

Identifying Gaps in the Service Array in Georgia

April 30th, 2021

Prevention Services Workgroup

Family First

The logo features the word "BLUEPRINT" in large, bold, white capital letters. Below it, the word "For" is written in a light blue script font, followed by "FAMILY FIRST" in white capital letters inside a dark blue rounded rectangle. The entire logo is set against a dark blue circular background with a light blue ring around it.

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Desired results

The purpose of this workgroup is to form **recommendations about which EBP services Georgia should offer** under Family First.

RECAP:

In our last meeting, we focused on identifying the **needs and characteristics of the family first target population in Georgia** based on several data sources and input from you.

TODAY:

To recommend the *right* EBPs for children and families in Georgia, we also need to understand what services are currently available and what gaps exist in the current service array. We aim to answer the question:

*What **gaps** exist in Georgia's statewide service array?*

*...Through review of data and input from **YOU**.*



Agenda for today

- Welcome
- Recap of process and EBPs for consideration
- Recap of identified characteristics and needs - and capturing the first round of EBP fit
- **Which types** of EBPs are being offered in GA? – and **who** are the EBPs targeting?
- The process going forward
- Next steps – and thank you!

The background of the slide features a large, faint, circular seal of the State of Georgia Department of Family & Children Services. The seal contains the text "DIVISION OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES", "STATE OF GEORGIA", "CONSTITUTION", and "1776".

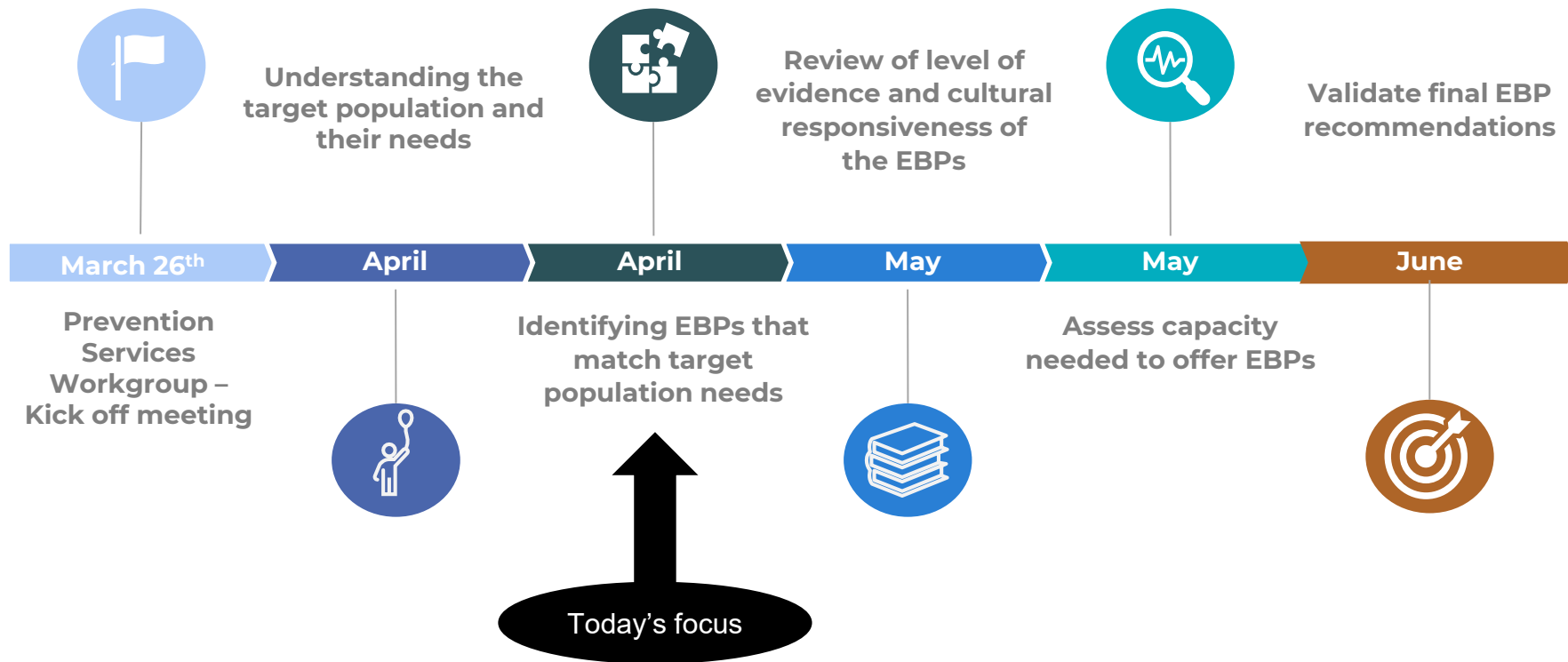
RECAP: Process and Selected EBPs for Consideration

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Process and Timeline





Selecting EBPs for GA's Prevention Plan

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Select and determine Evidence-Based Programs for inclusion in Georgia's Title IV-E Prevention Plan

*Informed by the work of the **Prevention Services Workgroup** prior to submission of Georgia's Title IV-E Prevention Plan 2021*

EBP-selection will be focused on Evidence-Based Programs that are rated 1) **well-supported** or 2) **likely to be rated well-supported*** before plan submission on the Title IV-E Clearinghouse















EBPs *likely to be well-supported* are EBPs that:

- Are currently *under review* by the Title IV-E Clearinghouse
- Have any amount of presence in Georgia; based on provider-survey conducted in February-March 2021, and
- Are rated *well-supported* or *supported* on the [California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse \(CEBC\)](#)



Selecting EBPs for GA's Prevention Plan

We will focus on the **10 well-supported EBPs** on the Title IV-E Clearinghouse

Evidence-based program	Service type
Brief Strategic Family Therapy	  
Family Check-up	 
Functional Family Therapy	
Healthy Families America	
Homebuilders - Intensive Family Preservation and Reunification Services	
Motivational Interviewing	
Multisystemic Therapy	 
Nurse-Family Partnership	
Parent-Child Interaction Therapy	
Parents as Teachers	



Mental health services



Substance abuse treatment and prevention services


















In-home, skill-based parenting programs



Selecting EBPs for GA's Prevention Plan

We will focus on the following 11 EBPs – that are **'likely to be well-supported'**

Evidence-based program	Service type
Acceptance and Commitment Therapy	 
Alternatives for Families: A Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	
Beyond Trauma + Helping Women Recover	
Child First	 
Cognitive Processing Therapy	
Coping Cat	
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing	
Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy	
Parenting with Love and Limits	 
Safe Environment for Every Kid (SEEK)	
Together Facing the Challenge	 



Mental health services



Substance abuse treatment and prevention services



In-home, skill-based parenting programs



The three core target populations

1. Children and families in Ongoing Services/
Family Preservation and their caregivers
2. Children/youth post permanency and their
caregivers
3. Pregnant and parenting youth in foster care

Identified Characteristics and Needs - and Capturing Fit





Recap: The characteristics of the target population

- To recommend EBPs for Georgia, we considered **the ages of children and youth** in the families we will be serving statewide
- To identify the age-ranges of highest priority, this workgroup reviewed and analyzed the following sources of data and input:
 - Data on the ages of children and youth
 - Focus groups
 - Poll results and chat input from this workgroup



Recap: Identified priority age ranges across data sources



Target population data:

- Nearly half of children are 0-5 years
- **Infants** are most over-represented
- **Teens** are under-represented
- **Infants, toddlers, & teens** enter foster care more often than they receive family preservation services



Focus groups:

- **Infants** and their caregivers
- **Teens**



Workgroup input from chat and poll

- POLL: **Teenagers** (33%), **infants** (21%) and **toddlers** (17%)
- Chat: **Teenagers** and **infants** mentioned most times.



The priority *age-ranges* of the target population

Triangulating this information, we identified the following priority age-ranges for EBP fit:

Priority age-ranges
Infants (0-1 year)
Teenagers (13-17 years)
Toddlers (2-3 years)

We will document which of the 21 EBPs under consideration serve one of more of these priority age-ranges.



Recap: The needs of the target population

- To recommend EBPs for Georgia, we considered **the needs of children and youth** in the families we will be serving in Georgia
- The EBPs are categorized in three different service types: 1) Mental health, 2) Substance Abuse Disorder, and 3) In-Home Parenting Skills.
- To identify the needs of highest priority, this workgroup reviewed and analyzed the following sources of data and input:
 - Data on allegations
 - Data on removal reasons
 - Focus group
 - Poll results and chat input from this workgroup



Recap: Identified priority age ranges across data sources



Target population data:

- **Prenatal exposure** (adult SUD) – in allegations data
- **SUD** – in removal reasons data
- Neglect – in removal reasons data
- **Inadequate housing, food** – in allegations and removal reasons data



Focus groups:

- **Mental health** needs for both children and caregivers
- **Parenting** skills (conflicts, attachment-focused)
- **Concrete support** (financial supports, housing)
- Targeting **family as a whole**



Workgroup input from chat and poll

- **POLL:** MH in combination with parenting (22%), MH in combination with SUD (15%), Mental health needs for youth (14%)
- **Chat:** Trauma-informed approach



The priority *needs* of the target population

Triangulating this information, we identified the following priority needs for EBP fit:

Priority needs
Substance Abuse Disorder (adult)
Mental Health (children/youth/adult) in combination with parenting needs (adult)
Parenting (adult*)
Substance Abuse Disorder (adult - maternal focus)
Mental Health (children/youth/adult) in combination with Substance Abuse Disorder(children/youth/adult)
Mental Health (children/youth)

*including pregnant/parenting youth in foster care

We will document which of the 21 EBPs under consideration address one of more of these priority needs.



The priority needs of the target population

- All identified needs were not categorized under the three service types: mental health, substance abuse disorder and parenting.
- We also identified and included *two additional needs indicating EBP fit*:

Additional needs

The EBP **target the whole family** (and not just one member)

The EBP focus on building **capacity to handle conflicts** between caregiver/child

- The identified need for a *trauma-informed approach* is an official requirement under Family First that apply to all the EBPs for consideration.
- We also heard explicit need for *concrete supports (financial support, housing)* and acknowledges the importance of this need. DFCS is committed to promoting provision of concrete supports above and beyond the EBPs selected for Family First. This will be further explored.



Applying fit indicators to our 21 EBPs

Data and insights from this workgroup tell us which EBPs will **fit** or best align with the context in Georgia.

This workgroup will review many criteria to inform EBP selection. We will develop **fit indicators** to capture and document our insights about EBP fit, such as Georgia's priority age ranges and needs.

The fit indicators **do not reflect the value or quality** of each EBP. These are all great EBPs. Focusing on fit helps us make challenging choices prioritizing among a strong set of EBPs.

The fit indicators presented today represent the **FIRST step**. More information will be reviewed across several meetings in this workgroup.



Cross-walking fit indicators with EBPs

The 10 well-supported EBPs on the Title IV-E Clearinghouse

EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM	PRIORITY AGE-RANGES			PRIORITY NEEDS						ADDITIONAL NEEDS	
	Infants	Toddlers	Teenagers	SUD (adult)	SUD (prenatal)	MH+IHPS	IHPS	MH+SUD	MH (child)	Targets whole family	Conflict resolution
Brief Strategic Family Therapy			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family Check-up		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	
Functional Family Therapy			✓						✓	✓	✓
Healthy Families America	✓	✓					✓			✓	
Homebuilders	✓	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓
Motivational Interviewing	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Multisystemic Therapy			✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
Nurse-Family Partnership	✓	✓					✓			✓	
Parent-Child Interaction Therapy		✓							✓	✓	✓
Parents as Teachers	✓	✓					✓			✓	

** The fit indicators captured here reflect the workgroup's insights about EBP fit for the context in Georgia—based on data, focus groups, and workgroup input. This information will be referenced (but not solely relied on) when the workgroup makes a final recommendation for Georgia's Family First EBPs. Additional fit indicators as well as new feasibility indicators will be collaboratively developed and captured in future workgroup meetings, adding to this table.*



Cross-walking fit indicators with EBPs

The 11 EBPs – that are **‘likely to be well-supported’**

EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM	PRIORITY AGE-RANGES			PRIORITY NEEDS						ADDITIONAL NEEDS	
	Infants	Toddlers	Teenagers	SUD (adult)	SUD (prenatal)	MH+IHPS	IHPS	MH+SUD	MH (child)	Targets whole family	Conflict resolution
Acceptance and Commitment Therapy	Adults focused			✓				✓			
Alternatives for Families: A Cognitive Behavioral Therapy			✓						✓	✓	✓
Beyond Trauma + Helping Women Recover	Adults focused			✓							
Child First	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	
Cognitive Processing Therapy	Adults focused										
Coping Cat									✓	✓	
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing		✓	✓						✓		
Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy for Children									✓		
Parenting with Love and Limits			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Safe Environment for Every Kid (SEEK)	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓
Together Facing the Challenge	Adults focused					✓	✓				

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Upcoming Rounds of Fit Indicator Cross-walks

This is **the first out of several steps** towards recommending EBPs for Georgia's Title IV-E Prevention Plan.

Based on today's discussion we will identify priority service gaps that will result in a new round of fit indicator cross-walk.

Next meeting will focus on the cultural and racial responsiveness of the EBPs, which will result in another round of fit indicator cross-walk.

At each meeting we look to you to review, validate, and add to the presented information based on your valuable expertise!



Input from the workgroup – POLL

Based on the presented information...

To what extent is the fit indicator cross-walk clear to you?

Answer categories:

- The cross-walk is clear to me
- The cross-walk is somewhat clear to me
- The cross-walk is not clear to me

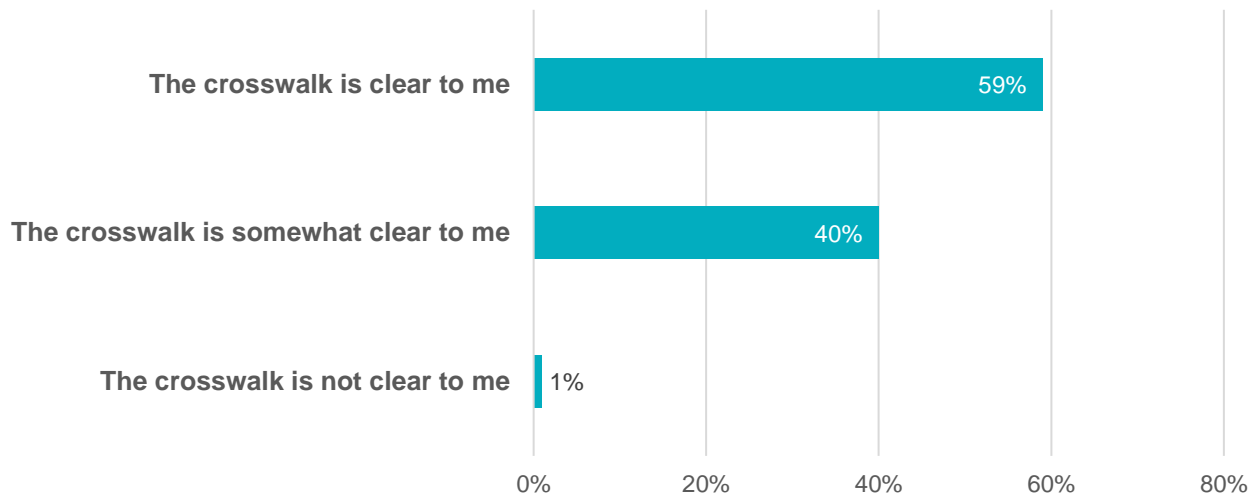
Do you have any specific questions or other considerations related to the fit indicators?

Please note your comments in the chat



Results of the poll

To what extent is the fit-indicator crosswalk clear to you?



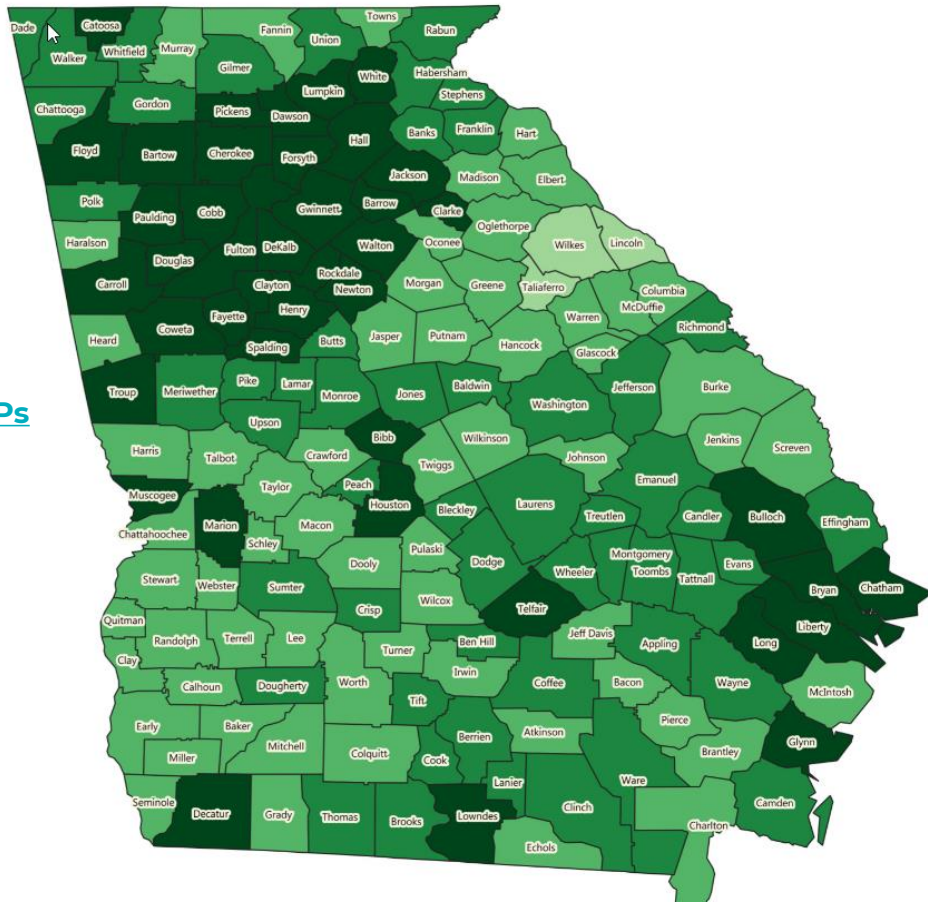
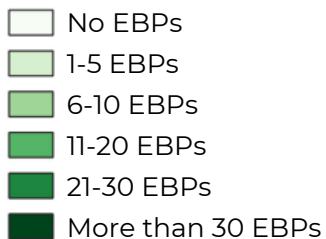
Poll reflects responses from members of the Prevention Services Workgroup at 4.30.21 meeting. For more information on the workgroup see <https://www.blueprintfamilyfirst.org/prevention-services-workgroup>

Which EBPs are we currently offered in Georgia? – and who are the EBPs targeting?



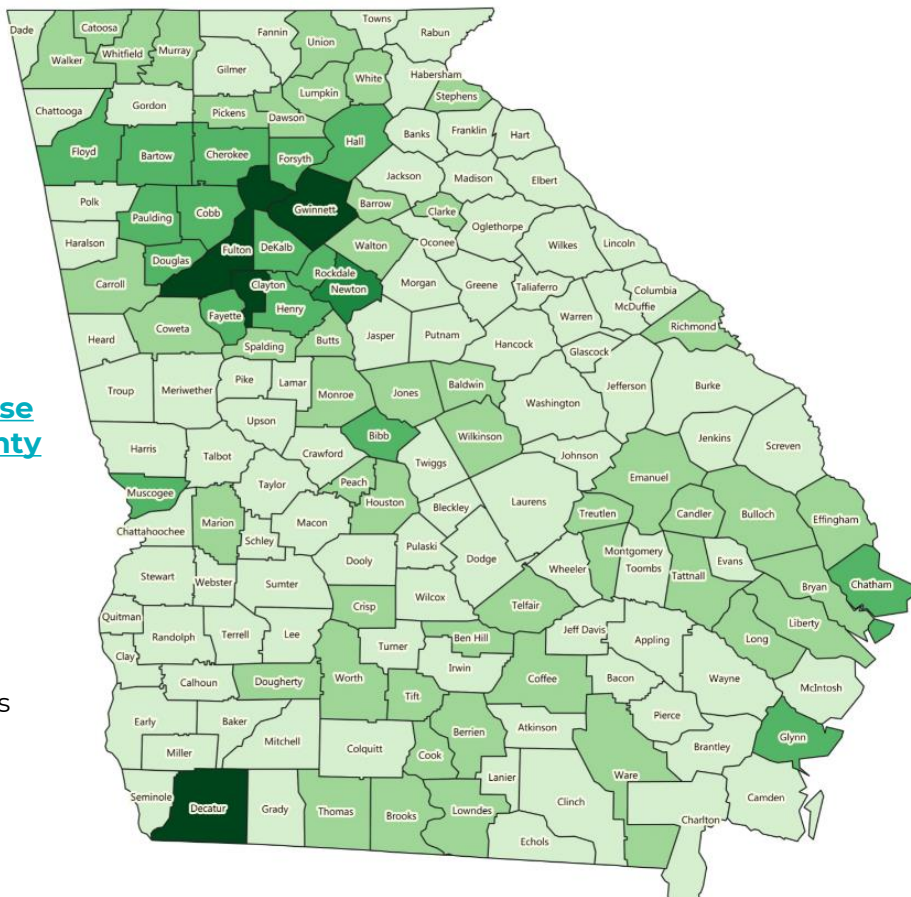
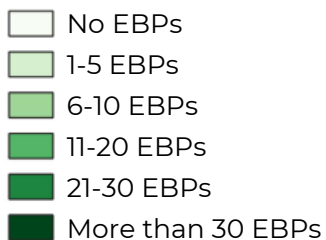
The volume and location of MH-EBPs in Georgia

Number of Mental health EBPs in each county



The volume and location of SUD-EBPs in Georgia

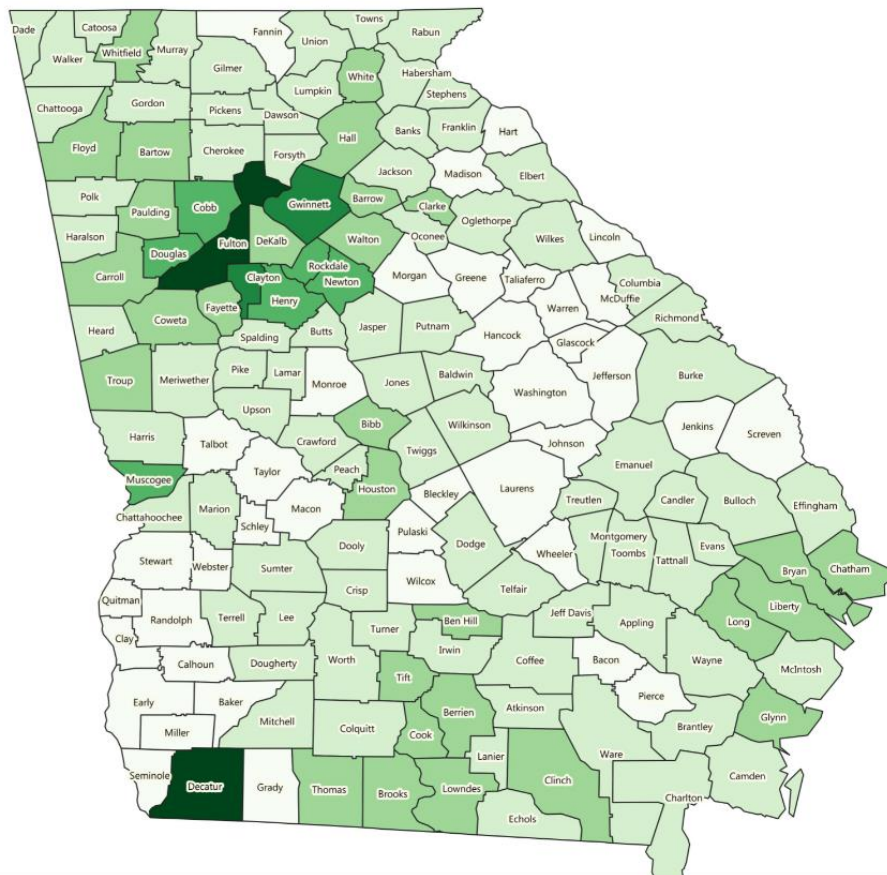
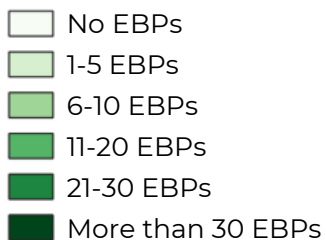
Number of Substance Abuse Disorder EBP in each county



The volume and location of IHPS-EBPs in Georgia

148

Number of In-Home Parenting Skill EBP in each county





Gaps in service types by age

Count of EBP types by age range served*

	Children and their caregivers									Youth and caregivers
SERVICE TYPE	0-1	2-3	4-5	6-7	8-9	10-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18+
Mental Health (MH)	127	157	184	174	201	213	245	204	204	126
Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD)	87	87	90	90	90	90	95	95	92	16
In-Home Parenting Skills (IHPS)	39	39	38	6	2	2	2	2	2	0
MH <i>and</i> IHPS	7	20	20	13	13	22	22	22	22	0
SUD <i>and</i> IHPS	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
MH <i>and</i> SUD	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10	10	15
SUD <i>and</i> MH <i>and</i> IHPS	27	27	27	37	37	37	37	37	37	0

* Count of EBPs captures unique EBPs by provider. In other words, if seven providers offer the same EBP, this chart displays 7 EBPs.



High level findings

- The **most prevalent service type** in the EBP service array in Georgia: **Mental Health programs**
- Approximately 40% of the counties in Georgia do not offer **EBPs targeting in-home parenting skills**.
- Lack of all service types of EBPs **in rural areas in Georgia**.
- General **lack of EBPs focusing on combinations of needs**, for example, Mental Health *and* In-Home Parenting Skills, as well as Substance Abuse Disorder *and* Mental Health etc.
- Clear **need for services targeting teenagers**, especially In-Home Parenting Skills EBPs.



Input from the workgroup – POLL

Based on the presented information and your own professional expertise and experiences...

To what extent do these high-level findings align with your experience and perceptions of Georgia's service array?

Answer categories:

- They align
- They somewhat align
- They don't align

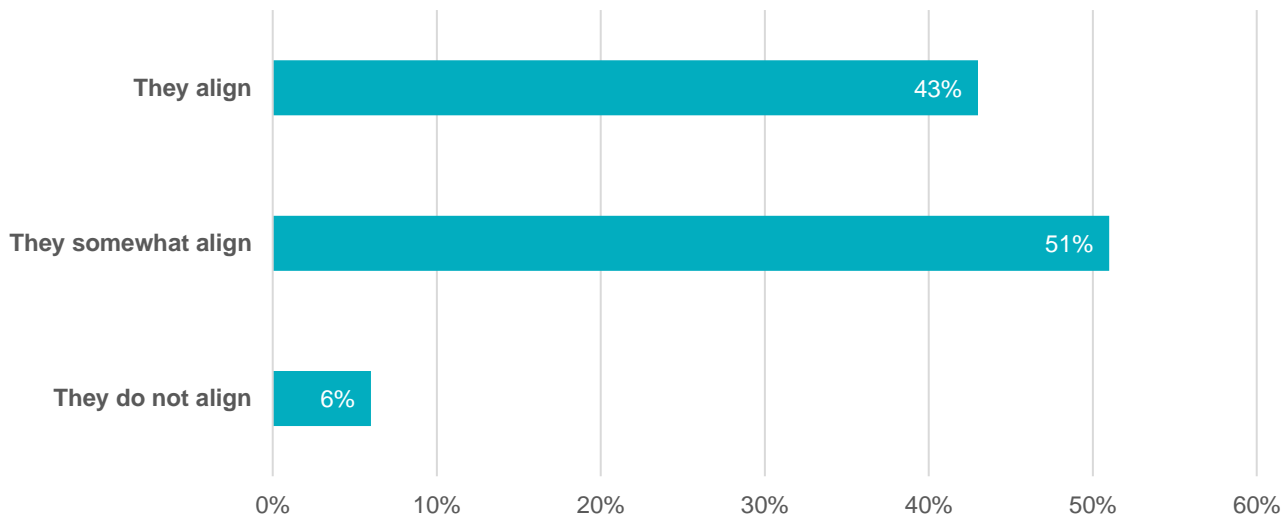
Do you have any additional input to this question? Did anything surprise you?

Please note your comments in the chat



Results of the poll

To what extent do these high-level findings align with your experience and perceptions of Georgia's service array?



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The process moving
forward

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The process moving forward

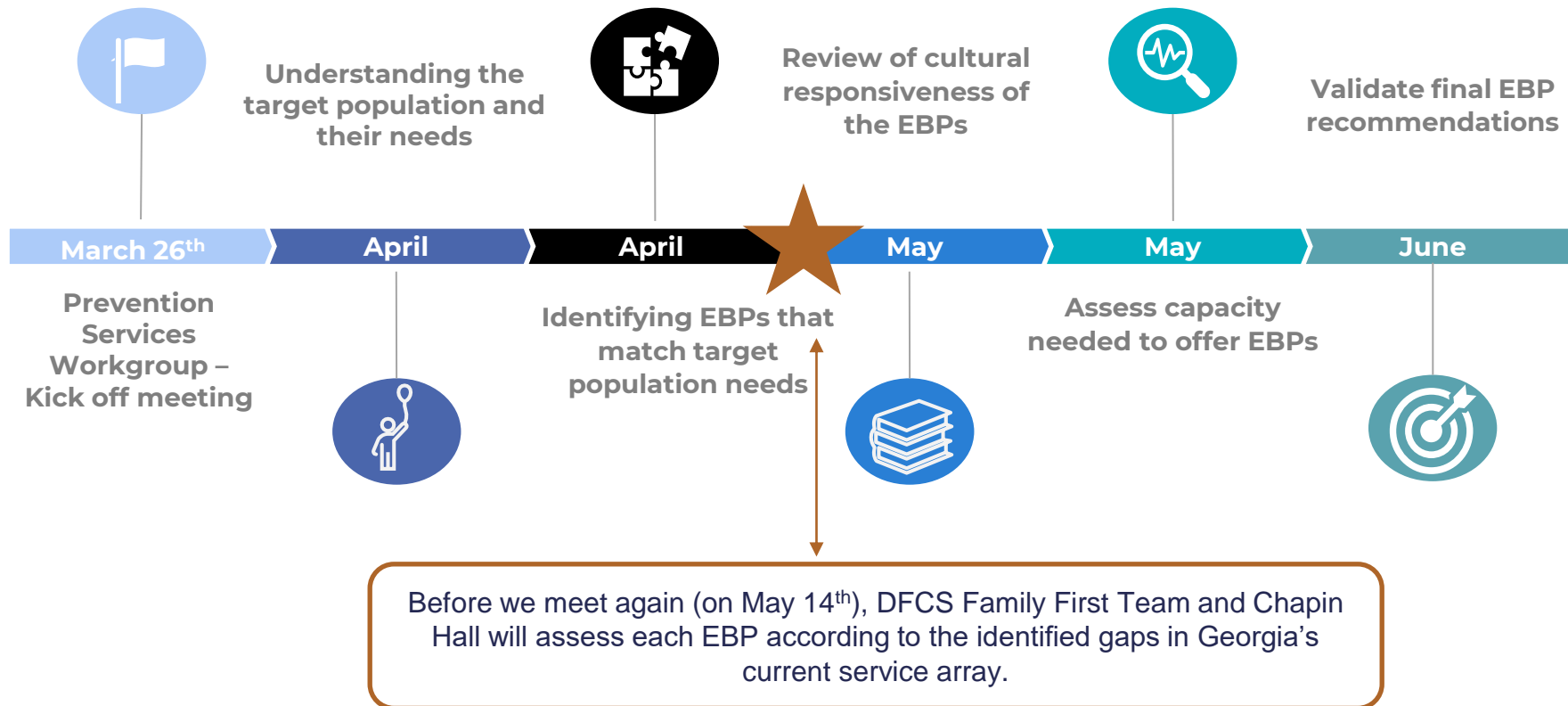
Today we have been focused on answering the following question:

*What **gaps** exist in Georgia's statewide service array?*

Last meeting's input, the presentation today, and your valuable input via poll and chat will provide (part of) the foundation needed to assess if the EBP is the right 'fit' for Georgia.



Process and Timeline





The process moving forward

Chapin Hall and DFCS Family First Team will assess each EBP according to the following criteria:

Questions to be answered	Fit Indicator
To what extent does the EBP address an identified <i>service gap</i> statewide or in specific region(s)?	Fit indicators will be collaboratively developed to reflect top identified service gaps. EBPs meeting these priority service gaps will be captured in fit indicator cross-walk

This will serve as the second (of several) steps in the EBP selection process whereby multiple indicators will be collaboratively developed and applied to our 21 EBPs.

Next steps





Next steps and questions?

Next meeting of the Prevention Services Workgroup is May 14th, 2021, from 1-2.30 EST.

We will be focusing on **reviewing the level of cultural responsiveness of the EBPs**

Any questions about the purpose or process?

Please enter your questions in the chat.

The DFCS Family First team will review your input and address the most frequent questions before and/or during the next meeting.

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Thank you for your
participation today!

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