

GEORGIA

SUPERVISION OF LOCAL CHILD WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

Demographic Profile

- Population: 10,310,371 (2016 est.)
- Counties: 159 total; 108 rural and 51 urban (>35,000 population); 75% live in urban counties

State Supervision Profile

- State Supervised, District Division, Regional Subdivision, County Administered
- Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) within the Dept. of Human Services
 - Includes both child welfare and economic services
 - Recent reorganization requires DCFS to report directly to Governor
- Regions and districts
 - 3 contiguous districts, subdivided into 14 contiguous regions
 - 2-17 counties per region; variation based on caseload
 - Regions receive funding based on the number of counties within their region
 - District oversight is new; was implemented in order to remedy disconnect between regional offices and central state offices
- Regional staff
 - Coordinator – Responsible for Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) efforts. This involves leading special initiatives, ensuring proper record keeping and data collection
 - Field Program Specialists – Required areas of expertise including data, clinical, permanency, foster care, etc.
- Region -> County practices
 - Weekly calls with county staff; monthly visit to each one of the counties
 - Monthly meeting between county directors and regional staff (leadership team)
 - Bi-Monthly meeting between county directors, county staff, and regional staff (extended leadership team)
 - Supervisor University
 - Shared responsibility examples:
 - “Booster shots” – one county in region per month invites staff from regional office and other counties to come on-site to help with a challenge
 - Regional supervision – county directors have opportunities to serve as regional supervisor
- District -> Region regular meetings
 - Regional director + district director monthly
 - All regional directors + district directors monthly
 - All 14 regional directors + 3 district directors quarterly