

2015

Growing and Going the Extra Mile

ANNUAL REPORT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

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[welcome letter]

From the Director

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SAID,

"Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."

I am pleased to report that the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) experienced a year of tremendous growth and progress in fiscal year 2015 (FY15). This is evidenced by:

1. Improvement of agency processes.
2. Achievement through innovative and enhanced criminal justice and victim services programming.
3. Successful implementation of expanded outreach efforts to stakeholders and victims.

As an executive branch agency, CJCC represents the culmination of the Georgia General Assembly's vision to establish a statewide body designed to build consensus and unity among the state's diverse and interdependent criminal justice and victim service system components.

CJCC's overarching goal to create a stronger and safer Georgia would be impossible without the help of its numerous partners and their contributions. Alexander Hamilton said, "The first duty of society is justice." To all who helped to expand and support CJCC's efforts to enhance justice in FY15, I extend a heartfelt thanks.

Respectfully,

Jacqueline Bunn

Jacqueline Bunn
Executive Director



[mission]

Vision + Values

In state fiscal year 2015 (SFY15), CJCC's executive staff worked to identify long-term goals and devised a plan to meet those goals. To that end, "A Georgia where criminal justice and victim's service programs are just, accessible, and compassionate," serves as the agency's new vision statement. The new mission statement is "Innovating Criminal Justice – Empowering Victims." Core values include: "innovation, equity, professionalism, transparency, and exceptional customer service." The vision, mission, and values were reflected in the new milestones reached by the agency in FY15.

WHAT DOES CJCC DO FOR THE STATE OF GEORGIA?

Created in 1981, CJCC serves as the designated State Administrative Agency for numerous federal formula and competitive grant programs. In the last fiscal year, CJCC administered over \$30 million dollars in state and federal victim-assistance-specific funding. CJCC's State Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report demonstrates the agency's growth as well as its expanded vision and mission to improve the lives of the citizens of the great State of Georgia.

One of CJCC's statutory mandates is to convene stakeholders to develop and prioritize a state and local policy agenda for the criminal justice system. With that in mind, CJCC worked closely with stakeholders to seek their perspective to help better inform statewide practice and policy. Over the last two state fiscal years, twelve Regional Criminal Justice Forums were completed. These forums helped CJCC to identify each region's priorities, to

The new mission statement is

"Innovating Criminal Justice – Empowering Victims."

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"Innovation, equity, professionalism, transparency, and exceptional customer service."

[mission]

understand the distinct challenges, and to identify cost-saving, innovative, and effective practices and programs. Eight significant themes and priorities emerged from the forums:

1. There is a need for more robust reentry services.
2. Proper treatment options are needed to address the underlying mental health needs of offenders to substantially affect recidivism and chronic offending.
3. There is a need for cross training among law enforcement professionals and non-profit, social service providers.
4. Statewide coordination and the standardization of practices would make the criminal justice and victim services systems more efficient.
5. Agencies need funding and training to fulfill their missions.
6. Funding needs to be fairly distributed to adequately support programs and services in both rural and urban areas.
7. Funding needs to be for both intervention and prevention efforts.
8. The role of the criminal justice system in providing social services needs to be better defined.

These priorities served as a wonderful roadmap to pursue new competitive grant opportunities. In SFY14, a record number of competitive awards—totaling more than \$4.5 million—were received. These funds helped to augment a wide range of innovative criminal justice and victim service programs aimed at making Georgia safer. Critical funds were delivered to victims of crime, units of local and state government, and non-profit organizations that serve victims of domestic violence, sexual assault,

child abuse, and other crimes. HB 263 ensured CJCC had the necessary authority to effectively and efficiently administer funds from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and funds appropriated by the state legislature for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program.

While CJCC's Grants and Policy Division pursued competitive grants to tackle these important criminal justice system priorities, the Victim Services Division pursued an aggressive outreach and training agenda to ensure victims throughout the state have access to necessary compensation. VSD conducted training statewide to enhance the visibility of the program and to expand access to victims. In SFY15, CJCC sponsored legislation to expand services for victims. SB 79 augmented eligibility for the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program to include immediate step-relations, and the bill doubled the amount of funeral benefits to \$6,000.00.

SFY15 also saw CJCC's implementation of the state's overall response to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families grant that CJCC directs toward efforts to prevent CSEC allowed the state to address the need for cross training across multiple sectors. The Georgia Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force, which CJCC staffs, provides statewide coordination, communication, and collaboration on this issue. The Human Trafficking Task Force brings together more than 100 members representing federal, state, and local government agencies, victim service providers, law enforcement, NGOs, and advocacy groups. These efforts support programs that protect the citizens of Georgia and allow children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment.

"A Georgia where criminal justice and victim's service programs are *just, accessible, and compassionate*"

[by the numbers]

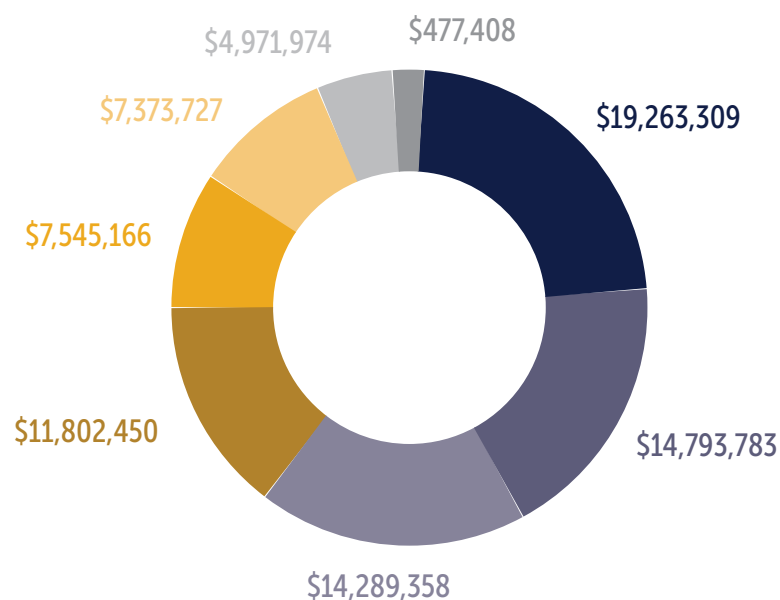
SFY15 At a Glance

TOTAL FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

Funding Distributed Throughout Georgia

Total Disbursed:

\$80,517,175



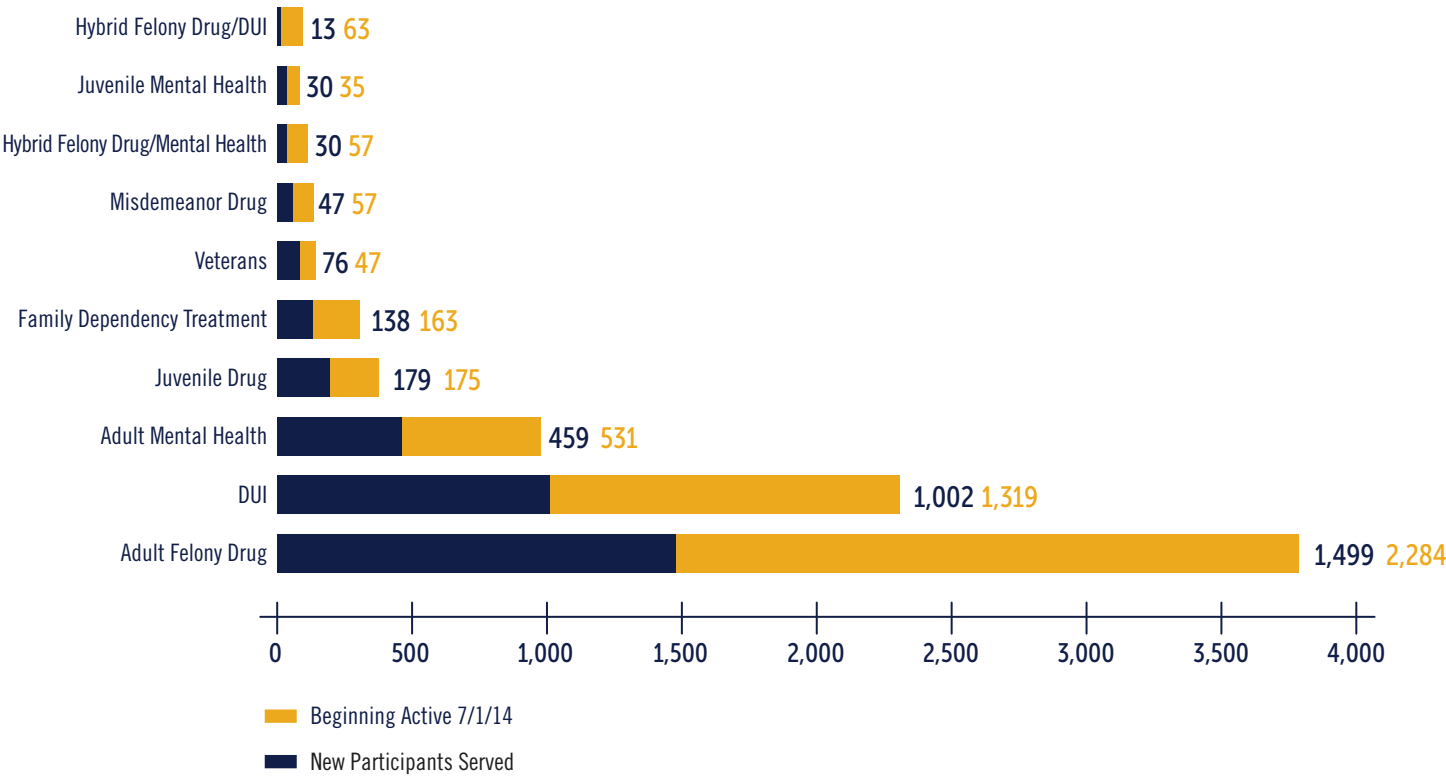
- Human Trafficking Statewide Services & Coordination
- Federal Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Funds
- State & Federal Juvenile Justice Grants
- Federal Criminal Justice Funding
- State Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Grants
- Victims of Crime Act
- State Accountability Court Grants
- Crime Victims Compensation

[by the numbers]

ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS

CJCC supported the implementation and expansion of 124 accountability courts statewide. Those courts served almost 3,500 new participants in SFY15. Adult Felony Drug Courts served just over 43% of those. *Interested in learning more? See Chapter 2.*

Total Court Participants Served SFY 2015



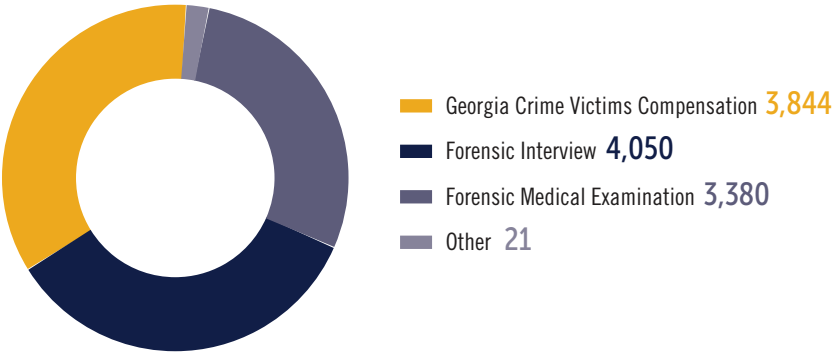
GEORGIA CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION

The Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund (CVEF) received 11,295 applications under various programs in SFY15. These programs include the Forensic Medical Examination Program, the Forensic Interview Program, the DUI Memorial Sign Program, and the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program. During state fiscal year 2015, 81% of all applications received were awarded. In total, there were over \$19.2 million in payments made from the CVEF, and over \$15.7 million was awarded for applications received in SFY15.

More than a third of applications received in SFY15 were under the new Forensic Interview Program. Another 30% were under the Forensic Medical Examination Program. Over 90% of the applications in each of these programs were awarded, for a combined total payout of more than \$3.1 million. *Interested in learning more? See Chapter 9.*

Program Applications SFY 2015

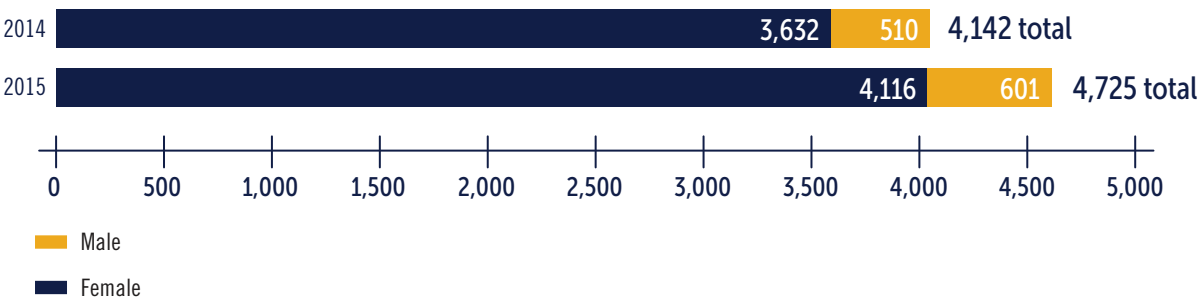
11,295



SEXUAL ASSAULT DIRECT SERVICE STATE FUNDING

CJCC funds 23 sexual assault centers with state funds. State-funded programs served 583 more victims in SFY15 than in SFY14—a 14% increase in service load despite flat funding. That means these agencies served almost two more victims per day than the previous year. *Interested in learning more? See Chapter 8.*

Number of Victims Served in State-Funded Sexual Assault Centers SFY 14 & 15



JUVENILE JUSTICE GRANTS

State Juvenile Justice Incentive Grants funded evidence-based programs in 30 courts serving close to 60 counties throughout the state. These programs diverted 1,448 youths from youth detention centers in SFY15. As compared to SFY12, that means more than 50% fewer youths are being committed to state youth detention centers due to these grant investments. *Interested in learning more? See Chapter 3.*

Over **63%** of the **1,382 youths** who exited these grant-funded programs *successfully* completed them.

2012 BASELINE	TOTAL DIVERSIONS	TOTAL REDUCTION	% REDUCTION
2,680	1,232	1,448	54%*

*Based on data available as of Nov. 30, 2015.

chapter 1

[making an impact]

Innovating Criminal Justice

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL DRUG TASK FORCE AGENCIES—KEEPING OUR STREETS SAFE AND DRUG FREE

A portion of the state's allocated Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) program is used to support 16 Multi-jurisdictional Drug Task Forces (MJDTFs), including two K-9 units. MJDTFs provide crucial drug law enforcement to counter the prevalence of drug-related activity in both urban and rural areas statewide. While the goal is to dismantle drug activity at all levels, MJDTFs place special emphasis on mid-level dealers and upper-level drug traffickers. The impact they have had on drug activity has been significant. Between 2012 and 2014 calendar years, MJDTFs removed over 8.7 million grams of illicit drugs from Georgia's streets and illicit drug supply chain.

Firearms are often seized as a result of drug-related investigations. Over the past three calendar years (2012-2014), drug task forces removed 934 illegal firearms from Georgia's streets. The success of the MJDTFs can largely be attributed to a collaborative approach to drug enforcement. Each agency has partnered with federal, state, and/or local partners to expand resources and share intelligence in the interest of conducting thorough, prosecution-ready investigations. Consequently, more than 90% of MJDTF offender arrests have resulted in either state or federal prosecution over the past three years.

All this activity is having an effect on drug prices, according to the data MJDTFs submit to CJCC. According to supply-side drug enforcement theories, when drug supply control strategies are effective, drug prices increase, hopefully preventing new users from picking up habits because of the expense. With the exception of distribution volumes of marijuana and heroin, MJDTFs reported that the street prices for most drugs are on average over \$100 more per unit than the national average reported by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency.

"MJDTF's reported that the street prices for most drugs are on average over **\$100 more per unit than the national average** reported by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration,

a sign their enforcement efforts are having an effect."

Total Seizures (in grams) by Drug Seized and Year

DRUG TYPE	2012	2013	2014	3-YEAR TREND	% CHANGE
Methamphetamine	15,598	85,055	133,140		754%
Crack	2,811	2,046	8,788		213%
Heroin	495	557	861		74%
MDMA/Ecstasy	1,545	717	1,616		5%
Commercial Grade Marijuana	2,070,998	1,427,964	1,856,847		-10%
Cocaine	423,989	20,227	324,327		-24%
Hydroponic Marijuana	929,248	346,119	704,757		-24%
Prescription Medications	91,944	225,697	42,605		-54%
TOTALS	3,536,628	2,108,382	3,072,941		

Total Prosecution Rate for Drug Task Force Cases 2012-2014

YEAR	STATE PROSECUTION	FEDERAL PROSECUTION	TOTAL PROSECUTION	ADULT ARRESTS	JUVENILE ARRESTS	TOTAL ARRESTS	PROSECUTION RATE
2012	2,398	209	2,607	2,707	38	2,745	95%
2013	2,663	67	2,730	2,920	16	2,936	93%
2014	2,207	93	2,300	2,562	23	2,585	89%

Average DTF-Reported Street Price for Drugs Bought Undercover CY 2014

DRUG TYPE	DRUG	QUANTITY	DTF REPORTED AVERAGE PRICE	NATIONAL STANDARDIZED VALUE	DIFFERENCE
Illegal	Acid	OneUnit	\$15	\$10	-\$5
	Cocaine	OneGram	\$119	\$100	-\$19
		OneOunce	\$1,075	\$1,000	-\$75
	Comm. Grade Marijuana	OneOunce	\$137	\$125	-\$12
		OnePound	\$943	\$1,200	\$257
	Crack	OneOunce	\$1,000	\$850	-\$150
		OneRock	\$58	\$40	-\$18
	Heroin	OneGram	\$107	\$400	\$293
		TenthGram	\$60	NOT REPORTED	
	High Grade Marijuana	OneOunce	\$466	\$300	-\$166
		OnePound	\$2,945	\$4,500	\$1,555
	MDMA	OneTablet	\$35	\$20	-\$15
	Meth	OneGram	\$119	\$100	-\$19
		OneOunce	\$1,389	\$800	-\$589
	Salvia	OneOunce	\$150	NOT REPORTED	

chapter 2

[rehabilitating offenders]

Alternatives to Incarceration



Impact Spotlight

TURNING A VETERAN'S LIFE AROUND

When Dennis Darnes arrived at the Fulton County Accountability Court's Hope Hall Treatment Center, he had over 30 arrests and had been to prison three times for a total of 5 years served. He presented with all of the concerns and issues needed to validate the efficacy of cooperation and collaboration between traditional court partners and Veterans Service Organizations.

Mr. Darnes was born and raised in Sasser, Georgia, a farming community with a population of 300. Farming and factory work were the main sources of income. When he joined the U.S. Marine Corps, he genuinely felt he wanted to make a change in his life, but instead, he increased his exposure to alcohol and gained knowledge of various drugs as he traveled and got "high" all around the world. In fact, he was eventually discharged from the Corps due to illegal and uncontrolled use of substances. When he returned home, he used and sold drugs. He says,

"In 1986, I was arrested for shoplifting, burglaries, and other petty crimes. I started a family and we were together for 5 years. I didn't spend a lot of time with them and I wasn't a good father figure. In 1993, I went to prison for the first time; sentenced to 10 years but released after 3 years served."

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OVERVIEW OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT FUNDING

In 2012, the Georgia General Assembly created the Accountability Court Program, one of several significant criminal justice reform initiatives established to provide effective alternatives to sentencing for nonviolent offenders and reduce the state's prison population.

The stated objectives of the Accountability Court Program are to:

1. Take Georgia's Accountability Courts to scale
2. Reduce incarceration rates
3. Determine Accountability Court funding priorities
4. Encourage adherence to standards
5. Save lives and restore families

To this end, Governor Nathan Deal and the legislature appropriated \$11.6 million for SFY13 with the purpose of establishing an effective and sustainable statewide accountability court system. An Accountability Court Funding Committee was created, by executive order, to determine funding priorities. CJCC was charged with the grants administration in accordance with the committee's funding decisions.

The first year resulted in the implementation and expansion of 99 adult felony, family dependency treatment, DUI, mental health, and juvenile drug courts. The state has since continued funding in an effort to bolster the initiative, ultimately increasing the appropriation to \$19.1 million for SFY16. The number of accountability courts increased from 99 to 124, serving over 8,200 participants. In addition, case management systems were procured to ease reporting and analysis of court programs.


Several special appropriations (e.g., allotments for transportation) further supported the reach of courts, particularly in rural areas. The appropriations provide a critical sentencing option for Georgia's judges to use for nonviolent property and drug offenders, as well as economic support to 101 local jurisdictions.

In 2014, the state legislature established the Council of Accountability Court Judges of Georgia (CACJ). The council is charged with the overarching responsibility of ensuring the continual improvement of accountability courts, including establishing standards and practices for all drug court divisions. The CACJ Funding Committee continues the work of the former collective, working in tandem with CJCC to oversee accountability court grants on behalf of the state.

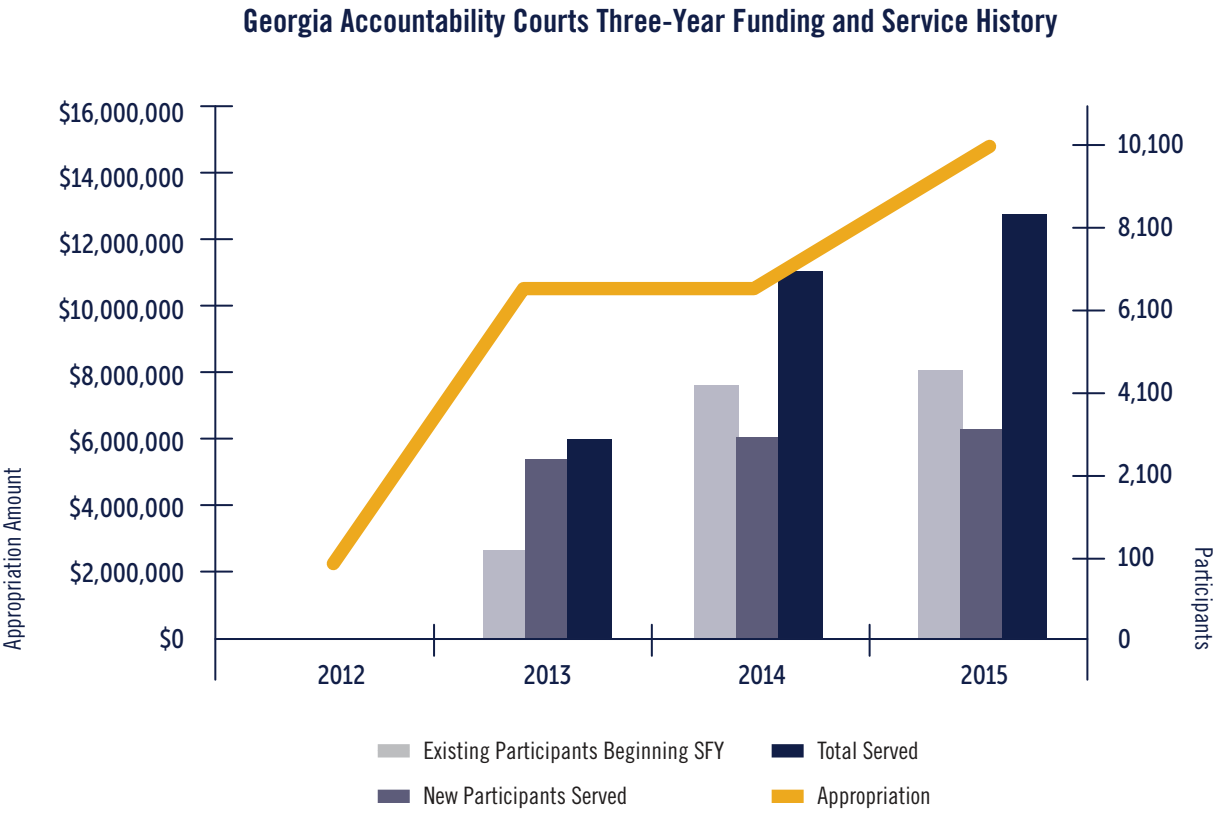
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Seeking employment, Mr. Darnes worked as a corporate trainer for a chain restaurant. His continued drinking and drugging got him fired from the job and sent back to prison in 1998. In 2008, he was diagnosed with glaucoma and cataracts; the family was sure this would be the final reality check for Dennis. Unfortunately, he says, "The diagnosis didn't stop my destructive behavior. I wasn't taking my medication nor did I go to my doctor's appointments on a regular basis. I became legally blind and used that as an excuse to isolate myself from the world."

In 2014, Mr. Darnes accepted and was sentenced to a Fulton County Veteran's Court treatment program on the charges of burglary and theft by taking. While in treatment, he enrolled in Vocational Rehabilitation for the visually impaired; he was trained on keyboarding and learned to navigate personal computers. He performed 35 hours of volunteer service work at Giving Back to Humanity, a local non-profit that serves some of the same people that used drugs alongside Dennis. He says, "My time doing service work has taught me about certain areas of my life. It was a great help in building spiritual principles that now guide my recovery."

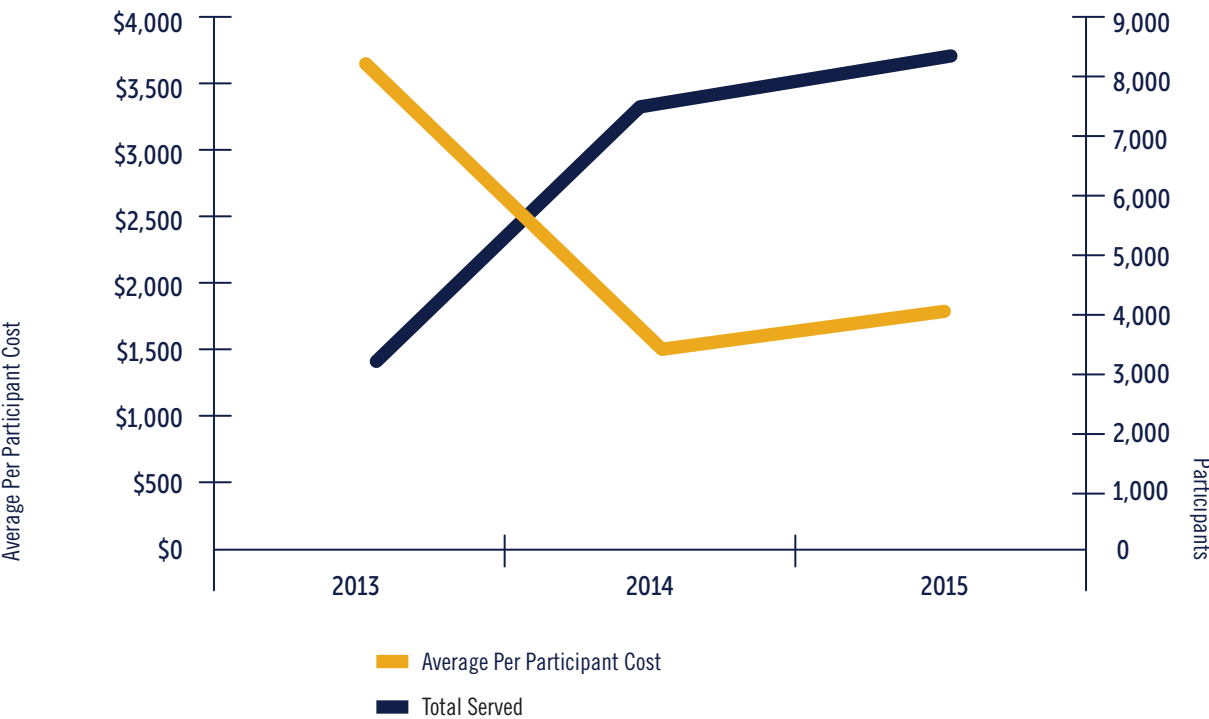
While in treatment, Mr. Darnes saw firsthand the transformative power of military camaraderie when supported and guided by military mentors. The mentors offered their time and insight to help get him through the treatment program. He graduated with 478 days of documented clean time. 

DATA SNAPSHOT: POSITIVE IMPACT OF FUNDING SINCE SFY13



*CJCC was not administering the funds prior to SFY 2013 and thus has no data on service load.

Diminishing Per Participant Cost from Increased Capacity in State Funded Accountability Courts



The increase in funding for Accountability Courts since SFY12 has represented a more than 160% increase in the number of persons served in these courts during that time period. This marked increase in capacity for service results from only a 25% increase in the number of courts funded from SFY13—when substantial funds were appropriated for accountability courts—to SFY15. While funding has increased substantially over the last three state fiscal years, the per-participant cost for each state dollar invested has decreased by 50% as court capacity has ramped up. Additionally, statewide court capacity increased by over 40 participants per court on average in SFY14. From SFY14 to SFY15, CJCC funded an additional 10 courts. Those added courts increased the total service population by an average of 29 participants each.

JAIL-BASED RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT TURNS LIVES AROUND

The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Formula Grant Program assists states and local government units in developing and implementing RSAT programs within state and local detention and correctional facilities. CJCC goals for RSAT-funded programs are:

- Provide evidence-based substance abuse programs to adult and juvenile offenders in Georgia.
- Reduce the risk of offender recidivism and close the revolving door of justice.

In addition to funds awarded to state correctional facilities, 10% of RSAT funds must be awarded to a local government agency. Rockdale County Sheriff's Office (RCSO) was awarded funding for the Rockdale County RSAT (RRSAT) program. RCSO cited three pressing issues they plan to address in the RRSAT:

- The county saw a 20% increase in drug/alcohol-related criminal activity based on drug-related arrests between 2012 and 2013.
- They want to address underlying substance abuse disorders that may be driving criminal behavior. Rockdale Superior and State Courts report the majority of their cases (75%) involved offenders under

REBUILD, FORGIVE, RECOVER

Brandon Fannin arrived at the Fulton County Felony Adult Drug Court program a broken and hopeless individual. He was angry he had wasted 25 years of his life chasing "the next high." He declared war on his addiction and was determined to do whatever needed to be done to grab a second chance at a better life.


Coming into Fulton County Hope Hall Treatment Center, Mr. Fannin was armed with a college degree and some retail management experience. Early in his "using profile" he revealed he had been given a football scholarship to Texas Southern University where he created a platform of popularity around him that bred unrestricted access to and use of an abundance of alcohol and drugs. He says, "I was smoking marijuana and drinking alcohol, but it never adversely affected my athletic performance. However, after college, when I returned home, I started working for a large grocery chain.

Unfortunately, my addiction followed me home and I found myself waking up smoking marijuana, smoking on my lunch break and until I went to bed; 24/7. My thinking was I make good money, pay my bills on time, and I've got money in the bank; I deserve to have a good time. Little did I know, I was constructing a 24-year-old monster that would soon spin me out of control."

(continued on next page)

[rehabilitating offenders]

Fast-forward some years and Mr. Fannin had served three prison sentences and was back in jail. However, this time would be a little different in that he experienced a “spiritual awakening.” He surrendered to the addiction and declared to the world that he was sick and tired of the revolving door of pain and destruction. He accepted Fulton’s Felony Adult Drug Court program and promised himself and the presiding Judge that he would in fact complete the program and restore his self-respect and the respect of his family, who had never turned their back on him.

Mr. Fannin attended cooking school and uses those skills today to maintain steady employment in the hospitality industry. He attends Narcotics Anonymous meetings and keeps constant company with other recovering addicts. His conversation today is about the healing power of forgiveness and he shares it with newcomers as an example of the benefits of recovery. He graduated drug court with 367 days of documented clean time. 

*His conversation today is about the healing power of forgiveness and he shares it with newcomers as an example of the benefits of recovery. He graduated drug court with **367 days** of documented clean time.*

the influence of drugs and/or alcohol while in the commission of a crime.

- Almost 50% of respondents to a RCSO survey stated they did not feel safe in Rockdale County.

The RRSAT program specifically targets habitual offender recidivism rates. Between 2012 and 2013, the inmate population in Rockdale County jail increased by almost 30%, mostly because of chronic recidivists. Many of these offenders have substance abuse habits. Following are a few examples that illustrate habitual offender recidivism:

- **Michelle:** 17 incarcerations over the past 23 years.
- **James:** six incarcerations over the past 3 years.
- **Donna:** 34 incarcerations over the past 21 years.
- **Graham:** 35 incarcerations over the past 21 years.

The RRSAT program lasts 12 weeks. During that time, participants complete over 200 hours of recovery programming, which includes intensive substance abuse prevention classes, individual counseling, parenting skills, anger management, domestic relations, job readiness, relapse prevention, character development, health education, vocational skills, and physical fitness. After a participant is released into the community, an aftercare plan is put in place and a case manager carefully monitors graduates for up to one year. Ongoing assistance may include additional outpatient or residential treatment, housing, job skills, employment, and other needed resources.

In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015, Rockdale County RSAT admitted a total of 90 new participants and saw an 89% success rate in its first year of funding. Only 11 participants failed to complete the program: four were released or transferred to another facility, two voluntarily dropped out, and five were dismissed for violating rules. All enrollees received drug treatment and cognitive-based services. Additionally, over 80% of the participants received employment services and a quarter received mental health services.


Rockdale County RSAT Quarterly Program Enrollment FFY 2015

QUARTER SPAN	NEW ADMISSIONS	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	DRUG PROG. ENROLLMENT	COGNITIVE PROG. ENROLLMENT	EMPLOYMENT SERVICES ENROLLMENT	HOUSING PROG. ENROLLMENT	MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ENROLLMENT	OTHER PROG. ENROLLMENT	SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION	SUCCESSFUL RELEASE
01 Oct 2014-31 Dec 2014	20		20	20	20	7	4	4	0	0
01 Jan 2015-31 Mar 2015	21	42	37	37	21	10	11	37	15	10
01 Apr 2015-30 Jun 2015	34	70	80	80	80	8	12	80	40	28
01 Jul 2015-30 Sep 2015	15	30	28	28	25	3	10	28	10	7
Grand Total	90		165	165	146	28	37	149	65	45

RECOVERY IN ACTION

Catherine was a participant in the first women's RRSAT class. Upon graduation, Catherine returned home and participated in outpatient services for approximately two months before she started slipping back into old habits and abusing prescription pills. With support and frequent communication from the RRSAT team, Catherine reached out for help and began attending the Winner Circle in Conyers. In October 2015, Catherine had an argument with her significant other and became very distressed. After the argument, she once again reached out to the RRSAT team and was sent to a crisis stabilization unit where she could detox in safety. She is presently involved with outpatient services and has not recidivated because

of the relationship she has with the RRSAT team. She is a testament to the importance of a comprehensive and flexible aftercare system.

We celebrate when drug addicted offenders live a lifetime of sobriety with no new offenses, and that is clearly our ultimate goal. However, we should also celebrate when treatment leads people on a journey that produces increasing numbers of sober days, a proper plan to handle triggers and stresses, a network of support to provide them strength and keep them on track, and reduced recidivism resulting from addictive behaviors. 

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chapter 3

[securing our future]

Intervening with Youthful Offenders



OVERVIEW OF JJ INCENTIVE GRANTS AND TITLE II FUNDS

In the first year of the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant program implementation, 29 juvenile courts received grants to implement evidence-based programs (EBPs) as a way to avoid incarceration of adjudicated youth and reduce recidivism. Twenty-one awardees received state funding through CJCC and eight awardees received federal funding through the former Governor's Office for Children and Families; a total of \$5.6 million in funding. The 29 grantees spanned 49 counties, which in 2011 were home to approximately 70% of Georgia's total at-risk population, defined as juveniles between the ages of 0 and 16¹. In the implementation year, grantee courts collectively exceeded the 15% target reduction goal, reducing the number of out-of-home placements by 1,614 (from 2,603 to 989), a 62% reduction in short-term placements (STP) and felony commitments.

In the second year of implementation (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015), grantee courts collectively also exceeded the 20% target reduction goal. In total, \$6.82 million was awarded to these counties using combined Title II and state funding. The combined number of out-of-home placements achieved was 1,227 within the counties the 29 grantee courts served. This number represents a more than 54% reduction from the FY12 baseline (from 2,680 to 1,232). During the second grant year, grantees used one or more of the nine key EBPs to serve 1,666 youths in 51 counties across Georgia. These programs provided grantees alternatives to out-of-home placements and assisted in reducing the number of STP admissions and felony commitments to the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice by approximately 54% across this geographic area. Courts and their providers used a combination of individual- and family-centered EBPs and group-based programs.

DATA SNAPSHOT: OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT REDUCTIONS FOR TWO YEARS OF INVESTMENT

	FY 2014	FY 2015
Baseline – Total Out-of-Home Placements	2,603	2,667
Benchmark: Reduction in Out-of-Home Placements	15%	20%
Percentage reduction achieved	62%	54%
Total out-of-home placements	989	1,227
Implementation period	9 months	12 months
Number of grantee courts	29	29
Number of counties applied to serve	49	51

Reference

¹ Puzzanchera, C., Sladky, A. and Kang, W. (2010). *Easy access to juvenile populations: 1990–2009*[Data Set]. Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the National Center for Juvenile Justice. Retrieved from <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/>

SUPPORTING VITAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR YOUTH IN CUSTODY

CJCC supports the Department of Juvenile Justice’s (DJJ) residential substance abuse treatment (RSAT) program for males ages 13-21 at three of the state’s youth detention centers: Atlanta, Augusta, and Sumter. Typically, RSAT participants have a substance abuse diagnosis upon initial screening or a minimum of six months remaining in secure confinement. In its commitment to use best practices for youth in a juvenile justice setting, DJJ has implemented evidence-based treatment models of care, including Seven Challenges. This program, designed specifically for adolescents with substance abuse problems, centers around positive decision-making and a commitment to change while simultaneously helping youth address co-occurring life skill deficits, as well as situational and psychological problems.

DJJ bolsters CJCC’s RSAT investment with a federal Second Chance Act (SCA) grant award that supports the state’s youth reentry services, particularly in rural areas. As part of this initiative, DJJ’s reentry taskforce

addresses youth needs encompassing ancillary services from continuity of care and case management to staffing needs and data monitoring. The SCA initiative ensures youths who have successfully completed the RSAT program can still receive care once they exit the system.

In federal fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the DJJ admitted 272 juveniles into an RSAT program. During that same period, 118 RSAT participants successfully completed the program. All RSAT participants receive drug treatment and cognitive-based services. Fifty percent of participants receive mental health services.

The DJJ monitors graduates for up to six months of aftercare in coordination with the youth’s community provider/coordinator. Offenders enrolled in these treatment and aftercare programs have a 10% reduction in recidivism rates: 26%, as compared to 36.5% recidivism rate of the overall population. Together, the two funding streams – the RSAT award received through CJCC and the SCA award – help to provide DJJ youth with the skills and resources they need to be successful as they return to the community.

Department of Juvenile Justice RSAT Program Enrollment FFY 2014-2015

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	NEW ADMISSIONS	DRUG PROGRAM ENROLLMENT	COGNITIVE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT	MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM ENROLLMENT	SUCCESSFUL COMPLETIONS	SUCCESSFUL RELEASES FROM CUSTODY
2014	193	136	193	193	86	44	24
2015	257	136	257	257	137	74	68
Grand Total	450	272	450	450	223	118	92

Offenders enrolled in these treatment and aftercare programs have a **10%** reduction in recidivism rates: **26%**, as compared to **36.5%** recidivism rate of the overall population.

Impact Spotlight

TURNING LIVES AROUND, ONE YOUTH AT A TIME

Ryan Newallo is a star youth who showed tremendous progress both in his behaviors and achievements when he was under the Department of Juvenile Justice, and continued to advance after his supervision ended. Prior to completing the Thinking for a Change evidence-based program as part of the Fayette County Incentive Grant, Ryan was not on a path to success, which resulted in him getting involved with the juvenile justice system. His schoolwork and relationship with his family were both suffering. However, he attributes the Thinking for a Change program for assisting him in getting back on a successful path and moving towards his great potential. He is now a part of the National Black MBA Association-Atlanta Chapter Leaders of Tomorrow program. He participated in the National Business Case Competition, a program that trains high school students for months to analyze an MBA-level Harvard-style graduate business case and pitch recommendations before panels of senior corporate executives and business school faculty, while competing for scholarship dollars. He also participated in the Success Boot Camp, which is a rigorous annual experience focused on academic excellence, professional development, college preparation, health and fitness, leadership, and service. Ryan attended interactive workshops, leadership elections, and networking events with major corporations and elected officials. In May 2015, Ryan was selected by Fayette County High School to represent his school, and partook in a weeklong leadership seminar dealing with giving back to the community. He is an alumnus of Chick-fil-A Leader Academy and is a proud contributing member of the Boy Scouts. In September 2015, Ryan was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group as a youth representative. 🌱

chapter 4

[fostering innovation]

at the Local Level

PHOTO BY: JOI ITO <http://joi.ito.com/>

FUNDING LOCAL GANG REDUCTION AND CONTROL INITIATIVES

As organized gangs were terrorizing large communities on the East and West coasts in the 1980s and '90s, gang activity in DeKalb County, Georgia, was primarily neighborhood-based, mimicking larger sects, such as Crips and Bloods. By 2010, however, national gang leadership reached metro Atlanta and actively recruited neighborhood gang members. DeKalb jails and prisons were equally preyed upon. Youth were specifically targeted at the Regional Youth Detention Center.

In 2013, many organized gangs were taken over by the current preeminent gang in DeKalb: Sex Money Murder (SMM). A predominantly African-American gang affiliated with the well-known Bloods, SMM is now predominant in the Southeast and has a firm hold on DeKalb County neighborhoods. With well-organized leadership, aggressive recruitment techniques, and ties to national crime syndicates, SMM and other gangs pose a significant threat to the fabric of the community. There are 210 documented gangs in DeKalb County, and 125 active gangs. There are an estimated 3,000 gang members in DeKalb and that number is growing.

The DeKalb County Gang Reduction and Intervention Program (GRIP) is an initiative based upon the best practices and strategies of the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice Comprehensive Gang Model. GRIP aims to improve the coordination, collaboration, and linkages among local law enforcement, social services, and private entities to address gangs in DeKalb. The collaboration includes the DeKalb County police and sheriffs, the DeKalb County Human Development Department (with other complementary agencies offering specific services), DeKalb County Juvenile Court, DeKalb County Georgia Superior Court, the offices of the DeKalb County District Attorney and the DeKalb County Solicitor General, and the DeKalb County Board of Health, with full support of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice. The goals of the anti-gang coordination effort are to:

- Increase coordination of information and efforts to stop the proliferation of gang activity through improved

channels of communication, beginning with the DeKalb GRIP project, as well as improved data sharing technology.

- Reduce gang activity in DeKalb County by at least 10% in 2-3 years through heightened police presence in defined "hotspots."

BEYOND TREATMENT: EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION TAKE CENTER STAGE IN HALL COUNTY'S REACT PROGRAM

CJCC awarded an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) to the Hall County Correctional Institution (HCCI) for the development of its REACT program, a reentry program that combines substance abuse treatment, work release, and education to successfully transition prisoners into the community. REACT stands for Reentry Accountability Court Transition and has four phases, which target specific criminogenic risk factors and offender needs.

During the phases of treatment, the inmates are separated from the rest of the offender population. The four phases are Assessment and Orientation, Active Treatment, Re-entry (pre-exit Planning), and Relapse Prevention (exit planning). Offenders who successfully complete the program are eligible for the HOPE Scholarship, which they can use to pursue vocational or college education.

In the first phase, participants are housed with the general population and assigned to a work detail. Inmates are evaluated for severe substance abuse issues with the Texas Christian University Drug Screen (TCUDS), which is used to determine the need for rigorous residential drug treatment. Programming starts in the second phase when participants with TCUDS scores indicating severe substance abuse issues are required to complete a nine-month residential substance abuse treatment program.

Because it takes a village to rehabilitate an offender, HCCI has forged deep and successful partnerships with Lanier Technical College, local businesses, churches, and industry leaders to ensure reentering offenders

[fostering innovation]

have the tools for success. Program participants have an opportunity to obtain their GED and take a college competency test. Participants are steered into high-demand fields and are able to take classes at Lanier Technical College.

During phase three of the program, with approximately six months to serve, the inmate is moved to a transitional center. If they are in school full-time, they are allowed to work part-time with a partnering employer in their field of study. Transportation is provided, along with access to mentoring from 12Stone Church. The inmate is allowed to keep the wages they earn in an account set up by HCCI, which is available to them upon release.

In the final phase, the offender becomes a returning citizen, on parole or probation, and subject to drug testing and all other requirements of their supervision. If a returning citizen does well during the fourth phase, administrators of the REACT program will work with the parole board to commute sentences after three years versus four, or end probation after two years.

NEWMAN'S TARGETED COMMUNITY CRIME REDUCTION INITIATIVE

In 2015, CJCC partnered with the City of Newnan and Performance Vistas, Inc. to implement a targeted crime reduction strategy that would address recurrent incidences of crime in several areas throughout the city. From 2011 to 2014, 46 assaults with injuries were reported, a significant increase from the 10 reported just 2 years prior. Drug cases also increased considerably—by 124%—during this time, as did armed robberies with a 100% increase. In 2014, the city suffered three homicides, with a total of eight over past four years. Neighborhoods are awakened by gunfire and, quite recently, a bullet was found lodged in the wall of a toddler's room.

As a result of the rise in crime rates, city officials, law enforcement, and community leaders worked together to find ways to address persistent violent crime. In search of a focused, results-oriented approach, Newnan City Council members voted unanimously to hire Doug Bailey,

president of Performance Vistas, Inc. (PVI). Mr. Bailey has extensive experience implementing crime reduction strategies in several Southern cities. Most recently, he served as the principal investigator of Tennessee's Targeted Community Crime Reduction Program (TCCRP), and partnered with Tennessee's Office of Criminal Justice Programs to reduce violent crime in seven of the state's cities. TCCRP's success is primarily attributable to reducing the fragmentation among local entities and establishing collaborative partnerships charged with the well being of its citizens. As Mr. Bailey asserts:

"The traditional approach relies on law enforcement, stepping up patrols and arrests to tamp down the crime—which moves for a time, then returns because nothing has really changed in the neighborhoods. This approach tends to isolate enforcement from the other entities responsible for preventing young people from committing crimes and offenders from returning to their criminal behavior. In fact, community expectations that local law enforcement must control crime actually displace the real responsibility for crime prevention, and exacerbate trust issues between the community and its enforcement entities. Beneath the surface lies the deepest need—the sort of trusting relationships that encourage community collaboration and broad-based local 'ownership' of the strengths of the neighborhoods, as well as responsibility for helping change them."

The Newnan initiative is in the planning stage—garnering community participation and obtaining input from residents to identify the most effective strategies for crime reduction. Moving forward, the city's coalition will use crime data analysis and other techniques to focus its resources on: prevention targets (e.g., residents, businesses, and crime hot spots); enforcement targets (e.g., youthful and adult offenders who comprise the richest returns for community policing and data-driven resource management by local law enforcement); and offender intervention targets (e.g., offenders who show the greatest likelihood of benefiting from intervention via jobs programs, probation/parole/court monitoring, as well as the provider agencies such as adult learning and jobs programs serving the area).

chapter 5

[research + data]

Informing Policy and Practice

DATA SHARING: IMPROVING CONTINUITY OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

The Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform launched the Georgia Prisoner Reentry Initiative (GA-PRI) in November 2013 with the vision that every returning citizen released from prison will have the tools and support needed to succeed in the community. To make this vision a reality, the mission of the GA-PRI is to improve public safety by reducing crime through implementation of a seamless plan of services and supervision developed with each returning citizen—delivered through state and local collaboration—from the time they enter prison through their successful transition, reintegration, and aftercare in the community.

In the spring of 2014, Georgia applied for a series of federal grants to provide financial support for the implementation of the GA-PRI. Of those grants, the 2014 Byrne JAG Justice Information Sharing Initiative addresses two of Georgia's current criminal justice problems: an absence of criminogenic risk assessment sharing between the Georgia Department of Corrections and community services boards (CSB) that treat returning citizens; and, a lack of continuity of treatment for mentally ill or substance-dependent returning citizens. These two problems must be addressed in order to meet the GA-PRI expectations of a seamless transition from intake through release from community supervision.

The information sharing initiative grant funds a pilot project that will serve the first six GA-PRI sites (Atlanta, Albany, Augusta, Columbus, Macon, and Savannah) and will lay the groundwork for future statewide development. The Georgia Department of Community Supervision is developing an enterprise solution to share dynamic risk/needs next-generation assessment data and transition accountability plans with the CSBs, to which returning citizens will be connected for mental health and substance abuse treatment. Sharing data will provide CSBs with a reliable and objective measure of the offender's recidivism risk and treatment/criminogenic needs to ensure continuity of treatment received in prison and consistency of diagnosis for mental illness.

The project is a collaboration of CJCC and the Governor's Office of Transition, Support, and Reentry; the Georgia Technology Authority; the Georgia Department of Corrections; the Georgia Department of Community Supervision; the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles; the Georgia Association of Community Service Boards; ASPIRE Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Services; and Applied Research Services.

DATA MINING TO TARGET LIMITED FEDERAL PROSECUTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES

The Violent Repeat Offender Program (VRO) of the Northern District of Georgia United States Attorney's Office identifies and targets the most violent repeat offenders in the metro Atlanta area. Applied Research Services (ARS), a Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) research partner, has generated a two-tiered list of violent offenders operating in these Atlanta neighborhoods: English Avenue, Vine City, Mechanicsville, and Pittsburgh. The first tier consists of the 150 most dangerous offenders, who are active and likely to recidivate. ARS's process of identification includes analysis of data from the GDC and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Georgia Crime Information Center, criminal histories, nature of the crimes of arrest and conviction, county of committed crimes, the involvement of firearms, and several other objective factors. The subjects identified by this methodology are then vetted against local community policing information to determine whether a particular individual is likely currently committing violent crimes.

The VRO list is actively managed by ARS, and the United States Attorney's Office chairs a twice-monthly VRO committee composed of the Atlanta Police Department, the FBI, the ATF, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement-Homeland Security Investigations, the U.S. Marshals Service, the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles, and the Fulton County District Attorney's office. These VRO meetings assess current intelligence gathered on members of the VRO list, and develop action plans for the top-tier offenders. This potent list has generated interest from other areas of the country, including the District of Columbia, that want to set up similar programs.

The second-tier list identifies individuals who, based on objective measures, are likely to re-offend but who are not yet so violent that they require long prison sentences. The metrics used for these violent offenders differ because the goal is to ascertain the individual's suitability for intervention through social services, such as education and job training or mental health and substance abuse treatment. Second-tier individuals are incentivized to enroll in services through positive reinforcement such as job skill training, and mental and physical health treatment. The central use of the VRO list in creating these tiers ensures that the PSN Task Force is operating a strategy that is equal parts enforcement and intervention.

USING RESEARCH AND DATA TO INFORM POLICY AND PRACTICE

Georgia is on the cutting edge of accountability court implementation since the passage of HB 1176. In FFY14, CJCC successfully applied for a \$2 million Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant to expand Veterans Treatment Courts throughout the state. With those federal dollars, CJCC funded eight treatment courts in seven counties. To further leverage the receipt of the grant, the then-named Accountability Court Funding Committee funded an additional five courts in another four counties in the state. In total, Georgia has 130 state- and federally-funded accountability courts of various types throughout the state.

A robust process and impact evaluation of Veterans Treatment Courts has never been conducted. With part of the BJA award and additional state funds, CJCC has contracted with ARS to conduct a comprehensive impact and process evaluation. ARS employs a participatory action research design to provide courts with annual feedback for process and outcomes assessment and improvement. Among the measures ARS will examine are: court staffing team cohesiveness and effectiveness using a validated, standardized scale; court participant mental health status improvement using standardized and validated psychopathy and post-traumatic stress disorder measurement scales; feelings of cohesiveness and camaraderie among participants; and recidivism.

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chapter 6

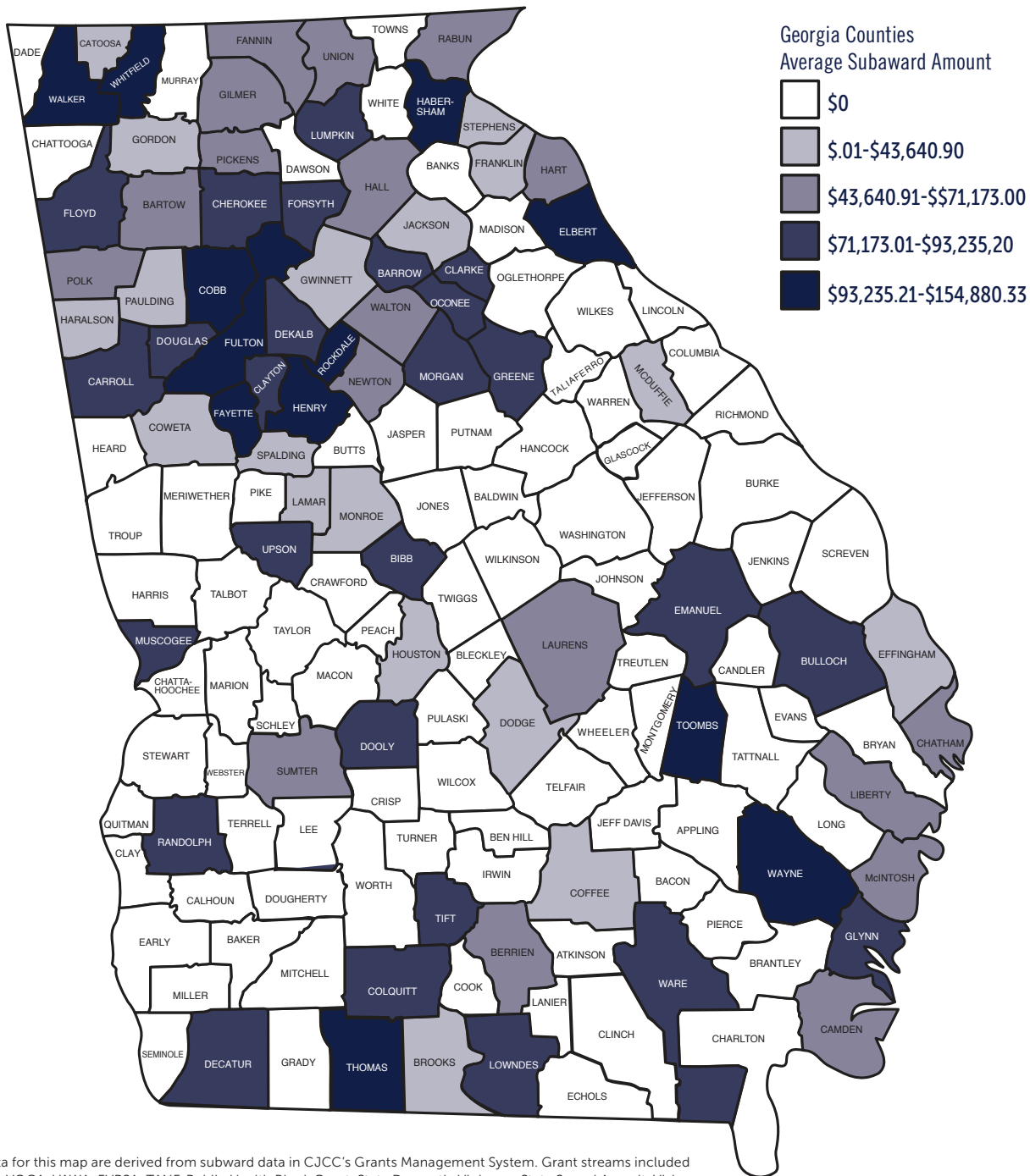
[supporting survivors]

Empowering Victims of Crime to Rebuild their Lives

COORDINATING 12 FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING STREAMS TO SERVE CRIME VICTIMS

CJCC is the administering agency for 12 different formula and competitive funding streams that provide state and federal dollars for crime victim services throughout the state. In FFY/SFY15, CJCC administered over 360 sub-awards to local nonprofit and government agencies throughout the state. These funds provide critical crisis intervention, stabilization, and systems coordination services to help victims cope with the trauma of the crime they have suffered.

Average Agency Subaward by County FFY & SFY 2015
All CJCC-Administered State & Federal Victims Assistance Funds

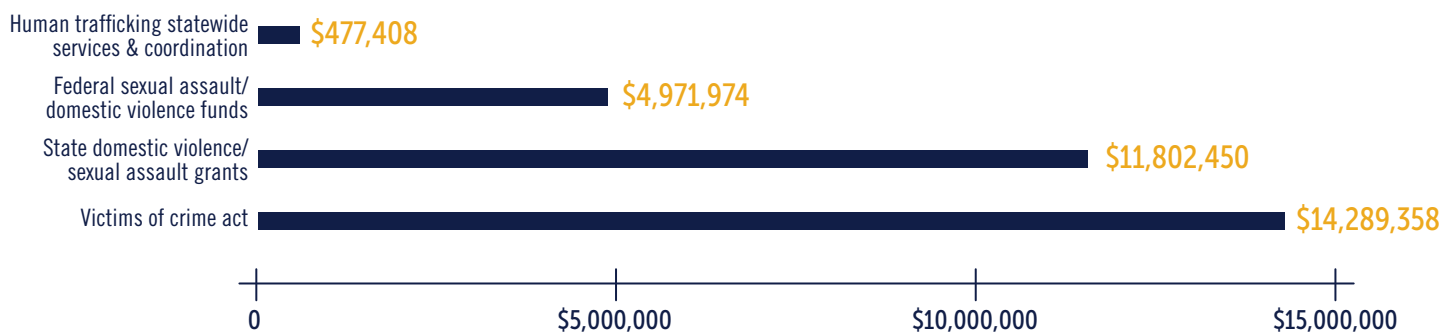


Data for this map are derived from subaward data in CJCC's Grants Management System. Grant streams included are: VOCA, VAWA, FVPSA, TANF, Public Health Block Grant, State Domestic Violence, State Sexual Assault, Vision 21: Legal Services, Arrest, OVW Elder Abuse, and SASP. Awards are made to individual nonprofit or governmental agencies within each county. Federal Fiscal Year: 10/1/14-9/30/15. State Fiscal Year: 7/1/14-6/30/15. For questions about this map contact: Stefanie Lopez-Howard, Statistical Center Director.

ENSURING ACCESS TO ADVOCACY AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR ALL CRIME VICTIMS

In SFY15, CJCC distributed \$31.5 million throughout the state for either direct victim services or systems coordination projects to improve service delivery. Almost all of this funding comes from two federal formula grant programs and the state-appropriated domestic violence and sexual assault grant programs. Together, these four funding streams represented \$31 million dollars. CJCC also maintains and distributes smaller competitive grants aimed either at systems coordination and improvement, or services to specific populations.

Funding Distributed For Direct Victim Services or System Coordination SFY 2015



STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FUNDS

The Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program fosters initiatives that expand and bolster services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. The program also develops and strengthens effective law enforcement, prosecution, adjudication, and offender monitoring strategies to combat violent crimes against women.

As the state administering agency for this program, CJCC is required to allocate grant funds as follows:

- 25% to programs that benefit law enforcement
- 25% to programs that benefit prosecution
- 30% to victims services programs, of which 10% must be for culturally-specific services
- 5% to programs that benefit court services
- 15% to discretionary grants

Every three years, CJCC is required to submit an Implementation plan to the U.S. Department of Justice's

Office on Violence Against Women to detail how the state will allocate funds. Because the plan must be updated each year, CJCC hosts an annual Violence Against Women Act implementation planning committee meeting each December and has formed the following subcommittees made up of partners from around the state that work throughout the year:

- Policy
- Underserved
- Multidisciplinary Teams
- Training
- Evaluation

IN 2014, CJCC AND ITS PARTNERS DETERMINED GEORGIA'S HIGHEST PRIORITIES TO BE THE FOLLOWING:

- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault, including

recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals.

- Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families.
- Developing, enhancing, or strengthening prevention and educational programming to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, with not more than 5% of the amount allocated to a state to be used for this purpose.

STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT FUNDS

CJCC administers almost \$12 million in state appropriations for domestic violence and sexual assault agencies. In addition to making sub-awards, CJCC also ensures that state-funded agencies adhere to a basic set of core services and standards. Staff conducts both programmatic and fiscal site visits to check for compliance with these standards and ensure that victims seeking safe shelter from their abusers receive care and support that aligns with best practices.

The purpose of the state Domestic Violence Grant Program per O.C.G.A. 19-13-22 is to provide intervention services, awareness, and education to Georgia's citizens on domestic violence prevention strategies that will change the attitudes of communities. Core intervention services include:

- Safe, confidential shelter staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- 24-hour crisis line answered by staff
- Service planning/case management
- Structured children's activities
- Individual and group counseling, peer support groups, and referral to such services

Impact Spotlight

BILINGUAL THERAPY GROUP HELPS ONE SURVIVOR MOVE ON AND STAY STRONG


Marisol* is a young mother of two beautiful boys—a 9-month-old and a 2-year-old—and a survivor of domestic violence. She came to Ser Familia, Inc., as a 2015 Family Violence Prevention and Services Act mini-grant recipient, seeking Spanish support group services at the beginning of the year. During her first session, Marisol cried and shared her experience. She met the father of her children while still in high school and had to drop out when she became pregnant. During their relationship, he physically and emotionally abused her. She dealt with law enforcement and the state court; and her first-born son was at times present during the incidents. Her partner's family also mistreated Marisol, and her ex-partner also hit one of her family members. In spite of this, Marisol's family became a source of strength and she was able to return home. Unfortunately, she still had to work through the trauma she experienced.

In the CJCC-funded Spanish support groups, Marisol found hope, strength, and education. Marisol not only changed as a person, but as a mother. During the first weeks of attending support group, Marisol shared frustration, sadness, and guilt. As time went on, we saw her change. Marisol's attitude became more positive, she began to smile, and even took advantage of the Triple P Positive Parenting Program to help with her oldest son's outbursts and maladaptive mimicking behaviors of his father. Marisol participated constantly in the support group sessions and took back information to share with her family. She learned how to stay physically safe, but

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[supporting survivors]

also emotionally safe. A few weeks ago, she had to appear in court and her biggest fear was her reaction upon encountering her ex-partner. By practicing the techniques we discussed during support group, she managed to get through the day and not to let him inside her mind.

Today, Marisol and her boys are in a good emotional place. They are living in a healthy environment and moving forward. Marisol is working and planning to get her GED; her boys are developing well and the change in her oldest son has been amazing. Marisol's support network has grown in the last few months and I personally have seen this young woman blossom. As Marisol says, "Words can't describe how thankful I am... I honestly don't know how I would learn what you have taught me—not only for myself, but something that helped my son as well." 

**Name changed for confidentiality*

"Words can't describe how thankful I am... I honestly don't know how I would learn what you have taught me—not only for myself, but something that helped my son as well."

- Legal advocacy
- Medical advocacy
- Social service advocacy
- Financial advocacy/means of support
- Household establishment services
- Transportation
- Follow-up
- TANF assessments
- Parenting support/education
- Non-residential support services
- Community outreach and awareness

With these state funds, CJCC also supports 23 sexual assault centers throughout the state. The purpose of the state funds is to provide primary, secondary, and tertiary services to victims of sexual assault and their families, as well as provide outreach and awareness services to the larger community. Core intervention services include:

- Advocacy/crisis intervention
- Emergency financial assistance
- Follow-up contact
- Follow-up exams
- Forensic medical examinations
- Individual/family therapy
- Legal advocacy
- Medical accompaniment
- Support groups
- Assistance with victims compensation

While they do not have certification standards as yet, CJCC conducts annual site visits with the sexual assault centers to ensure that clients are receiving quality services. CJCC created a Sexual Assault Services Standards Committee, which includes several CJCC-funded centers as well as the Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault, to create certification standards for sexual

assault centers in the state. The committee is finalizing the draft of the certification standards and evaluation tool and will start implementation in July 2016.

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) is the primary federal funding stream dedicated to emergency shelter and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and their dependents. FVPSA grants were the first federally appropriated funds to assist states in responding to and preventing incidents of family violence. Enacted by Congress in 1984, FVPSA is intended to help states: raise public awareness about domestic violence; prevent its occurrence; and create, maintain, and expand services for victims of domestic violence and their dependents.

CJCC rolls out a request for applications every 1 to 2 years to address underserved populations throughout the state. These funds expand or establish new programs for our currently funded domestic violence shelters and provide an opportunity for community-based programs working with underserved populations to expand their current services. In SFY15, we were able to fund: the expansion of services to provide access to mental health/substance abuse services in two underserved populations, an expansion of a teen text line to six additional pilot sites, and an expansion of services to minority populations by assisting with transportation barriers in rural counties.

FVPSA also funds a training website through the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The training website will help build the capacity of domestic violence agencies, offer participants the ability to engage directly during live sessions, and be a convenient way to access unique training seminars from the participant's computer. CJCC was also able to provide scholarships for domestic violence advocates attending the Georgia Commission on Family Violence 2015 Annual Statewide Family Violence Conference.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANTS MEND LIVES


ONE VOCA-FUNDED ADVOCATE TOUCHES MANY LIVES

Since April, I have worked as a victim advocate on one homicide and two other shootings that resulted in deaths. In all three of these cases, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds were able to provide an advocate on scene while the investigation was ongoing to help the surviving family members in critical stages of their grief. I found that this was instrumental in helping support the surviving family members throughout the difficult hours immediately following the crime. I assured their immediate needs were met: from helping notify family, providing support through information from the investigators, keeping them up to date on changes in the case, as well as assuring them in the homicide case that an arrest had been made.


I also assisted one of our investigators with a stalking case that had multiple victims and ensured victims were able to get protection orders against the suspect in the case to help stop the unnecessary harassment.

I was also called to a child endangerment call with one of our investigators where a 2-year-old girl was walking down one of our highways unattended. Once on scene I was able to provide immediate crisis counseling with the child and wait on Division of Family and Children Services to get there and evaluate the situation. That ended in placement of three children outside that home in order to protect them from a dangerous environment. There have been numerous cases that I have worked on scene, as well as cases that have walked through our front doors. We strive to provide everyone with the highest

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level of care and concern and provide him or her with support to better whatever situation he or she might find himself or herself in. 

FROM FLEEING FOR HER LIFE TO BACK ON HER FEET

Project Safe had a victim who called our hotline from another county. This victim came into shelter needing to escape physical violence, and emotional and financial abuse by her husband. The client left this abusive relationship and entered our shelter five months pregnant. During her time in shelter, this resident gained full-time employment, secured housing, and re-enrolled in school. Project Safe paid for utility bills, a GED transcript, work uniforms, childcare, and items needed for the birth of her newborn. This client has been a great success in reaching every goal she set for herself. 

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES UNITE

Peggy* is a 41-year-old mother of two small children. After seven years of marriage, her husband started verbally and physically abusing her and would not allow her to work outside the home. After an intense argument with her husband, he became enraged, calling her names and spitting on her. She ran into the kitchen, grabbed the car keys, and was trying to get her children to safety, but he grabbed her and threw her on the couch. He threatened to kill her.

Terrified, she and her children escaped and ran to her sister's house. Peggy then called the Magnolia House where she sought safety and assistance. The next

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SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM

The Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) was created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (VAWA 2005), 42 U.S.C. 14043g, and is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct services to primary and secondary sexual assault victims. SASP is designed to supplement other funding sources directed at addressing sexual assault. Eligible recipients include rape crisis centers and other nonprofit organizations such as dual programs serving domestic violence and sexual assault victims, and child advocacy centers that help victims access and navigate medical, criminal justice, and social support systems.

The Sexual Assault Services Program Formula Grant Program supports organizations that provide crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment (e.g., accompanying victims to court, medical facilities, police departments, etc.), counseling, and related assistance to:

- Adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault
- Family and household members of such victims
- Those collaterally affected by the victimization, except for the perpetrator of such victimization (e.g. friends, coworkers, classmates)

ESTABLISHING COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL SERVICES FOR VICTIMS TO ACCESS JUSTICE


In 2014, CJCC received a grant award of \$453,666 through the Office for Victims of Crime's FY14 Vision 21: Victim Legal Assistance Networks Program. The core partners of the State of Georgia's VLAN grant project are the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Georgia State University, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Georgia Legal Services Program, Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN), and Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation.

The core partners will develop networks that provide no-cost legal assistance to victims to address the wide range of legal needs they may have in the wake of their victimization. The project team will conduct a needs assessment, develop and support a steering committee, and develop policies and protocols to establish a statewide network of pro bono legal assistance providers for victims of crime in the State of Georgia. The implementation of these networks will enhance access to comprehensive pro bono legal services and other civil and criminal legal resources to help victims overcome the crime they have suffered and access meaningful justice.

ESTABLISHING A STATEWIDE COORDINATED RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ASSAULT

In 2014, CJCC also received a grant award of \$762,901 through the Office on Violence Against Women's FY14 Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program for the Georgia SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) Enhancement and Comprehensive Sexual Assault Training Initiative. CJCC's core partners are: Judicial Council of Georgia; Administrative Office of the Courts; Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia; Georgia Public Safety Training Center; the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education; Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault; Gwinnett Sexual Assault Center and Children's Advocacy Center; Satilla Advocacy Services; and The Cottage Sexual Assault Center and Children's Advocacy Center.

The goals of the initiative are to (1) facilitate collaboration among agencies participating in SARTs throughout the state to ensure adult victims of sexual assault are treated with respect and dignity, and that the criminal justice process is not a source of re-traumatization; and (2) to ensure consistency throughout the state in sexual assault training for law enforcement, judges, and prosecutors about best practices that enhance victim safety and autonomy, while holding offenders accountable.


day, her husband called the sister and left messages telling her sister that she was "doomed." After talking with the [legal advocate], Peggy finally decided to call the police. When the officer arrived, he saw bruises and cuts on both her arms, took recordings of the phone messages, and arrested her husband. With Magnolia House's advocacy, the [legal advocate] was able to assist Peggy in getting a Temporary Protective Order and referring her to legal services to assist her with a divorce. With the help from the [mental health counselor and legal advocate] she overcame her fear of court hearings and her sense of hopelessness. Peggy has started going to college, a long-time dream of hers. 

**Name changed for confidentiality*


SHEPHERDING WOUNDED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH THE MAZE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

We have had dozens of cases this past year that demonstrate to us how critical our VOCA funding is for our clinicians, as well as our amazing volunteers. We had two small brothers come to our center: one was extremely outgoing and ready to talk about his abuse while the other was extremely withdrawn and anxious. Our student volunteer immediately went to work making the family feel comfortable, working to draw out the quiet child, while managing the very busy one. These volunteers, whose time fully provides our VOCA match, are so incredibly important to the process here at Harbor House. They—without really knowing it—make the families feel so comfortable and open to the process, which is very foreign to most. Before and after the interview, our staff not only gathers critical information, but also connects the caregivers to services. We continue

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to work on our caregiver packet, trying to include important resources for the families. Our staff makes critical follow-up calls to remind caregivers of this information. One mom said, "I was just so upset when I was at Harbor House, I hardly heard anything you were saying to me... I just heard that my baby had been molested. Can you please remind me again of what to do next? How do I find someone for my daughter to talk to?" VOCA dollars are well spent for our staff to have these important conversations directing and encouraging these caregivers, many of whom are just trying to do their best. 

ADVOCATING BEYOND SENTENCING TO KEEP VICTIMS SAFE

VOCA funds pay the salary of Debra Coody, who is a Victim Services Coordinator for a sheriff's office. We had a victim who was blinded by his offender in 2012. When Ms. Coody was notified that the offender was in a work release program and would be up for parole, she sent a letter advising why we felt that the offender should serve his full sentence. She then contacted the victim and assisted him in typing a victim impact letter explaining how it felt to be unable to see the faces of his grandchildren. 

FROM VOCA ASSISTANCE TO CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION—WRAPAROUND SERVICES TO HELP A VICTIM GAIN INDEPENDENCE

In early 2014, a community partner with a referral contacted [the agency]. The victim, Olivia*, had been brutally assaulted by her abuser. The assault required numerous surgeries and several long hospital stays. Once medically stable, Olivia sought support and services through [a crisis line and safe house]. The advocate met with Olivia to discuss

(continued on next page)

To accomplish these goals, CJCC and its core partners have convened a State Expert Committee to create model protocols, practices, and training for the development or enhancement of SARTs in Georgia. CJCC's State Expert Committee consists of representatives from sexual assault services and coalitions; law enforcement agencies and Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police; prosecutors and the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia; judges, the Judicial Council of Georgia: Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia; Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners and the International Association of Forensic Nurses; as well as the Georgia Department of Public Health. Outcomes of this initiative will be (1) improved knowledge and skills for nurses, law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and victim service providers; and (2) the facilitation of SART development or improvement statewide.

ADDRESSING ELDER ABUSE IN THE METRO SAVANNAH AREA

In 2014, CJCC received a grant award of \$400,000 through the Office on Violence Against Women's FY14 Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life Grant Program. The core partners of the project are: Rape Crisis Center of the Coastal Empire, Coastal Regional Commission of Georgia, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department, and Eastern Judicial Circuit (Chatham County District Attorney's Office).

CJCC and its partners will support a comprehensive approach to addressing elder abuse throughout the metro Savannah area. The funded projects will provide training to criminal justice professionals to enhance their ability to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in their communities; provide cross training opportunities to professionals working with older victims; establish or support a coordinated community response to elder abuse; and provide or enhance services for victims who are 50 years of age or older.


BUILDING CAPACITY FOR VICTIMS SERVICES IN THE 21ST CENTURY: VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT

The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Grant Program supports direct services to crime victims (i.e. persons who have suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime). The federal Office for Victims of Crime makes annual formula grants based on state population, which in turn are sub-granted to local organizations, so states can ensure that crime victims' rights are upheld and that they play a meaningful role in the criminal justice process.

Funding comes from the Crime Victims Fund, which was established by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 and serves as a major funding source for victim services throughout the country. Each year, billions of dollars are deposited into this fund from criminal fines, forfeited bail bonds, penalty fees, and special assessments collected by U.S. Attorney's offices, U.S. courts, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. These dollars come from offenders convicted of federal crimes, not from taxpayers.


UNPRECEDENTED VOCA INCREASE: SHORT-TERM CAPACITY BOOST AND LONG-TERM PLAN

On Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2014, President Obama signed into law the "Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015." This bill raised the VOCA cap from \$745 million to \$2.361 billion, an increase of 350%. This unprecedented increase in the VOCA cap is greatly needed to help victims of all types of crimes. In FFY14, CJCC-funded agencies were unable to serve over 5,725 victims of crime for numerous reasons including: lack of shelter space, lack of staff capacity, and lack of appropriate services. That means on a daily basis an average of 15 crime victims needed services but were unable to obtain them from our providers.

her situation and her initial needs. Olivia had been isolated and controlled by her abuser to the point that she relied solely on him for financial support. Since her abuser was now in jail, her financial support was gone. Because of the loss of support and the extensive medical bills, the advocate assisted Olivia in applying to the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund. Over the course of the next several months, the advocate assisted Olivia in gathering the documents necessary to file the application, helped her submit the application, and made several calls to CJCC on Olivia's behalf regarding the compensation application. Olivia received a reimbursement from the compensation program that allowed her to obtain safe and stable housing for herself and her children, and to pay off her medical expenses. Also, during the time in which we worked with Olivia, we assisted her in obtaining both an Ex Parte TPO and a 12-Month TPO. We prepared and filed the documents for the ex parte Temporary Protective Order (TPO) and then referred Olivia to the Georgia Legal Services Program for assistance in obtaining a 12-Month TPO. The advocate accompanied Olivia to court for each of those proceedings. Olivia continues to follow up with the advocate as necessary, and the advocate has provided emotional support during the criminal trial and divorce proceedings. The advocate will be available to Olivia for emotional support, follow-up, and other services for as long as she desires such assistance. 

**Name changed for confidentiality*

FROM VICTIM, TO GRADUATE, TO ADVOCATE

Tanya* became a foster child at 15, after running away from a physically and emotionally abusive home, where she survived years of intense, sometimes life-threatening abuse. "When CASA [Court Appointed Special Advocates] came into my life, all of that changed. My CASA made me smile in the darkest time of my life." Today, Tanya is a college graduate with a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice who lives in California and is writing a novel called "Runaway Train." She hopes to start her own non-profit to help educate law enforcement, advocates, social workers, and school officials on how to identify abuse and neglect and how to offer hope to these children. 

**Name changed for confidentiality*

"When CASA [Court Appointed Special Advocates] came into my life, all of that changed.
My CASA made me smile in the darkest time of my life."

Under the VOCA statutory allocation formula, the bulk of this increase will be used for state VOCA victim assistance sub-grants. To ensure we direct these funds to their most effective and efficient uses, CJCC conducted a series of Victim Assistance Community Conversations in the spring of 2015. Through a series of 10 community conversations, CJCC has identified broad areas of need to further explore in our strategic planning and needs assessment activities. These areas will inform our funding priorities for the upcoming 2016-2019 competitive VOCA grant cycle:

1. A Need for More Staffing Across the State: Lack of staff is closely tied to lack of capacity. This lack of staff ran the gamut from more legal assistants and mental health professionals to juvenile-focused program positions and administrative staff.
2. Additional Housing Facilities: Many agencies expressed frustration at the lack of affordable housing to serve victims in various stages of their victimization. There is a lack of emergency housing options, elder housing, and transitional housing.
3. Transportation: Georgia is a large state with few viable options for affordable and accessible public transportation. Almost all community conversation attendees cited lack of transportation as an issue for their constituents' ability to appear in court, escape a violent encounter, or, in general, seek requisite services. Agencies that primarily serve rural populations lamented their lack of cab services. As such, many attendants stated that additional vans and drivers are essential to their continuing operations.
4. Technological Innovation: Many victim-facing agencies spoke about their current and outdated technology. Some spoke about this from a victim's perspective: citing the need for more texting features, so victims can receive information in real time. Some considered issues from the agency perspective: basic office

functions were difficult due to the lack of funding for infrastructure within their space. Additionally, some agencies spoke about the need for updated databases. With regards to a victim notification system, many agencies spoke to the lack of a structured system to provide clients with vital information. Finally, a great deal of energy was dedicated to the lack of technology to respond and interface with victims who are disabled or who have a developmental disability. Some technology needs included the phasing out of the TTY machine (teletype for the hearing impaired) and incorporated more video-based services.

5. Training: Perhaps the largest component of victim services agencies' need centered on training for staff around underrepresented groups, specific identity groups, and across all ages. Many agencies spoke about the need for greater programming and services geared toward 1) the LGBTQ population, 2) male survivors of violence; 3) elder victim needs; and issues surrounding the types of victimizations. For each of the community conversations, training was the most fundamental and important need for agencies.

6. Expanding Community Partnerships: At many of the conversations, agencies spoke of the need for more collaboration with each other, with law enforcement, and with the faith-based community. These agencies discussed the need to enhance their governing boards to include more perspectives from more agencies that may touch their work. Additionally, agencies spoke about the need for more innovative programming, which could be a direct outcome of enhanced community partnerships.

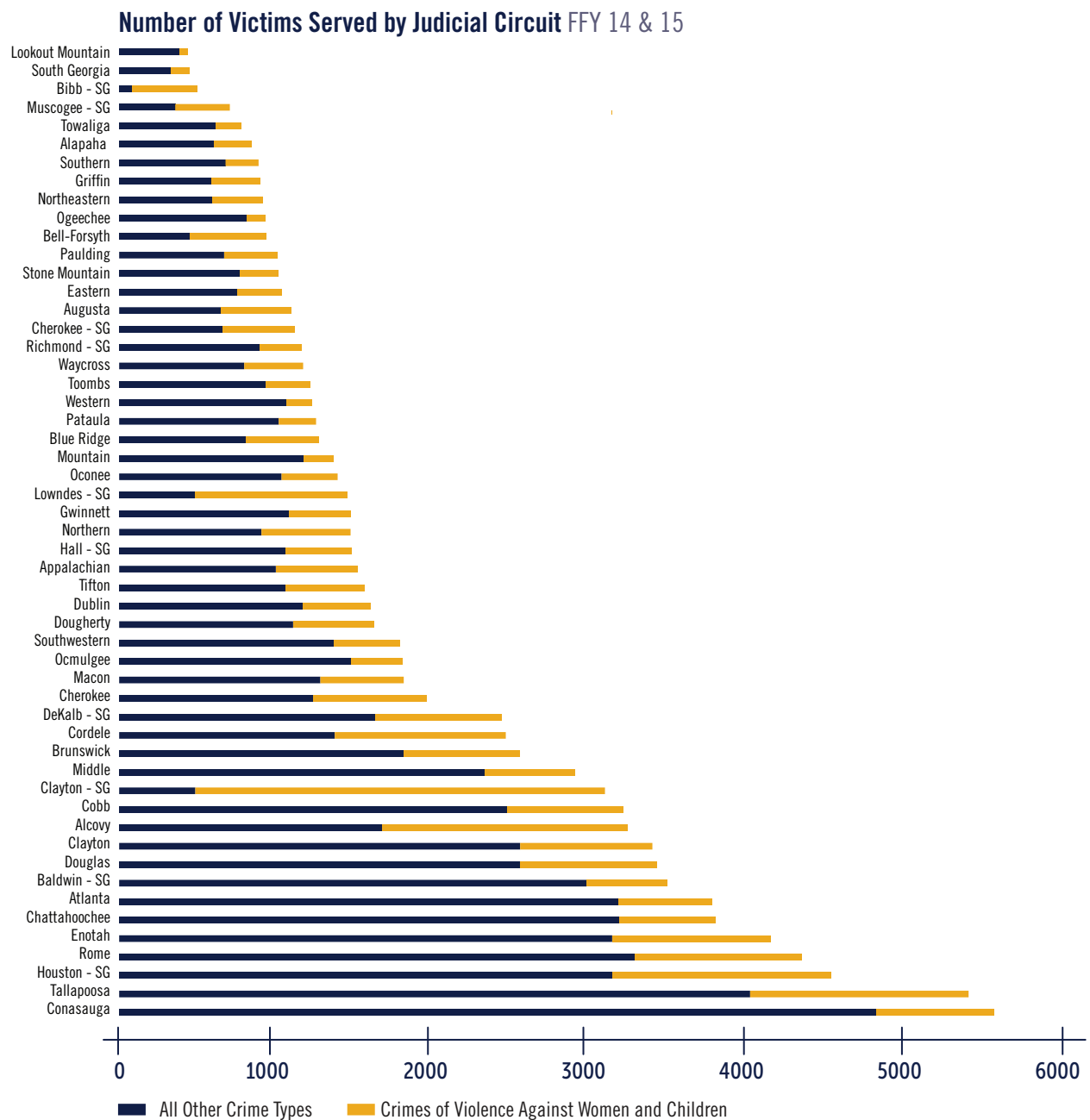
With hopes of improving and expanding access to services, CJCC will increase each current victim service sub-grantee's budget by \$50,000. While this amount is being awarded with the intent of providing each agency with enough funds to add an additional staff member, agencies may use the increase to tackle other priorities such as purchasing items that will support the work of direct service providers. To address other identified needs of the state, staff will work on a strategic plan over the next six months to a year to determine the most effective way of improving services to victims throughout the state of Georgia.

DATA SPOTLIGHT: VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN PROSECUTORS' OFFICES ENSURE VICTIMS HAVE MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS STATEWIDE

CJCC provides a grant to the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council (PAC) of Georgia to fund victim advocates in district attorney offices and some solicitor's general offices throughout the state. PAC generates 54 sub-grants, covering all of Georgia's judicial circuits with these funds. Victim Witness Assistance Programs (VWAPs) provide a core set of services to victims participating in the prosecution of their perpetrators. These services include: support and accompaniment to court hearings and interviews, assistance completing victim impact statements, advocacy to retrieve stolen items or property obtained as evidence, referral to specialized services in the community, assistance with and referral to the victims compensation program, and notification of pertinent court hearings and of the offender's status throughout the criminal justice process.

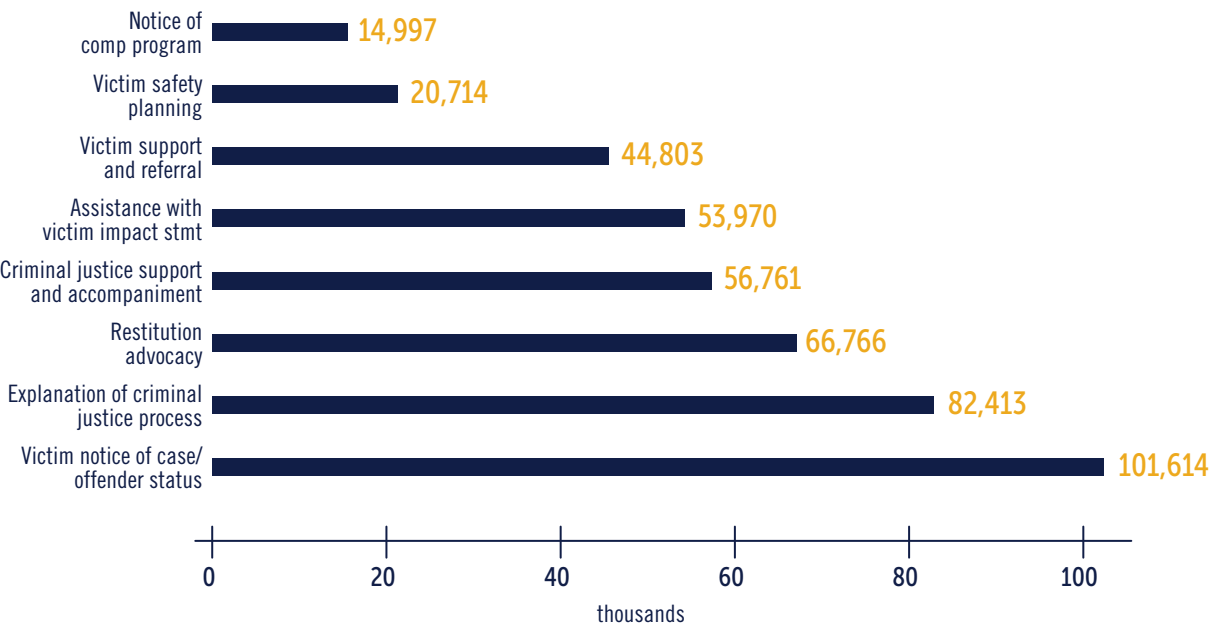
[supporting survivors]

VWAPs serve all types of crime victims; from survivors of homicide to DUI/DWI crash victims to domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. Over the last two fiscal years, CJCC-funded VWAPs served over 104,000 crime victims throughout Georgia. More than half of those were victims of crimes such as assault, larceny, burglary, or kidnapping for which no specialized community-based services exist. Over 30,000 of the victims served were women and children who were the victims of violent crimes such as sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking.



Over 100,000 of the victims VWAPs served received notification of their case status and the offender’s status—services critical to victim participation in the prosecutorial process and victim safety. Over half received an explanation of the criminal justice process, and more than 47% were provided with advocacy to obtain restitution from the offender.

Number of Victims Receiving each VWAP Core Service FFY 14 & 15



CJCC LEADS TASK FORCE TO TARGET THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONTINUUM

CJCC’s strategy to combat human trafficking in Georgia is comprised of three prongs: the implementation of a Collective Impact task force to address each intercept of the five-part trafficking continuum (illustrated below); statewide and regional training for multidisciplinary audiences about commercial sexual exploitation of youth; and, funding of direct services and referral through Georgia Cares. This work is supported with Temporary Assistance For Needy Families funds.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT TASK FORCE COORDINATES COMMUNICATION, TRAINING, AND ADVOCACY ALONG THE TRAFFICKING CONTINUUM

The mission of the Georgia Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force is to protect the citizens of this state from perpetrators and systems of sexual exploitation while supporting the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Program victims’ recovery to ensure that they are ready for college, work, and a successful future. The task force operates via a targeted, strategic framework that consists of individual work groups addressing the five elements of the trafficking continuum:

VULNERABILITY	RECRUITMENT	EXPLOITATION	WITHDRAWAL	REINTEGRATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Community Awareness & Education + Youth Aware & Safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Deterring Traffickers & Buyers + Keeping At-Risk Youth Safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Apprehending, Investigating & Prosecuting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Survivors Supported & Protected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Survivors Recovering & Thriving

[supporting survivors]

To target each intercept in this continuum, the taskforce is comprised of eight work groups focused on the following issues: Community Awareness and Education; Youth Aware and Safe; Deterring Traffickers and Buyers; Keeping At-Risk Youth Safe; Apprehending, Investigating, and Prosecuting; Examining Labor Trafficking, International and Adult Sex Trafficking; Survivors Supported and Protected; and Survivors Recovering and Thriving.

Under the Collective Impact framework, upon which the task force is built, a CJCC staff member coordinates and monitors the initiatives developed and implemented through each work group. The task force is comprised of 103 members who represent federal, state, and local government agencies, victim service providers, law enforcement, and advocacy groups. The Collective Impact framework's approach² moves a step beyond linking agencies; rather, it links sectors that contain numerous agencies and organizations. To succeed in these linkages, the task force has partner and affiliate levels of membership from multiple disciplines and diverse geographical regions across the state. The statewide task force has seen much growth in this representation in 2015, to include 44 partner-level agencies, 28 affiliate-level agencies, and 103 work group members who meet monthly.

KEY TASK FORCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR SFY15 INCLUDE:

- The creation of an eye-catching bilingual flyer to help motel owners in south Fulton County comply with HB 141 and make victims aware about Georgia Cares 24-hour helpline, available services, and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center's hotline.
- The identification of 10 education programs aimed at preventing sexual abuse and exploitation among school-aged youth.

- The creation of an awareness presentation targeted at juvenile justice system-involved boys aged 12-17 who are at risk for sexual exploitation.
- The creation of a 15-module train-the-trainer course for law enforcement, judges, and prosecutors about how to identify, investigate, and prosecute sexual exploitation cases.
- A needs assessment survey of community-based service providers aimed at determining the scope of labor, international, youth, and adult sex trafficking in Georgia.
- The creation of a volunteer network to teach young survivors of commercial sexual exploitation about necessary life skills and provide them with academic support.

SUPPORTING CENTRALIZED DIRECT SERVICE AND REFERRAL FOR VICTIMS OF COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

CJCC funds, via a TANF grant, Georgia Cares—a nonprofit provider that serves as the state clearinghouse for service and referral for youth victims of commercial sexual exploitation and domestic sex trafficking. In SFY15, Georgia Cares received 322 referrals for 247 individuals from numerous sources including the Department for Children and Families and the Department of Juvenile Justice. Of the referred youth, 95% were female and 5% were male.

Georgia Cares' case management services begin with a comprehensive needs assessment called the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment for Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CANS-CSE). Of those assessed, 22% were determined to be victims of domestic minor sex trafficking. In addition to assessment, Georgia Cares conducted over 600 client visits and 250 phone contacts.

Reference

² Hanleybrown, F., Kania, J., and Kramer, M. (2012). *Channeling Change: Making Collective Impact Work*. Stanford Social Innovation Review. Retrieved from http://ssir.org/articles/entry/channeling_change_making_collective_impact_work



chapter 7

[providing direct compensation]

to Victims to Defray the Fiscal Impact of Crime

[providing direct compensation]

In the aftermath of crime, a victim may incur substantial financial losses related to the victimization, particularly if the crime results in significant physical and psychological trauma. When insurance or other financial sources don't cover a loss, the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program (CVCP) provides financial benefits for expenses such as medical bills, loss of earnings, funeral expenses, mental health counseling, and crime scene sanitization to help to ease the financial impact to victims and their families in the aftermath of a crime.

Created in 1965, crime victim compensation is the oldest type of organized victim assistance in the United States. By 1992, the implementation of compensation programs was completed in all fifty states.

- In 1988, the Georgia General Assembly passed Senate Bill 431, enabling the state to create CVCP.
- Georgia was the 45th state to implement a program providing financial assistance to innocent victims of violent crime.
- The program received its first \$100,000 in emergency funds for crime victims on July 1, 1990, with the swearing-in of its original five-member Crime Victims Compensation Board on July 12 that same year.
- In 1991, the administrative responsibility of the board was transferred from the State Board of Workers' Compensation to the Office of Planning and Budget.
- In 1992, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council became the administrative agency of the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program.

GROWING AND GOING THE EXTRA MILE—STATUTORY AND FISCAL EXPANSION OF CVCP OVER TIME

The Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund has grown both fiscally and programmatically since CJCC became the administering agency in 1992. The inclusion of parole fees, DUI fines, and probation fees in the fund has maximized the ability to provide compensation to victims and their families. The \$1,000 maximum cap was increased to \$5,000 in 1994, then \$10,000 in 1995, and finally to

the national average of \$25,000 in 2002. The program has experienced several statutory changes over the years, which continue to benefit victims and their families.

These statutory changes include:

1. The addition of new crimes eligible for compensation, such as vehicular homicide and hit-and-run.
2. The expansion of the definition of "victim" to include those suffering serious mental and emotional trauma because they were present during the commission of a crime. Family members of homicide victims are also included as "victims" to receive compensation for counseling benefits.
3. The addition of forensic medical examinations as a compensable program.
4. The addition of forensic interviews as a compensable program.
5. Increases in the total program-funding cap over time, from \$1,000 when the program started to \$25,000 in 2002. Individual category caps have also increased over time, most recently the funeral expenses funding cap increased from \$3,000 to \$6,000.

While these statutory changes expanded both compensable crimes and the types and amount in expenses that could be compensated, the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund has also grown with the addition of new revenue streams. Four revenue streams comprise the emergency fund, which pays for the compensation program. Each source yields varying annual revenue amounts:

1. **DUI Fines:** Legislation passed in 1992 mandated all adult courts with DUI jurisdiction levy an additional penalty assessment of 10% of the original fine up to the maximum of \$25. See Georgia Code O.C.G.A 17-15-10 (b) (1).
2. **Parole Fees:** Since Feb. 1, 1992, the State Board of Pardons and Paroles has, at its discretion, deposited into the fund fees collected from parolees convicted of certain crimes. As of January 2002, certain parolees

are required to pay \$20 per month for each month that they are on parole. See O.C.G.A. 17-15-13 (c).

3. Probation Fees: In 2002, legislation was passed requiring any entity authorized to collect probation supervision fees to add an additional \$9 to the amount offenders pay, and to remit those additional funds to the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund. See O.C.G.A. 17-5-13(f).

4. VOCA Compensation Grant: The Victims of Crime Act provides federal financial assistance to states for the purpose of compensating and assisting victims of crime. State compensation programs receive 60% of the amount the state paid in the previous year to victims from state revenue sources.

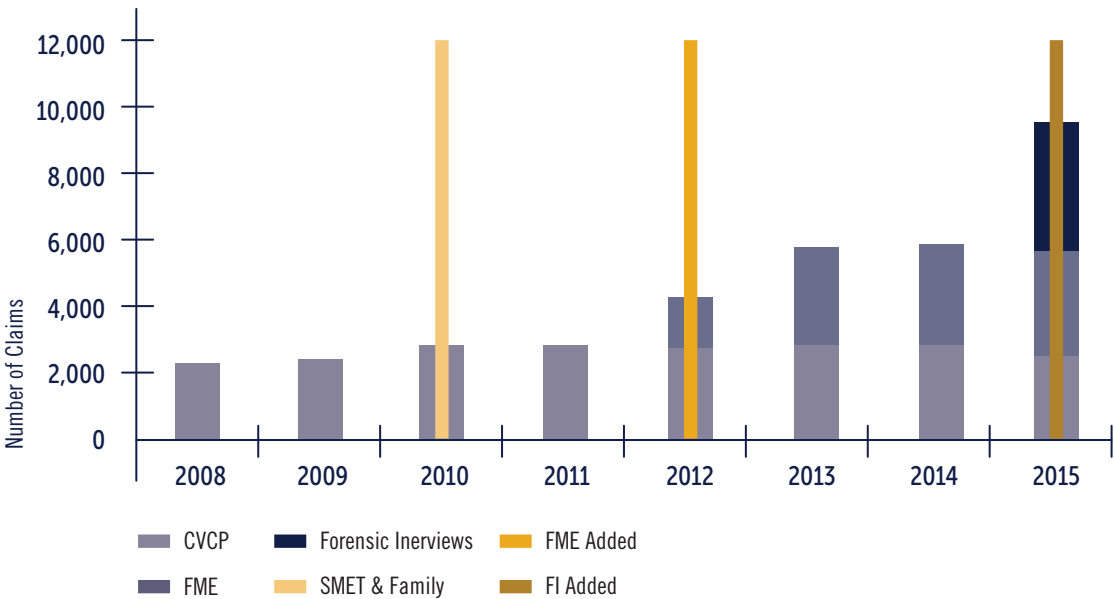
CJCC VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION SUCCESSFULLY MEETS STATUTORY CHANGE AND PROGRAM EXPANSIONS FOR CRIME VICTIMS EMERGENCY FUND

The most recent programmatic expansion—the inclusion of forensic interviews as a compensable program—took effect in SFY15 and CJCC’s Victims Services Division successfully met the enormous challenge of implementing another new program for victims of violent crime. Since the introduction of forensic

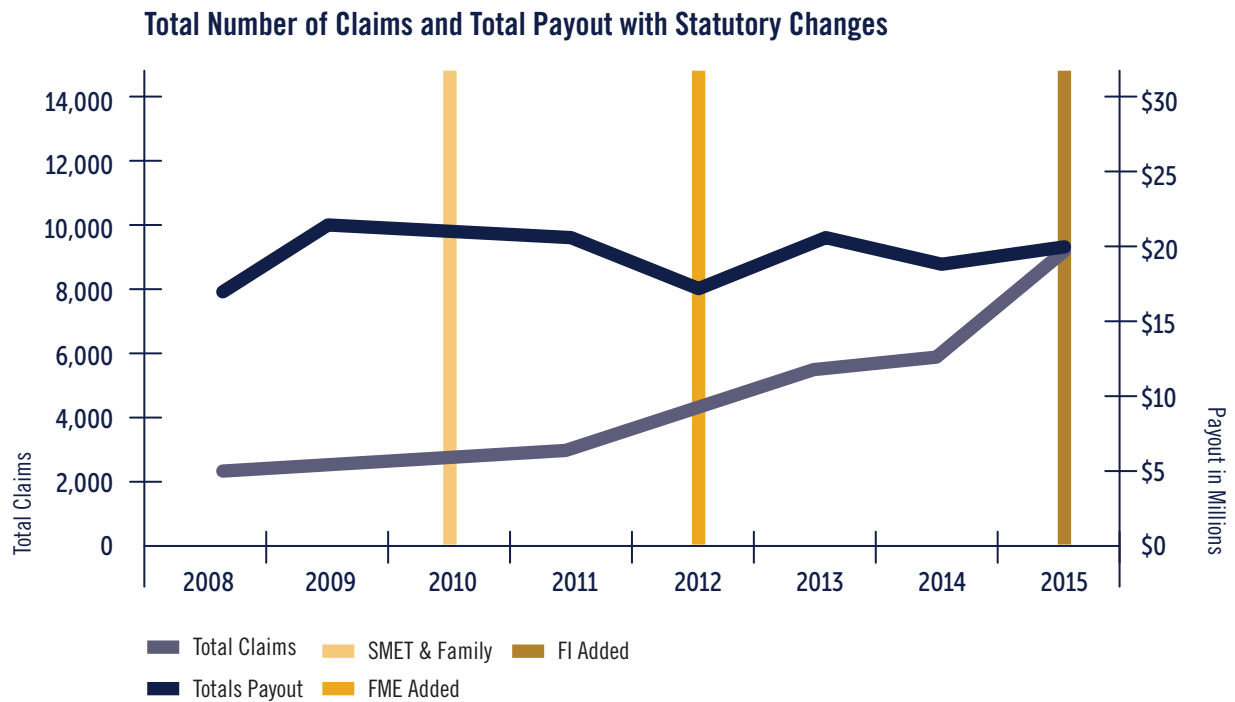
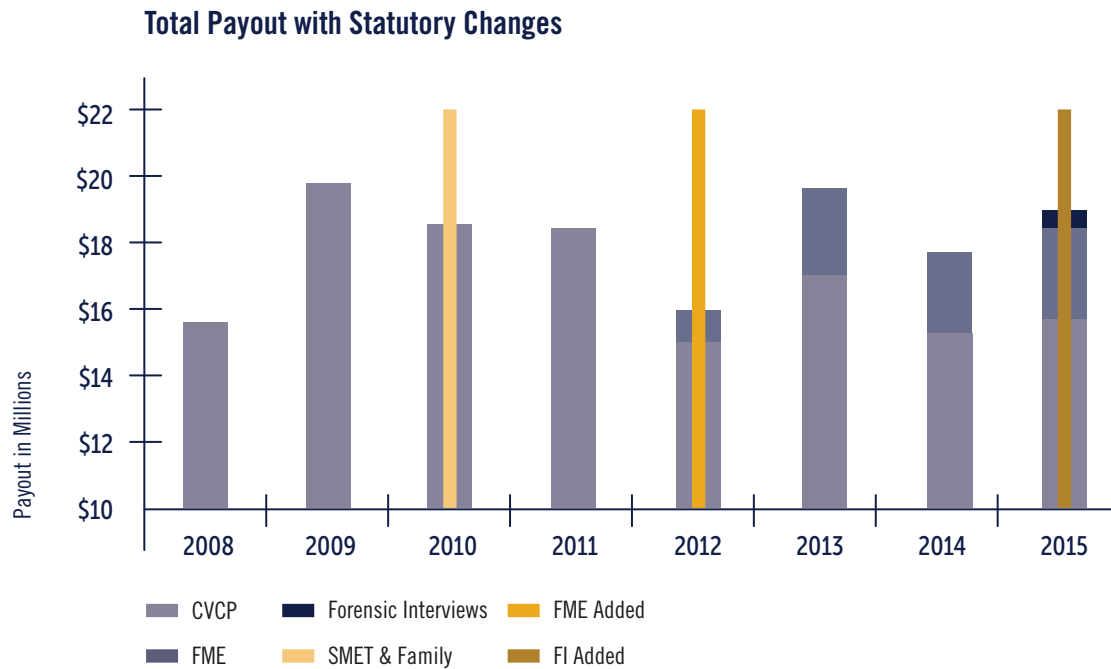
interviews, the number of approved claims for crime victim compensation increased by 68%. Growth of this magnitude for the CVCP is not a new phenomenon, and since 2009, four major statutory changes have significantly expanded the program. The inclusion of forensic medical examinations in SFY12 was one of those statutory changes that significantly increased the number of applications received. Since the inclusion of forensic interviews and medical examinations, CJCC’s Victims Services Division tripled their capacity, which resulted in a 231% increase in approved claims during this four-year period.

Forensic interviews (FIs) and forensic medical examinations (FMEs) comprised over two-thirds of all the claims processed and 70% of all claims approved in SFY15. FMEs and FIs are driving the growth in the number of applications to the CVCP. However, the growth in applications has not led to a similar increase in payout because the caps for FME and FI claims are much lower: \$1,000 and \$200, respectively. This is compared to \$25,000 total for a regular CVCP claim. The total payout since 2008 has increased by 21%. The substantial difference in maximum payout accounts for the rapidly growing number of claims received and processed by CJCC’s Victims Services Division without a substantial increase in payouts.

Total Number of Claims Received with Statutory Changes



[providing direct compensation]



OVER 11,000 CLAIMS RECEIVED FROM VICTIMS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE

In SFY15, CVCP received a total of 11,293 applications for victims compensation, forensic medical examinations, and forensic interview programs. A total of \$19,263,309.89 was awarded on all approved claims. FMEs and FIs comprised 30% and 36% of claims awarded respectively for SFY15.

SFY15 in Brief—Over \$19 Million Distributed Directly to Crime Victims for Losses

CLAIM STATUS	VICTIM COMPENSATION	FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS	FORENSIC INTERVIEWS
Claims Received	3866	3381	4046
Claims Awarded	3140	3522	3527
Claims Denied	909	6	33
Total Payout	\$15,973,768.15	\$2,588,216.74	\$701,325.00

Victim compensation claims constituted 34% of applications received and over half of awarded claims, totaling a payout of over \$15.9 million for SFY15. Victim compensation claims are typically denied for failure to meet eligibility requirements.



Kevin Tilley, son of murder victim Raymond Tilley, holds a picture of his father. (Picture provided by the Albany Herald)

[providing direct compensation]

Impact Spotlight

A BEREAVED FAMILY RECEIVES MUCH-NEEDED ASSISTANCE IN A TIME OF CRISIS

While we take great pride in the thousands of applications we receive and our ability to award millions of dollars in benefits, the true measure of our success is how CVCP positively impacts the lives of victims and their families.

On Aug. 12, 2012, Raymond C. Tilley, of Albany, was savagely beaten and left unconscious outside of his workplace. Mr. Tilley, a 68-year-old husband, father, and grandfather had worked at his place of employment for over 20 years. He clung to life in the hospital for almost five months, passing away on Jan. 2, 2013. It is easy to identify Mr. Tilley as an innocent victim of a violent crime, but how can his family cope with the aftermath of the crime? How can the financial burden be eased?

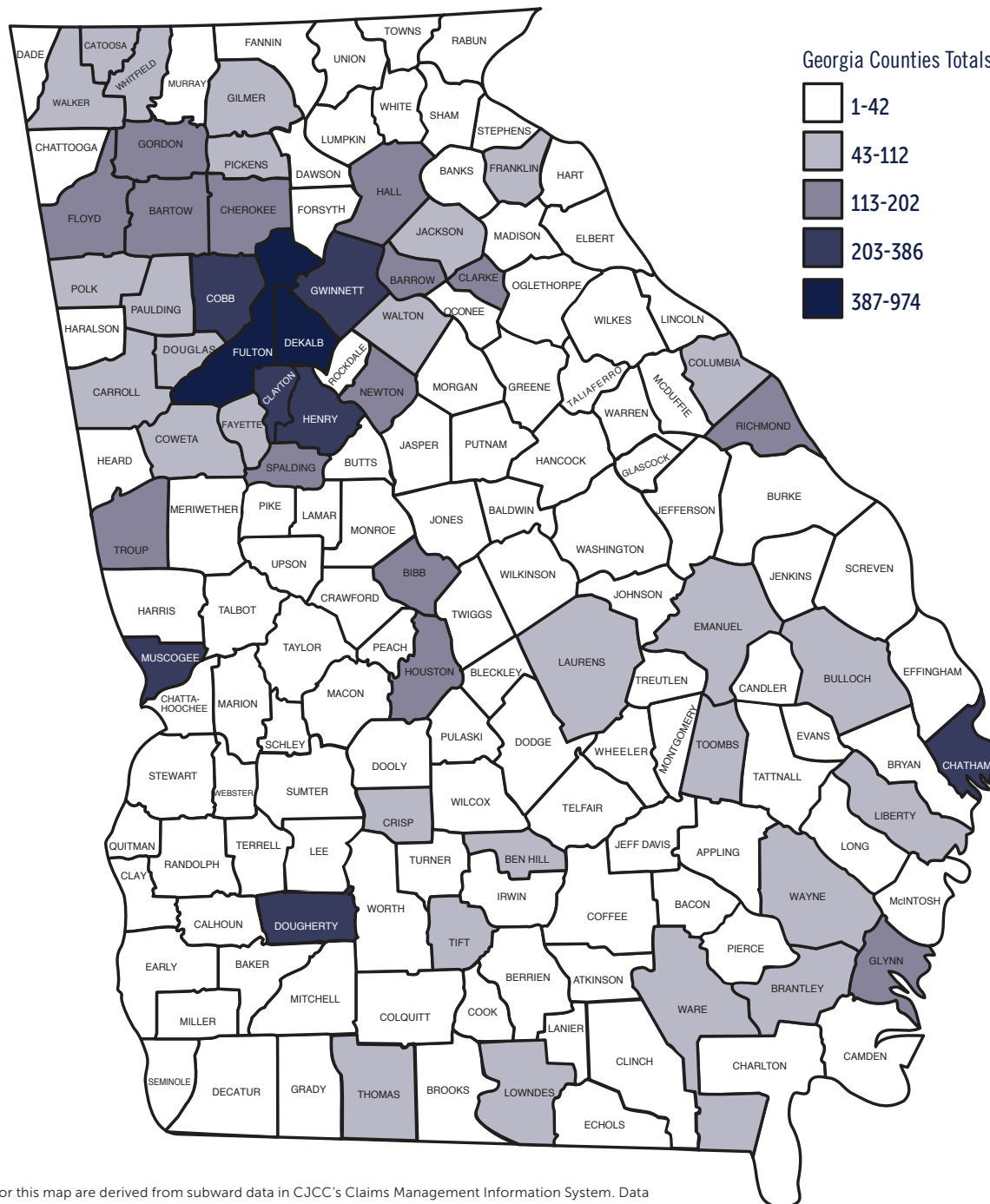
Mr. Tilley’s son, Kevin Tilley, and other family members found some hope and help from the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program. The program was able to provide financial assistance for medical expenses, funeral expenses, and the loss of Mr. Tilley’s wages/support to his family, totaling over \$20,000.00. Kevin Tilley expresses tremendous gratitude for what the program was able to do for him and his family during a time of great loss, and wants to help make sure more people know this program is available.

The Tilley Family’s story is an example of what drives the Victims Services Division. It puts the numbers and statistics into perspective and reminds us all why we work diligently to serve Georgia crime victims with dignity and respect every day.

[providing direct compensation]

As expected, the greatest number of applications came from Fulton and DeKalb counties. Over half of all applications in these counties were either for FMEs or FIs. Applications for crime victim compensation represented approximately one-third of all applications from these counties. CJCC's Victims Services Division received applications for at least one of its programs from every single county in the state.

Total Number of Claims for Victims Compensation SYF 2015
Includes all Application Types

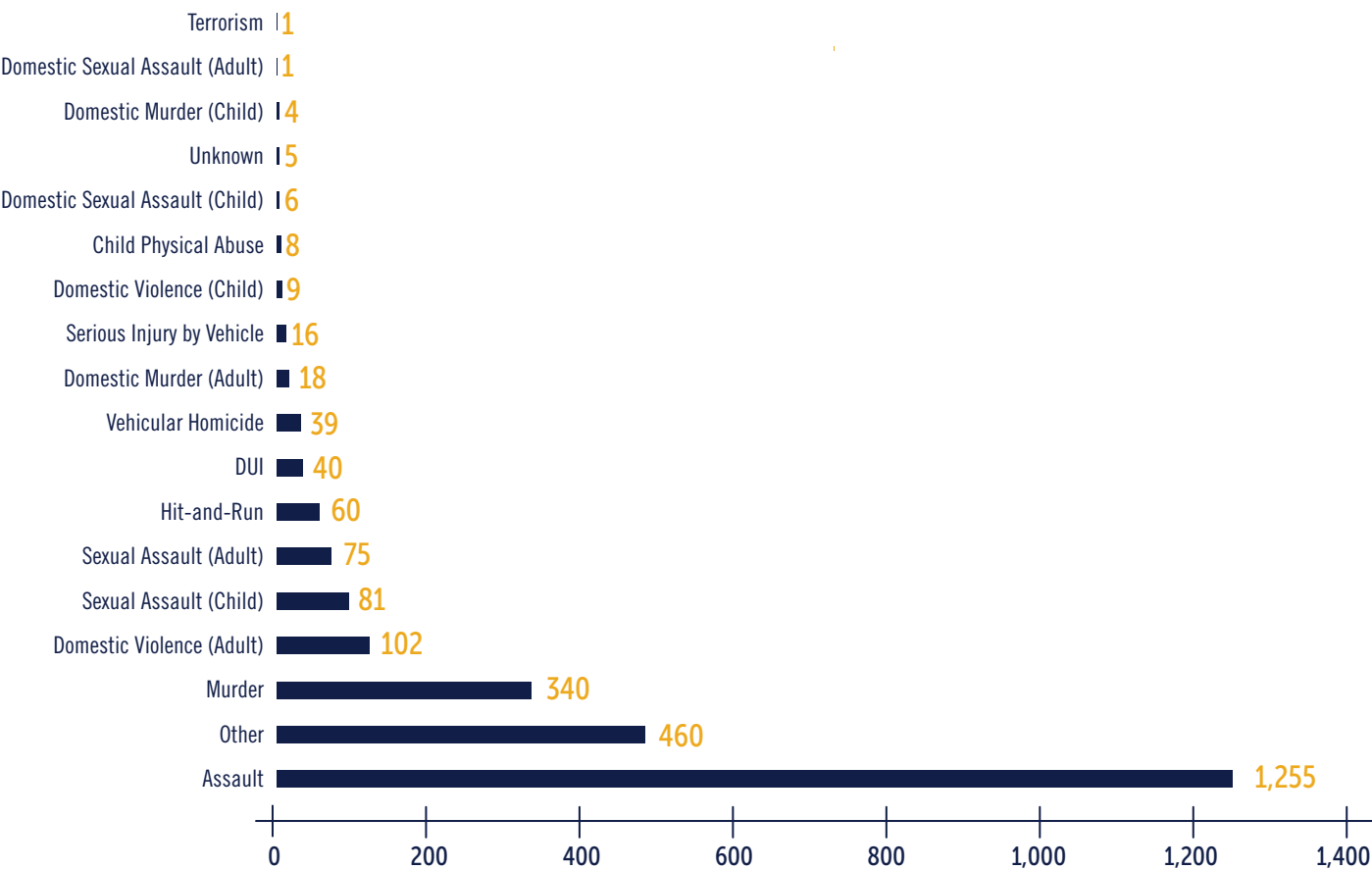


Data for this map are derived from subward data in CJCC's Claims Management Information System. Data represents applications for crime victims compensation, forensic medical exam, forensic interview, officers initiative, and DUI memorial sign applications to the victims services division. State Fiscal Year: 7/1/14-6/30/15. For questions about this map contact: Stefanie Lopez-Howard, Statistical Center Director.

APPLICATIONS BY TYPE OF CRIME

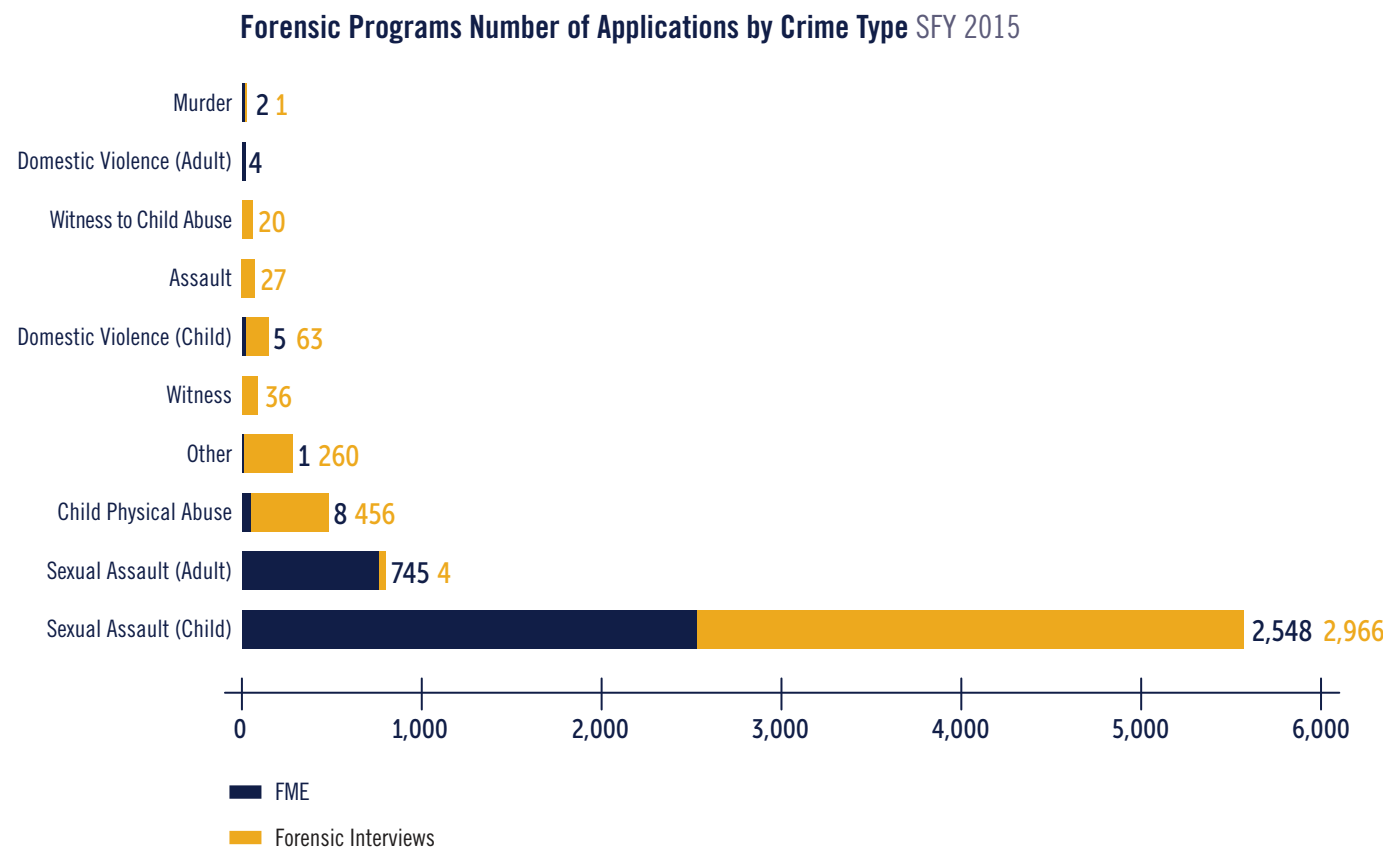
All types of violent crime victims apply for compensation and forensic interview or medical examination service payments. Assault is the crime for which victims most commonly apply for compensation: assault victims submitted almost half of all compensation claims. The next-most common crimes for which compensation is sought are murder and domestic violence.

Number Compensation Applications Submitted by Crime Type SYF 2015



[providing direct compensation]

By comparison, the bulk of applications for both the FI and FME programs were from sexual abuse victims of all ages. These victims were only 6% of compensation applications.



APPEALS

When an application is denied, a victim/claimant may submit a written appeal to the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Board within 30 business days of receiving the denial letter. Once an appeal has been received, the Victim Services Division director may address specific appeals, and the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Board must hear all other appeals. If the appeal is forwarded to the board, the victim/claimant is notified by mail of the board’s final decision within 10 days of the hearing.

SFY15 APPEAL DECISIONS BY THE CRIME VICTIMS BOARD	
Total claims appealed	333
Total claims remanded by division director	256
Total claims reviewed by the board	77
Remanded by the board	9
Affirmed by the board	54
Tabled by the board	6

chapter 8

[moving forward]

the Criminal Justice System

EDUCATING LAW ENFORCEMENT TO STAY ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF DRUG ENFORCEMENT

The Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) administers the State Drug Enforcement Training (DET) Program through its Georgia Police Academy Division. The DET Program offers advanced, specialized training for drug enforcement investigations, school resource officers, community oriented policing, and Spanish language. In addition, GPSTC provides a Georgia Clandestine Laboratory Investigation/Safety Certification program and Crisis Intervention Team Certification training. Training classes are also delivered at off-site locations as the need arises and are offered at no cost to eligible personnel.

While local officers comprise the majority of participants, application guidelines allow course coordinators to give attendance preference to JAG-funded multi-jurisdiction drug task force personnel. In addition, the DET provides eight courses in drug awareness, drug gang identification, and clandestine laboratory safety and awareness available to many Georgia firefighters and Georgia Emergency Management Agency employees. The Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council certify all of the courses offered under the DET Program. Between 2014 and 2015, the number of criminal justice professionals GPSTC trained with these programs more than doubled.

YEAR	NUMBER OF PERSONS TRAINED	TOTAL TRAINING HOURS
2014	852	976
2015	2,284	3,374

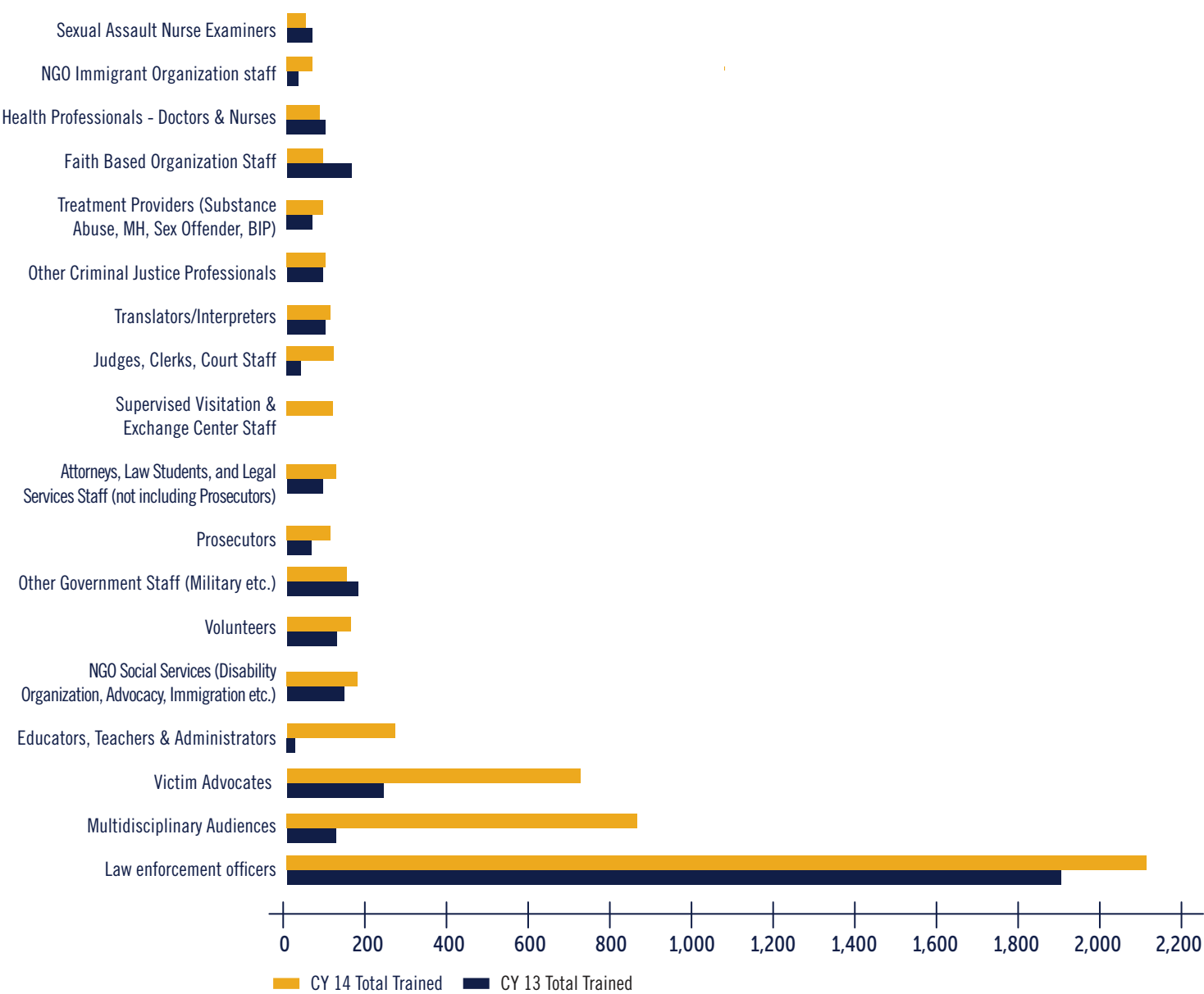
MULTIDISCIPLINARY TRAINING ABOUT COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH

CJCC supports the Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children’s “Child Sex Trafficking Webinar Series.” This training series educates professionals such as doctors, nurses, educators, victim service providers, social workers, prosecutors, and law enforcement about issues surrounding child sex trafficking. These trainings enable participants to understand the extent of the problem, assess for risk factors, respond appropriately to suspected victims, and provide optimal care to those victims.

In addition, CJCC also provides funding for a Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) training developed specifically for mental health service providers. Trainees learn how to define the problem; how to recognize children at high-risk of victimization; how to identify potential CSEC victims; to understand the unique needs of confirmed CSEC victims and the challenges inherent in providing services to commercially sexually exploited children; to identify treatment strategies and opportunities for intervention; to understand trauma bonds and how they affect victims of CSEC; and to know community resources available for victims of exploitation.

Furthermore, Georgia Cares, as the single, statewide coordinating agency tasked with connecting services and treatment care for victims of exploitation throughout Georgia, has launched their “DMST Community Training Series.” Domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST) training is open to all community members in all fields. The goal of these trainings, offered at nine different locations throughout the State in 2015, is for attendees to increase their understanding of DMST; to become familiar with Georgia Cares; to increase knowledge of Georgia Cares intervention and services to victims in Georgia; and to learn about how to connect with Georgia Cares to get more involved. CJCC greatly supports direct services for victims of CSEC through the wonderful work of Georgia Cares.

Number of People Trained with STOP VAWA by Audience CY 2013 vs. CY 2014



GIVING CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS, ADVOCATES, AND OTHERS THE TOOLS TO HELP VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

The STOP Violence Against Women Act funds a number of local and statewide training initiatives in Georgia. The goal of training under the STOP VAWA program is to ensure domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking victims encounter compassion and understanding throughout the criminal justice process;

and, that law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges have the information they need to protect victims and hold abusers accountable. Approximately half of the 65 projects that CJCC funds provide some type of training, either statewide or locally. Many provide training for law enforcement in their area. CJCC funds the Georgia Public Safety Training Center to provide statewide training to law enforcement on domestic violence. The agency similarly funds the Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault to provide law enforcement training statewide on those issues.

[moving forward]

This substantial investment in training has borne out in the number of people trained from various disciplines. Between 2013 and 2014, the number of criminal justice and social service professionals trained with STOP VAWA funds increased by 60%. Some of the most notable increases occurred in training for law enforcement, victim advocates, and educators. (See chart on previous page.)

EMPOWERING PROVIDERS TO HELP VICTIMS ACCESS CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION

In addition to paying benefits to eligible victims, public awareness and education remain top priorities for the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program.

In SFY15, the compensation program conducted 34 training sessions attended by 793 participants, who were educated about the programs that the Victims Services Division offers. We also participated in nine outreach events that served over 715 people.

In SFY15, the CVCP conducted the first round of Regional Reconnect Trainings. These trainings offered new and exciting opportunities for victim service providers to learn about the six programs we have available to assist crime victims and their families. We strategically planned the training sessions in 16 locations throughout the state and ultimately conducted 32 trainings and educated 698 participants. Below is some of the feedback from training participants:

"In Victim Witness Assistance Program for 15 years and attended MANY CVCP training sessions, this was the most informative and helpful. Good Job! Process is much easier to explain now."

AMELIA RUSHTON, DIRECTOR, Solicitor General's Office of Athens-Clarke County

"It provided a wonderful, comprehensive overview of the program."

MARIE WHITE, SCHOOL COUNSELOR, Clinch County School System

"This is the best one that I have attended in 18 years."

CHRIS MARSH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Halcyon Home for Battered Women, Inc.

"The presenters were knowledgeable of the program and allowed for questions, which made the training interesting."

KRISTIE DAUGHTRY, FINANCIAL COUNSELOR, Oconee Regional Medical Center

[maximizing efficiencies]

in State Government

CJCC was created in 1981 to coordinate the various components of the criminal justice system. It is legislatively charged with being a statewide clearinghouse for criminal justice policy and research. The agency also has several statutory charges. It reports and certifies agencies for receipt of local victim assistance funds; hence, it is a coordinating entity for funding and services to crime victims. With these legislative charges in its sights, CJCC strives to be a responsible steward of state and federal resources to maximize distribution throughout Georgia.

In State Fiscal Year 2015, the CJCC integrated staff and programs from the Governor's Office for Children and Families. This meant an addition of seven staff members, as well as new direct grant programs. These included the Family Violence Prevention & Services Act, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, and the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program. In addition to these direct grants, CJCC became the recipient of indirect federal grants from other state agencies such as the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families grants from the Department of Human Services, and the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Finally, as part of this transfer, CJCC received the state funds to support domestic violence and sexual assault survivor programs.

These programs, combined with the recent addition of the Accountability Court Funding Program, the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant program, and the inclusion of forensic medical examinations and forensic interviews in the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program, have increased CJCC's annual expenditures from \$58.5 million in SFY13 to \$86 million in SFY15. At the same time, CJCC permanent staff has increased from 43 permanent employees at the end of SFY13 to 64 employees and growing at the end of FY15. CJCC's portfolio of managed federal grants has doubled to more than 50 in the same time period.

The benefit of this consolidation of federal and state grant programs is that CJCC has been able to leverage the expertise of its staff and the procedures put in place through years of serving as the state's administering agency for criminal justice and victim assistance grants. CJCC's physical operating cost is only 9% of the value of funds that are expended in the state, and for every \$1 in state general funds operating dollars, CJCC puts \$72 to work in programs directly serving Georgia's citizens. As the agency's fiscal resources and breadth of scope increase, we will continue to look to practitioners, law makers, researchers, and citizens to inform the policies and decisions we make to benefit Georgia's criminal justice and victim service systems.

[acknowledgments]

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