OUR MISSION
Integrating research, policy, and programs to advance health and well-being

AN OVERVIEW
Georgia Health Policy Center (GHPC), housed within Georgia State University’s Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, provides evidence-based research, program development, and policy guidance on local, state, and national levels to improve health status at the community level.

GHPC focuses on solutions to the most complex issues facing health and health care including: behavioral health, long-term services and supports, health system transformation, children’s health, and the development of rural and urban health systems. For more than 20 years, the center has worked in more than 1,000 communities throughout Georgia and in all 50 states to achieve health improvement.
OUR WORK

Center of Excellence for Children’s Behavioral Health
The Center of Excellence for Children’s Behavioral Health is housed within GHPC. The Center of Excellence partners with the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and other child-serving agencies to provide: technical assistance and training to build the capacity of the behavioral health workforce; research and evaluation to assess behavioral health services for providers and state agencies to measure program effectiveness; and consultative research and policy analysis services focusing on financing structures and service delivery opportunities for improving behavioral health Systems of Care.

Medicaid Policy and Business Team
GHPC supports the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) in conducting policy and economic analyses and evaluations of its Georgia Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program. GHPC is a trusted third party in identifying and providing evidence-based information. The center’s data compilation and analysis helps to inform DCH’s planning processes and decision-making on coverage decisions, payment models, prior authorization criteria, and coordination of care initiatives.

Rural Health
Since 2002, GHPC’s Community Health Systems Development team has been supporting grantees of the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Office of Rural Health Policy. Our technical assistance focuses on helping communities develop a strategic approach to program implementation; building capacity while utilizing technical and adaptive approaches; and focusing on long-term sustainability.

Long-Term Services and Supports
GHPC strives to be at the forefront of efforts targeted at improving the lives of the aging, elderly, and disabled. GHPC conducts independent, evidence-based research and evaluation to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of long-term services and supports to guide policy, financing, and programmatic decisions. Central to the center’s work in long-term services and supports is identifying opportunities to improve the coordination of service delivery systems and partners utilizing a person-centered philosophy.

ARCHI
The Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI) is bringing partners together to create a vibrant community and economy that supports the health and well-being of all Atlantans. By creating collaborative investment strategies for “silo-busting solutions” that address the underlying, root causes of disparities, ARCHI strives to improve the effectiveness of the region’s health, social, and educational investments. Led by the United Way, the Atlanta Regional Commission, and GHPC, ARCHI has brought together more than 70 community partners committed to do their part to improve key indicators of health and well-being for generations. ARCHI is currently working on a 28-year plan that has measurable outcomes by 2040 and was awarded the 2016 Health Connect South Best Collaboration Award.

Legislative Education Initiative
In response to legislative requests, in 2008 GHPC created the Legislative Health Policy Certificate Program for state lawmakers and their staff who want to improve their understanding of health and health care. The objectives of the program are to enhance legislators’ knowledge and understanding of health policy issues and to use systems dynamics and systems thinking to encourage broader and more systemic approaches to policymaking. In 2012, an Advanced Health Policy Institute was created, focusing on health care financing for graduates of the certificate program.

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