

# COALITIONS ON THE MOVE NEWSLETTER

March 2021

## Highlighting Coastal Georgia Coalition

Welcome to the third edition of our Senior Hunger Coalitions on the Move newsletter! Each month, we want to use this resource to share information and updates on Georgia's 12 coalitions committed to stamping out senior hunger in our state! Each issue will provide an update from one of the coalitions.

## Coalition Spotlight: Coastal Georgia Coalition

### Membership Diversity

The Coastal Senior Hunger Coalition includes Action Pact ([myactionpact.org](http://myactionpact.org)), Heavenly Devine Blessings, Community Health Works ([chwg.org](http://chwg.org)) and the St. Joseph Candler African American Health Information and Resource Center ([herohelpme.org](http://herohelpme.org)).

### Innovative Ideas and Strategies

Interns from the Savannah State University Department of Social Work, who are also coalition members, served as instructors for the Coastal Senior Hunger Nutrition Education Program. This program included three sessions once a week at four senior centers facilitated by the interns and served more than 100 older adults.

### Key Resource in the Region

The Coastal Coalition identified critical resources that focused on getting nutritious food to older adults and the community. The Society of St. Andrew Gleaning Network ([endhunger.org](http://endhunger.org)) is the oldest and largest gleaning organization, ensuring leftover crops go to hungry people instead of landfills. Farm Truck-912 ([forsythfarmersmarket.com/farmtruck912](http://forsythfarmersmarket.com/farmtruck912)) is a mobile farmers market serving Chatham County, offering brief food demonstrations and nutrition education along with serving farm-fresh products.

### Meeting Challenges

We have enjoyed having many new members at each coalition meeting, but that has meant needing to re-explain the goal and purpose of the group. However, that has allowed us to make sure we are all on the same page, know the five focus areas of the state plan and has given new members a platform to share their agency's services or programs.

### Accomplishments

The Coastal Coalition distributed boxes packed with farm-fresh produce to 125 older adults while also including information on Senior SNAP and ways to stay healthy during the pandemic. This initiative provided food access to five senior centers, each represented by the Coastal Senior Hunger Coalition. The funding for this initiative came from a \$5,000 mini-grant.

### What's next

We are looking forward to hosting a listening session this coming year to contribute to the next state plan on senior hunger. We are also working on increasing the number of food pantries in our database managed by the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC). We are asking our community partners to share information about pantries they are aware of.

### Member Highlight

## First Credit Hill Church

First Credit Hill Church is dedicated to helping the community by providing meals twice a month to families. On the first Thursday of every month, the mobile food pantry at the Leisure Center distributes food to 275-325 families. On the second Saturday of every month, First Credit Hill Church provides approximately 75-150 people with meals. The church does not receive any grants or other funding – tithes and benevolence offerings fund the food.



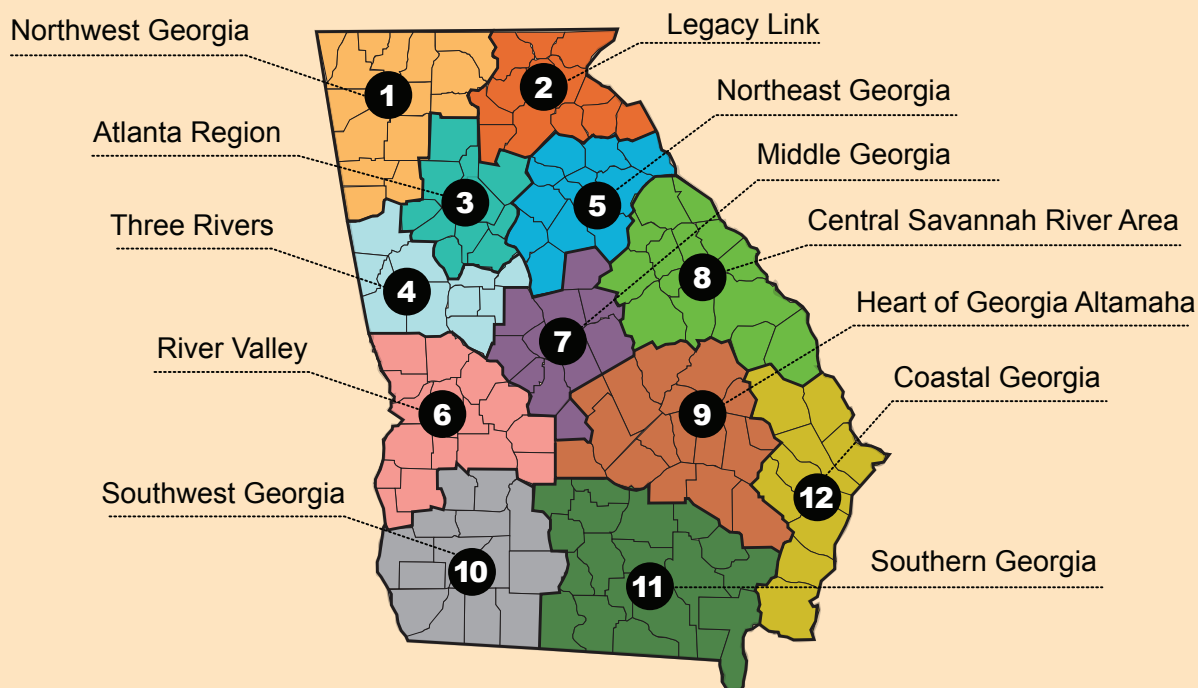
# COALITIONS ON THE MOVE NEWSLETTER

March 2021

## Statewide Updates

### Senior Hunger Coalition Coverage Areas

Below is a map containing the 12 Senior Hunger Coalitions.



#### The 5 Focus Areas

### Today's Seniors

In identifying and understanding today's older adults, we must recognize the many roles and responsibilities of older adults. One role that has been critical has been grandparents raising grandchildren. As we look to find solutions to address the needs of vulnerable older adults, we must recognize that serving as a caregiver to children significantly impacts this effort. We encourage you to visit the Kinship Care Portal, Georgia's one-stop shop for information, resources and support for kinship caregivers, [dhs.georgia.gov/kinship-care-portal](https://dhs.georgia.gov/kinship-care-portal).

#### Data and More

**Statistics:** According to a 2019 report from the United States Census Bureau, a total of 2.3 million grandparents are responsible for their grandchildren nationwide. The report states that 95,248 grandparents are responsible for their grandchildren in the state of Georgia. Visit [data.census.gov](https://data.census.gov) and see **Table s1002** for more statistics on grandparents from the American Community Survey.

**Funding Info:** The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is the nation's largest philanthropy dedicated solely to health. A current open request for proposals seeks ideas that influence health equity in the future. The RWJF is interested in ideas that address any of these four areas of focus: Future of Evidence; Future of Social Interaction; Future of Food; Future of Work and ideas that offer unique approaches. To learn more, visit [rwjf.ws/3uTTw93](https://rwjf.ws/3uTTw93).