

strengthening families

GEORGIA

FISCAL YEAR 2023
ANNUAL REPORT



Our Vision

All families with children birth through age 8 in Georgia have the resources and support necessary for a meaningful and successful life.

Our Mission

To utilize the Strengthening Families asset-based framework of Protective Factors in all systems, programs, services and activities supporting families and young children as the approach to achieving the vision.

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Strengthening Families Georgia (SFG) is a collaborative statewide initiative committed to weaving research-based Protective Factors into services for families and children. With a year filled with progressive efforts, SFG has significantly advanced the well-being of families across Georgia by refreshing its 5-year strategic plan and accompanying evaluation framework. These vital revisions offer a more precise direction and enhance our ability to measure our influence on families' lives.

SFG's expansion efforts this fiscal year have been transformative, with 17 new partnerships forged to broaden the reach of the Five Protective Factors in various family support programs. These new relationships are pivotal, enabling us to integrate resilience-building strategies more comprehensively and ensure that help meets families wherever they may be.

Key to our mission, SFG has placed a strong emphasis on training. The training enables professionals to integrate the Protective Factors into everyday practices, exemplifying our investment in nurturing a state where families and their children can find security and develop resilience. Four master trainers from Prevent Child Abuse Georgia and the Georgia

Department of Human Services' Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS), Prevention & Community Support section, were equipped to impart SFG's Protective Factors framework to other professionals. This initiative had a cascading effect, resulting in 23 professionals becoming certified SFG Protective Factors trainers, many of whom now offer training that provides Bright from the Start (BFTS) credit. This credential is crucial for our trainers, enfranchising them to facilitate continuing education that directly supports Georgia's work with children and their families. With community cafe facilitator training, 32 individuals actively participated, successfully hosting five community cafes across the state. These cafes saw the engagement of 39 parent and community stakeholders.

Our initiatives have made strides beyond training; SFG reached broader audiences by contributing to significant events, including the Georgia Head Start Association Spring 2023 Conference and the Georgia Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in September. Through these efforts, SFG has not only empowered families but also strengthened the fabric of our communities. We build a stronger, more resilient Georgia for future generations by educating and collaborating.



HIGHLIGHTS

Training Impact + Reach

Trainee Testimonial

"I will use parental resilience to assist my families in a less biased way, as well as help my own parenting."



27,724
Individuals completed online Protective Factors training modules

899
Individuals trained on the Protective Factors via SFG trainer network



Collaborations + Expansions
17 newly established partnerships
Added 68+ newsletter subscriptions

Key Strategy & Training Developments

- 5- Year Strategic Plan formulated
- Evaluation Plan established
- Protective Factors training curriculum updated

Sustainability

- 23** Professionals equipped as SFG Protective Factor Trainers
- 4** Professionals equipped as Master Trainers for SFG Protector Factors
- 32** Individuals trained in Community Café facilitation



Staff + Leadership Updates
Onboarded new Project Coordinator
SFG Leadership Team approved re-election of chairperson



Outreach + Engagement

- 2** Conferences where SFG presented
- 17** Additional partners agencies in SFG network
- 4** Newsletters for Professionals and Caregivers = 788 subscribers



Georgia Department of Human Services
Division of Family & Children Services

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