

Infrastructure and Access to Care In Rural Georgia

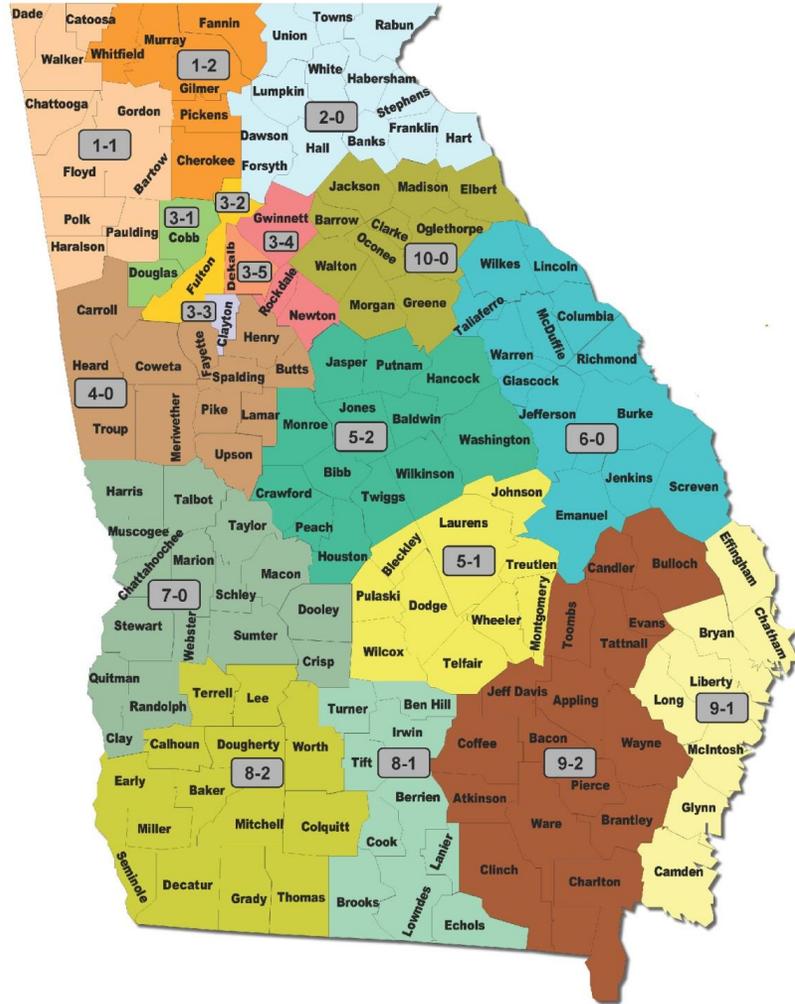
House Rural Development Council/J. Patrick O'Neal, Commissioner/Sept. 7, 2017

Mission Statement



- Prevent disease, injury and disability
- Promote health and well-being
- Prepare for and respond to disasters

Georgia Department of Public Health



- 159 County Health Departments
- 159 County Boards of Health
- 18 Public Health Districts
- 18 District Health Directors
- 1 Commissioner
- 1 Board of Public Health

Primary Care and Health Care Delivery

Public Health Department Services

- Child Health
- Women's Health
- Immunizations
- Ryan White Clinic
 - HIV-AIDS Program
- Children with Special Needs
 - Clinical and support services
- Communicable/Infectious Disease
- Women's Infants and Children (WIC)
- Environmental Health

Environmental Health Services

- Swimming pool inspections
 - Tourist accommodation inspections
 - Insect disease surveillance
 - Rabies control
 - Individual water system inspections
 - Septic system permits
- Food safety inspections
 - Restaurants
 - School cafeterias
 - Caterers
 - Vendors

Epidemiology Services

- Notifiable disease reporting/ surveillance
 - Influenza surveillance
 - Infection control and disease surveillance during emergencies and disasters
 - Drug resistant disease tracking and reporting
 - Immunization program assessment
- Works with
 - Hospitals
 - Schools
 - Physicians
 - Nursing homes
 - Law enforcement
 - Government agencies

Specialized Services

Specialized services provided in **some** health departments

- International Travel Clinics
- Centering Programs
- Farm worker's Programs
- Telehealth/telemedicine
- Oral Health

Expanding Access

- County health departments serve all Georgians
- Payment is accepted based on sliding scale fees
- DPH is working to expand the number of contract providers and the number of billable services

Current Private Insurance Contracts

- Aetna/Coventry
 - All commercial products
 - All covered services
- Cigna
 - All commercial products
 - All covered services
- United Healthcare
 - All commercial products
 - All covered services
 - Includes SHBP members
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
 - All health departments contracted to provide immunizations to HMO and PPO members (Includes SHBP and Board of Regents members)
 - Contract implementation in progress to reimburse all covered services and commercial products

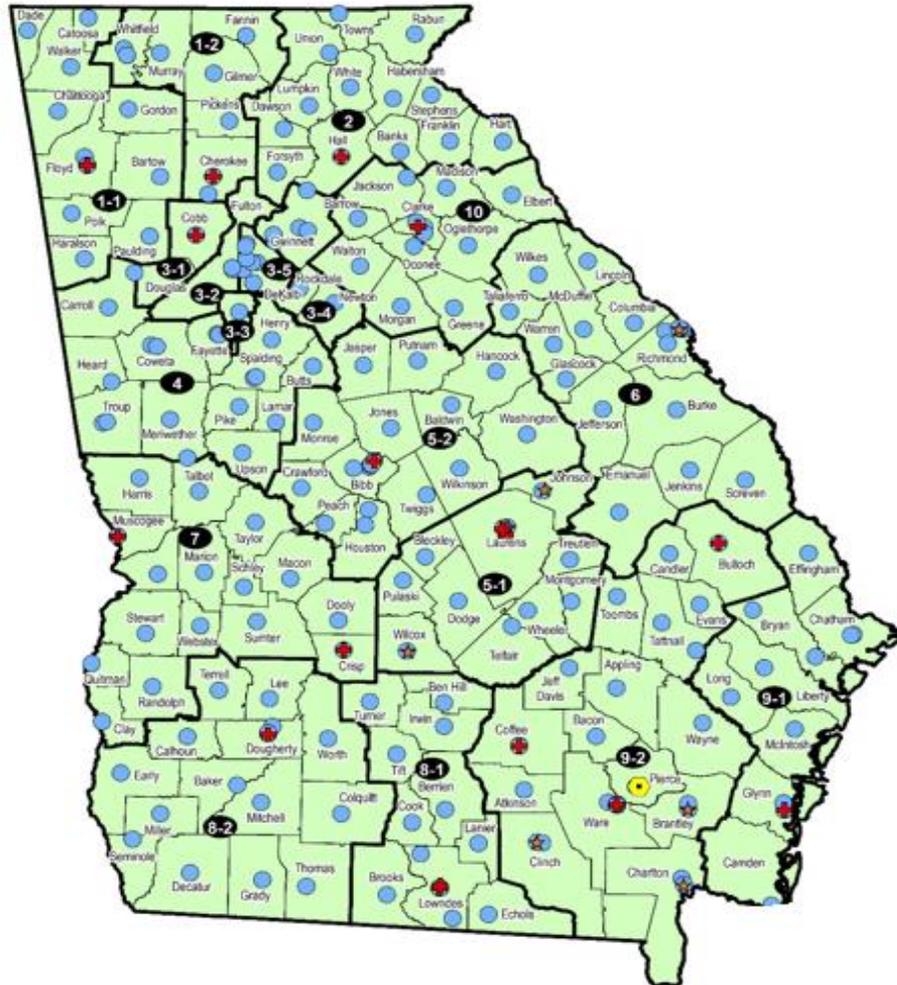
Enterprise Systems Modernization

Enterprise Systems Modernization

- Create person/family-centric services
- Strengthen fee-for-services effectiveness to reduce reliance on government funding
- Provide robust self-service capabilities for clients, providers and retailers
- Reduce administrative time spent on tasks and workarounds
- Create a more effective, adaptable and seamless organization
- Improve data standards, stewardship, governance, and quality
- Create richer, more meaningful information that can be easily shared
- Make DPH **the** trusted data source

Telehealth and Telemedicine

Telehealth Network



- + Telemedicine
- ★ Teledentistry
- End Point Locations
(Video Conferencing in
HDs & WIC Centers)
- Network Hub
(Blackshear)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1-1 Northwest | 5-1 South Central |
| 1-2 North Georgia | 5-2 North Central |
| 2 North | 6 East Central |
| 3-1 Cobb/Douglas | 7 West Central |
| 3-2 Fulton | 8-1 South |
| 3-3 Clayton | 8-2 Southwest |
| 3-4 Gwinnett, Newton, & Rockdale | 9-1 Coastal |
| 3-5 DeKalb | 9-2 Southeast |
| 4 District 4 | 10 Northeast |

Telehealth Overview

Network Hub (Blackshear, GA)

- Housed in DPH Southeast Health District
- Administrative staff located in Waycross and Atlanta

Providers and Presenters

- Our goal is to connect patients to providers in their local community and not extract business/medical services from the local economy
- We will look to surrounding counties or metropolitan areas if providers are not available
- Presenters must be an RN, LPN, or CNA
- Presenting sites bill for \$20.52 per encounter

Telehealth Projects

Children's Medical Services

- Developmental & Genetics
- Endocrinology
- Nephrology
- Neurosurgery
- Pulmonology
- Sickle Cell

Infectious Disease (HIV/AIDS)

- Patients at local clinics see DPH Infectious Disease specialist
- Mobile presentations from home or community setting

High Risk Ob Clinic (Centering Pregnancy)

- Ultrasound/Colposcopy
- Consult w/ Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialist

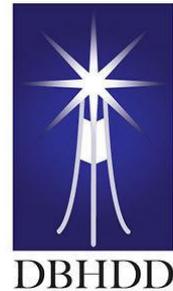
WIC Nutrition

- Breast feeding support
- Nutrition education
- Staff training/development

Additional Telehealth Projects

- Collaborative school-based behavioral health telemedicine pilot in Lamar County Schools
- Sickle Cell Telemedicine Clinics
- Diabetes Self Management/Therapy
- Breast Cancer Genomics Project
- Teledentistry
- Teledermatology

Telemedicine Partners



Community Partnerships

Community Partnerships

- DPH is committed to increasing access to care by fostering collaboration between public health and other providers as part of its strategic plan
- DPH hosts an annual partnership summit where districts can learn from new and established partnerships in other districts
- Over half of the districts have identified fostering partnerships as a priority in their strategic plans

2017 Partnership Survey Results

- 100% of health districts are collaborating with hospitals, family and general practitioners, pharmacists and OB/GYNs
- 95% of health districts partner with schools
- Approximately 40% of the health districts reported having established at least 5 new partnerships in the areas of Health Promotion and Emergency Preparedness within the past year
- All 18 health districts are working on innovative ways to utilize telehealth and telemedicine

Example: Wheeler County

- BOH/Health Department reducing lack of access to primary care by providing primary care services in addition to public health services
- April 2016, two APRNs began providing the following services two days per week:
 - Chronic disease management (e.g. diabetes, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, asthma)
 - Upper respiratory infections
 - Nutrition counseling
 - Triage / screening for other disorders / conditions (e.g. Inflammatory Arthritis, Endocrine, and Neurologic disorders)
 - Minor injuries
 - Medical exams for commercial truck drivers

Sustaining and Expanding Services for Rural Georgia

Sustaining and Expanding Services for Rural Georgia

- Telehealth infrastructure and initiatives to support innovations in health care delivery and increase access to care for rural Georgians
- Enterprise Systems Modernization to collect statewide data on services provided through county health departments
- Workforce development for public health workers with specialized skill sets to protect the public from illness and infectious disease

Thank You