

# Achieve: The Young Parents Partnership

## PILOT VISION

The Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) is piloting new ways to support young parents transitioning out of foster care with more stable support to thrive.

DFCS engaged Third Sector in January 2020 to launch a cross-agency [collaboration](#) with many departments, community partners, and young parents to design and implement a new transition process in Metro Atlanta.

**What's Unique About the Pilot?** From 2020-2021, DFCS implemented a more youth-friendly case management model focused on economic mobility and collaboration between *Child Welfare, TANF, Child Care, and workforce development programs.*

Our efforts in 2022 will integrate *housing support* before considering expansion in other counties.



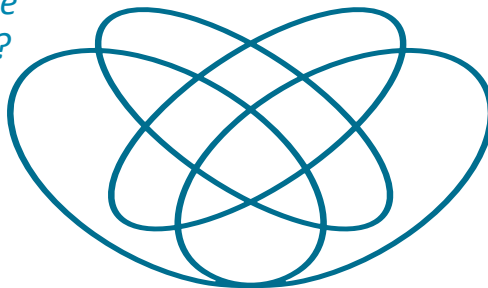
*Young people in foster care who are expecting or parenting*



*Stable transition to adulthood & parenting*

*What happens while leaving foster care?*

*How will I care for myself & family?*









*Where will we live?*

*How do I secure a good job?*

*I want us to thrive and be happy*



## PILOT PARAMETERS

<b>Population Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16-21 year-old young people in foster care who are expecting or parenting</li> <li>• Are transitioning out of care or contemplating Extended Youth Support Services (EYSS)</li> <li>• Seek education, training, and employment placement support</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Educational Attainment:</b> High School equivalency &amp; post-secondary enrollment</li> <li>• <b>Employment Training:</b> Work experiences engagement &amp; certification attainment</li> <li>• <b>Employment Placement:</b> Career pathway placement &amp; sustainable wage earned</li> </ul>
<b>State &amp; County Leads</b>	 <p>  <i>Div. of Family &amp; Children Services &amp; Office of Family Independence</i>    DeKalb County          FULTON COUNTY          Georgia State University  <small>Child &amp; Family Policy Lab Georgia Policy Lab</small> </p>

## WHAT IS ENHANCED TRANSITION PLANNING & CASE MANAGEMENT?


- ✓ **Young Parent Engagement**  
Parents and community partners develop “individualized case planning” recommendation to assess barriers to adulthood transitions
- ✓ **Service Navigation Support**  
Staff triage publicly funded programs for young parents to promote informed and consistent case management from DFCS and OFI
- ✓ **Ongoing data feedback loop**  
Established process between DFCS, WorkSource, the GA Policy Lab, and community partners to inform quality and impact of engagement

<p><b>Comfortable &amp; Positive Transition Meetings</b> The protocols and practices implemented by DFCS staff are proactive and based on near/ long term parent’s needs</p>	<p><b>Holistic Approach to Services</b> The knowledge and accessibility of DFCS services are specifically designed for young parents related to housing, health, finance, and well-being</p>
<p><b>Prioritizing Community Connections</b> Identification of non-DFCS resources specifically designed for young parents that contribute to emotional, educational, or economic well-being</p>	<p><b>Emphasis on Culture &amp; Respect</b> The actions and attitudes that shape interactions between staff and young parents are asset-based, youth centered, and holistic</p>



## IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

 = Lead Convener

Department	Unit / Program	Geography
Dept. of Family & Children Services	 Child Welfare and Foster Care	State DeKalb & Fulton Counties
	Office of Family Independence (OFI)	State DeKalb & Fulton Counties
	Data Unit	State
	Early Childhood Services	State
Dept. of Early Care and Learning	Family Support	State
Technical College System of Georgia	Office of Workforce Development (WorkSource Georgia and WIOA)	State DeKalb & Fulton Counties City of Atlanta
Community Based Organizations	Multi-Agency Alliance for Children (MAAC)	DeKalb & Fulton Counties
	Teen Parent Connection (MAAC)	DeKalb & Fulton Counties
	Amerigroup (Medicaid)	DeKalb & Fulton Counties
	United Way	DeKalb & Fulton Counties
Subject Matter Experts	Youth Advocates Group (Young parents previously in foster care)	DeKalb & Fulton Counties
	Georgia Policy Labs (GA State University)	State
Funders	Annie E. Casey Foundation	National
	Prudential Foundation	National



### Lead Pilot Implementation Team *(alphabetical)*

**State:** Carmen Callaway (State DFCS), Laura Beggs (State OFI), Lon Roberts (State DFCS)

**Metro Atlanta:** Antoine Roberson (DeKalb DFCS), Carolyn Parker (Region 14 OFI), Delia Hill (DeKalb DFCS), Jerry Kellar (DeKalb DFCS), Karima Scott-Morrow (Fulton DFCS), Lauren Williams (Fulton DFCS) and Tinadinne Paul-Bazil (Fulton DFCS)



For more details on the pilot, please contact [Lon.Roberts@dhs.ga.gov](mailto:Lon.Roberts@dhs.ga.gov)



## SOUTHEAST COHORT ON YOUNG PARENTS & FAMILIES

In 2019 Third Sector worked with the federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to identify which of the 8 states in ACF Region 4 could benefit from *Outcomes Orientation technical assistance* to improve self-sufficiency outcomes for young parents and families. Georgia, Kentucky, and South Carolina were [selected](#) to form the cohort.

Technical assistance, fully funded through philanthropy, is focused on:

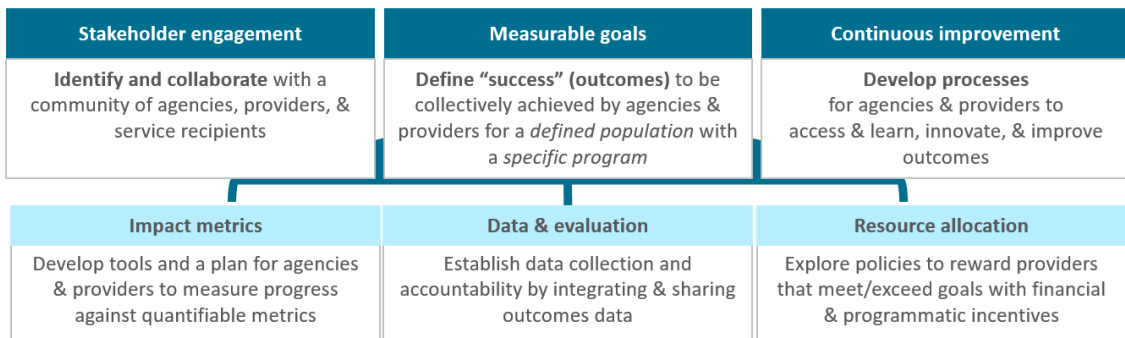
- Improved educational and workforce outcomes for young parents receiving public benefits
- Alignment of multiple programs/funding through cross-agency coordination and data sharing

## WHAT IS OUTCOMES FOCUSED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (OFTA)?

Social service delivery is serious, complex, and expensive. Governments at all levels are the largest funders of the social sector, spending billions of dollars per year. And yet, this massive universe of funding is often not allocated towards programs that successfully break the cycle of intergenerational poverty or reduce racial inequities.

By adopting OFTA, governments focus on the more impactful changes that result from a program (outcomes), rather than the resources of a program and its activities.

### *Technical Assistance Focus Areas for Governments to Establish an Outcomes Orientation*



## ABOUT THIRD SECTOR

Third Sector is a non-profit advisory organization that transforms public systems to advance improved and equitable outcomes. We partner with governments, community-based organizations, and program participants to develop implementation plans that ensure people accessing services from public systems achieve lasting economic mobility and well being. Our “outcomes focused” technical assistance maximizes impact by integrating data, policy, funding, and community insights.

Since 2011, we have worked with +80 communities to deploy over \$850mm of government resources to improve the life outcomes of workforce, education, mental health, justice and family services. When our work is complete, agencies entrusted to use public funds have the systems, tools, capacity and data to do more and do better for their customers and clients.

