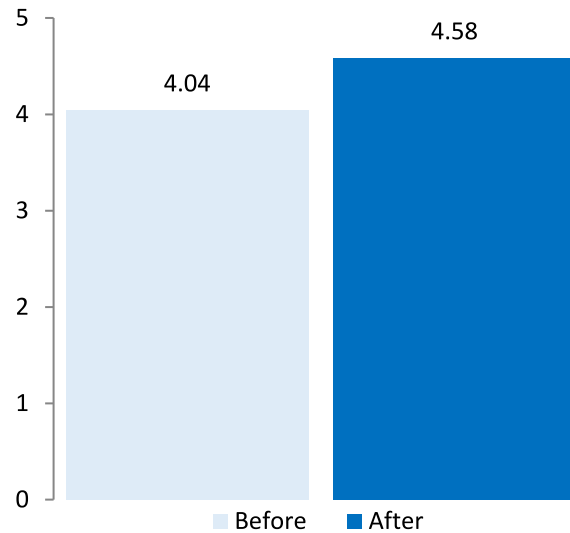
I am knowledgeable about the role that relationships play in building healthy brains.



I am knowledgeable about the role that positive relationships play in supporting people who have experienced trauma.

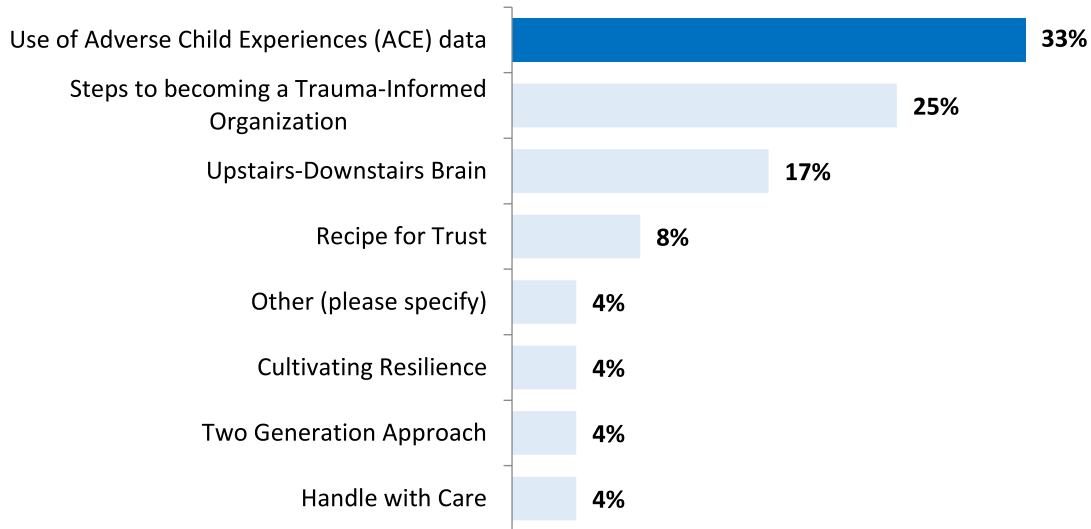


I am knowledgeable about the importance of resiliency and how to help children develop resilience.

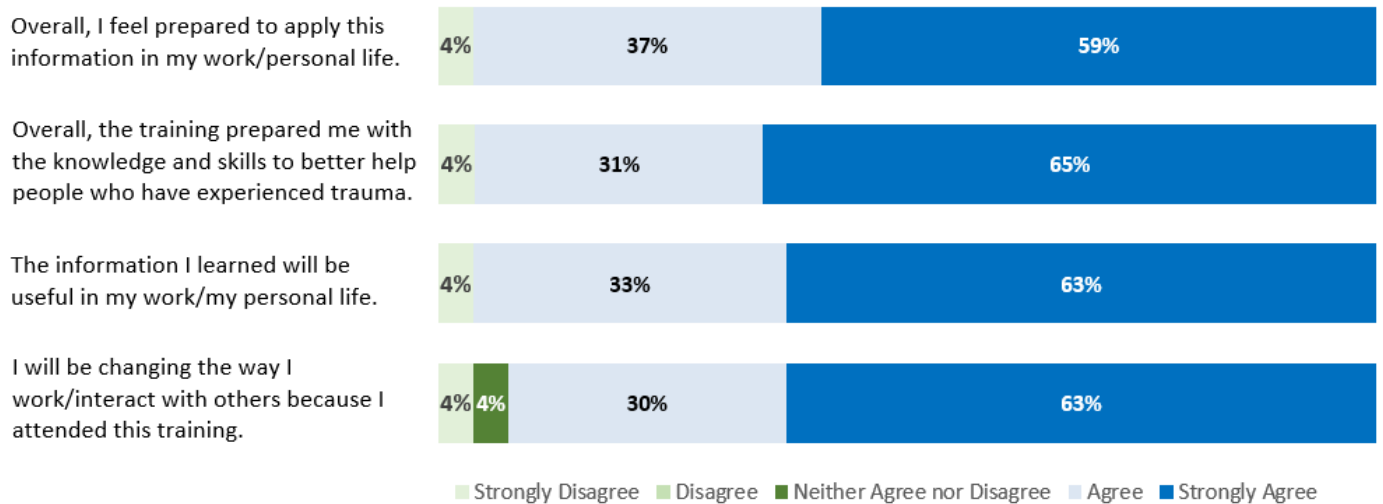




Most Connections Matter participants (33%) selected the use of ACE data as the most beneficial strategy for their organization.



Connections Matter participants shared how strongly they agreed or disagreed with the following statements. Over 90% agreed or strongly agreed with statements on the ability to apply skills learned to their organizations.





## Description of Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)- Related Efforts

### Prevention/Intervention

The ACSRI team did complete two Connect Matter Trainings during this 6 month reporting period. Participants enjoyed the training and wanted if they could receive more information about the trainings or if there are programming offerings. Here are some pictures from January's event that was located at The Rock Church Atlanta in Forest Park, GA.

Pictures from the Connect Matter Training in January 2023 at The Rock Church Atlanta





## Research

- When providing direct service to youth, GCAPP is tracking social, emotional, and learning outcomes across youth and analyzing these before and after programming.
- GCAPP includes mental health indicators in county-wide internal database on adolescent health and corresponding factsheets on GCAPP website.
- GCAPP is forming partnerships with research and evaluation professors and staff at Georgia State University to jointly pursue funding opportunities in 2023.

## Training

The ACSRI project Team hosted two trainings within the past 6 month reporting period. One event was hosted at the Rock Church in Forest Park, Ga. There were 54 participants that participated in the Connect Matter Training. Participants were really engaged and wanted more information about when additional trainings will be offered. The ACSRI project team is looking for ways to continue to partner with the Faith based community as well as addressing some of the on-going trends within the Clayton County community.

The next training was held in March with the Clayton County Juvenile Court System, there were approximately 18 juvenile court staff that were trained on Connections Matter training. Participants were also engaged and seem to learn more about ACE's overall. The ACSRI team is looking forward to partnering more with both the Faith based community and the Juvenile court systems.

## Other efforts that do not fall into the categories listed above?

Intergenerational trauma is highly stigmatized within Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) communities. The ACSRI project team new well the challenges of engaging faith-based community leaders. The pervading culture of silence within the BIPOC community coupled with an overall lack of awareness of the many forms of trauma required that our engagement efforts demonstrate sensitivity and honesty. At this juncture, we are very pleased with the response we are receiving from the faith community and their willingness to take this work on.

## Innovative Partnerships

One of the most innovative partnerships to date would be considered the partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice and their staff. These staff work directly with youth and their families. The Connect Matter Trainings support their work to ensure that staff are thinking through the trainings when the Juvenile Justice staff member are making longer term decisions for the youth being served.



## Spotlight/Inspired Action

The ACSRI's team biggest accomplishments were offering two trainings within a three-month period. The team has had many challenges with engaging our partners to attend the Connect Matter Trainings. Clayton County's Department of Juvenile Justice experienced a huge loss within their team, as one of their own staff members was murdered in a domestic violence incident. This caused the ACSRI team to have to strategize on how to best serve their team during this loss. Despite those initial challenges with scheduling and the grief that the DJJ team experienced, the ACSRI team made the Connect Matter Trainings relevant to their audience. As a team, we successfully trained over 80 youth serving professionals during this semi-annual reporting period. The team is looking forward to offering more diverse strategies to support the work of the ACSRI project in Clayton County. The team will be partnering with Jonesy's place in Forest Park, GA to offer art therapy to vulnerable youth and families with involvement in the juvenile justice system or foster care. Healing Circles will also be offered to socially and economically disenfranchised minority youth between the ages of 13-18.



**GCAPP and Community Health Systems  
Aligning Community Systems for Resiliency Initiative  
Actuals versus Budget: 3.1.22 to 3.31.23**

Expense Detail	Budget	Actuals	Matching Funds	Surplus/Deficit
Salaries - staff time spent on project	30,000	15,158	14,000	842
Fringe @ 20%	6,000	5,529	3,773	(3,302)
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>20,687</b>	<b>17,773</b>	<b>(2,460)</b>
Community Health Solutions - project consultant	120,000	59,000	61,000	-
Evaluation Consultant - provides evaluation services	10,000	-	-	10,000
Website updates, graphic designs and video production	3,000	-	2,500	500
<b>Total Contractual Services</b>	<b>133,000</b>	<b>59,000</b>	<b>63,500</b>	<b>10,500</b>
Trainings and Facilitation	4,000	0	4,000	-
Materials, Supplies, Incentives	2,500	273	2,227	-
Travel	-	40	-	(40)
<b>Total Trainings and Meetings</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>6,227</b>	<b>(40)</b>
Marketing - awareness campaigns social media	2,000	0	2,000	-
Marketing collateral	500	0	500	-
<b>Total Advertising and Marketing</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>-</b>
Technology to navigate virtual environment	2,000	-	-	2,000
<b>Total Technology</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,000</b>
-Rent, facilities, IT	20,000	10,000	10,000	-
<b>Total Indirect Costs (fixed indirect cost allocation of 10%)</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>



**Budget Narrative** - GCAPP did not use an Evaluation consultant as we used our internal Evaluation staff. GCAPP will carryover **\$10,000** to **Year 3** of the grant cycle. These funds will be used for Connected Matters and other TOT Trainings for GCAPP's training team, volunteers and partners - \$600 x 12 = \$7,200; Program Marketing Promotion - \$2,500; and Travel to trainings and Meetings \$300. These funds will be spent by June 30, 2023.



GCAPP Yr. 2 Match Funding Sources:

<b><u>Source</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Jesse Parker Williams	\$25,000
James M. Cox Foundation	\$10,000
Imlay Foundation	\$5,000
United Healthcare	\$5,000
GCAPP Annual Fund	\$55,000
Total	\$100,000