Policy and economic analysis at the Georgia Health Policy Center

Georgia Health Policy Center

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Policy and Economic Analysis at the Georgia Health Policy Center

Policy development and economic analysis have been core competencies of the Georgia Health Policy Center (GHPC) since its inception. GHPC believes policy and economic analysis is integrally tied to its research and evaluation activities, as part of a continuous cycle to inform decision makers and, ultimately, improve health outcomes and well-being.

The center conducts, analyzes, and disseminates qualitative and quantitative findings to connect policy makers with the objective research and guidance needed to make informed decisions about health policy and programs. GHPC’s policy analysis includes identifying and characterizing policy options, evaluating policies in terms of potential health and economic impact, conducting regulatory compliance reviews, and assessing the effect of policies after implementation.

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<th>GHPC’s Approach to Policy and Economic Analysis</th>
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<td>Evidence Gathering</td>
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Types of Analysis

- Cost analysis
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Comparative analysis of state health policy
- Legal analysis and compliance review
- Policy impact analysis

Topic Areas

- School physical education and nutrition
- Existing and planned health care markets
- Georgia Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program enrollment, coverage, and reimbursement
- School-based mental health
- Care coordination/care transition
- Client-requested topics

Our Standards

GHPC holds itself to rigorous standards, making it a trusted third party capable of producing impartial and well-informed policy analysis. A commitment to quality, integrity, and respect ensures that analysis is tailored to the partner’s needs, yet methodically produced to support complex health policy decision-making in a timely manner.

Project Examples

**Georgia’s Interagency Directors Team**

Georgia’s Interagency Directors Team (IDT) is a multi-agency, public-private collaborative that works to promote better child and adolescent behavioral health in the state. Georgia’s Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities established IDT to create an integrated approach to policy and practice within the child and adolescent System of Care. IDT consists of more than 20 representatives from state agencies and non-governmental organizations that serve children with behavioral health needs.

As part of providing backbone support to IDT, GHPC provides comprehensive strategic research to support IDT’s yearly strategic System of Care goals. GHPC has provided IDT with data compilation and policy analysis in the areas of juvenile justice reform; services and supports for emerging adults; and appropriate service provision for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder among young children.

**GHPC’s Medicaid Policy and Business Team**

For more than two decades GHPC has been a trusted source for identifying and providing evidence-based information. The center’s qualitative and quantitative data compilation and analysis helps to inform DCH’s planning processes and decision-making on eligibility systems, premium design, coverage decisions, payment models, prior authorization criteria, and coordination of care initiatives.

In 2014, GHPC created the Medicaid Policy and Business team to support the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) in conducting policy analyses and evaluations of its Medicaid programs. GHPC’s Medicaid Policy and Business team provides policy expertise and guidance to develop and implement policy changes, program improvements, and business solutions for Georgia Medicaid and the state’s Children’s Health Insurance Program, PeachCare for Kids®.