



Region 3

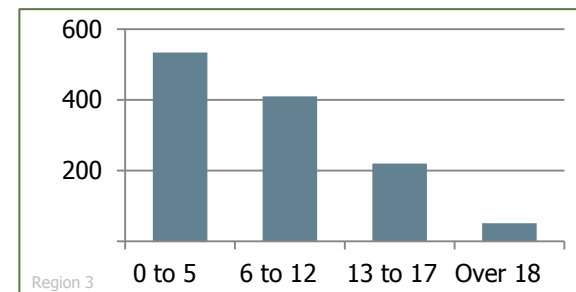


Our Children...

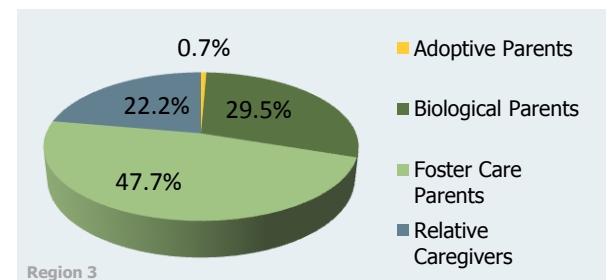
1,215

Children resided in all households

Number of Children by Age



Children being cared for by:



PSSF Making a Difference

Carlos, Mary and Michael, ages 5, 3 and 1, witnessed the murder of their mother's boyfriend. It was later discovered that the mother was responsible for her boyfriend's beating, and she was charged with murder. Traumatized and alone, the children were taken into protective custody by DFCS, and the judge appointed a PSSF-supported CASA to the children's case.

None of the relatives were able to take in the children. However, their CASA was able to help locate the biological father. Miguel did not speak English, but fortunately, Helene, the CASA appointed to the case, was bilingual. Helene attended court hearings and DFCS meetings with Miguel to ensure that he understood what was happening with his children.

CASA helped Miguel get a paternity test to verify that he was indeed the children's father so that he could seek custody. An immigration attorney helped him apply for U.S. citizenship. He was able to find affordable housing and child care. CASA strongly advocated for the children to receive therapy, and they showed great improvement. Miguel visited regularly with his children and, after a few months, the court gave him legal custody.

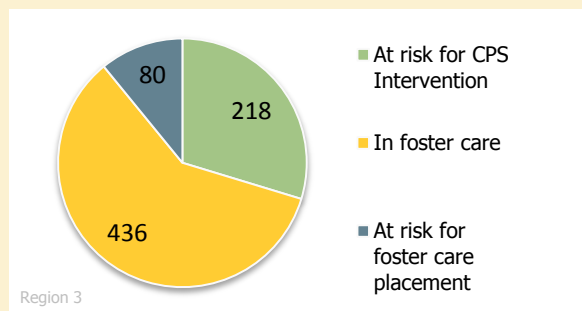
The mother was found guilty of murder. But out of tragedy came a loving father, now a U.S. citizen, who continues to work and support his children with the help of his church and the mother's family. The children are healthy, happy and adjusting well. Carlos had all A's on his first report card!

Our Families...

734

Families residing in Region 3 received a wide array of community-based services

Family involvement with their local child welfare agency at referral:



351 of these families were headed by a biological or adoptive parent, or a relative caregiver

- 57%** two-parent households
- 43%** single-parent households
- 86%** high school education or less
- 64%** employed full- and/or part-time
- 52%** income less than \$20,000

Producing Results...

For the families who completed services in FFY2011:

- 32%** Children remained safely in their homes
- 34%** Children remained in foster or relative care
- 12%** Children were reunified with their families
- 17%** Children achieved permanency through adoption or legal guardianship
- 3%** Youth emancipated from Foster Care
- 1%** Children were referred to DFCS for investigation

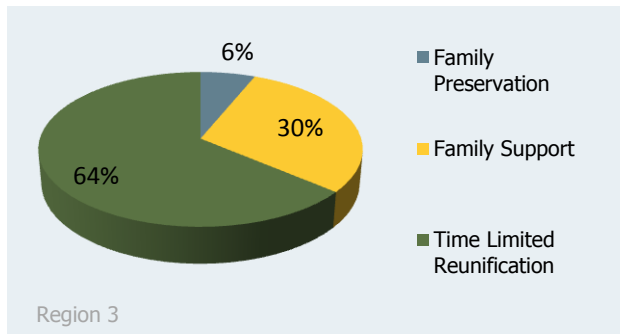
Georgia's Promoting Safe and Stable Families program has steadily built a network of community-based organizations reflecting the state's commitment to ensuring that families have access to the highest quality services and resources needed to help children and youth grow into healthy, contributing members of our society. PSSF is one of the few sources of federal funds directed toward the *prevention* of issues that bring families into the child welfare system.

PSSF Program Areas

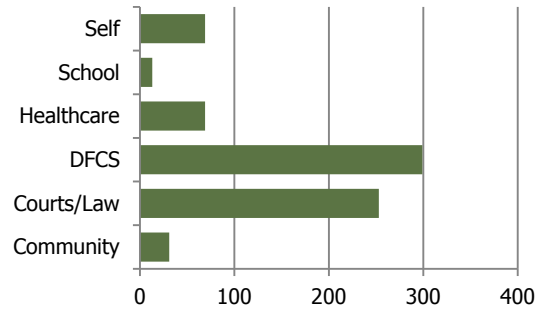
PSSF funds provide services to at-risk families in the areas of:

- **Family Support** to prevent child abuse and neglect among families at risk through the provision of supportive family services
- **Family Preservation** to assure children's safety within the home and preserve intact families in which children have been abused or neglected when the family's needs can be addressed effectively
- **Time-Limited Reunification** to address the needs of families whose children have been placed in foster care so that reunification may occur in a safe and timely manner
- **Adoption Promotion/Post-Permanency Support** to provide foster and adoptive families support services so that they can make a lifelong commitment to their children

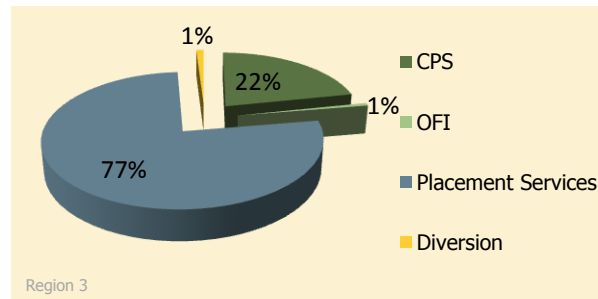
Service Allocation



Source of Community Referrals



DFCS referrals:



Responding to Community Needs

PSSF supports easy access and coordinated service delivery that is child- and family-focused. For more information about the following network providers in Region 3, visit the Family Services Resource Guide at www.pssfnet.com.

Advocates for Bartow's Children, Inc.

CASA of Paulding County, Inc.

CASA of Polk & Haralson, Inc.

Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of Rome, Inc.

Family Alliance of Paulding, Inc.

Georgia Northwestern Technical College

Morningstar Children and Family Services, Inc. (Rome)

Prevent Child Abuse Gordon County, Inc.

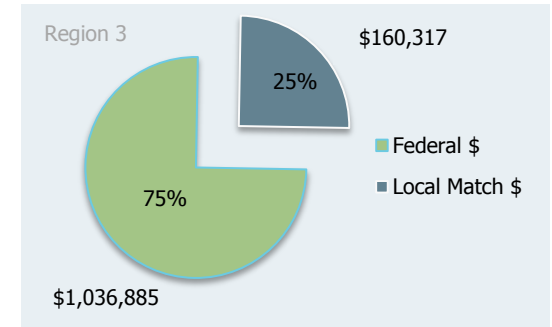
Rome Floyd County Commission on Children and Youth, Inc.

Shared Responsibility

PSSF resources have been strategically invested to enhance the capacity of DFCS to identify and meet the needs of families and to expand the array of supportive services available through community-based family service agencies.

Federal allocations are leveraged with the support of matching funds contributed at the local level.

Investment



Service Array

PSSF supports a variety of services for families with children. The following services were made available to families through network providers in Region 3.

- Center-based Parent Education
- Center-based Support Group
- Child/Family Assessment
- Childcare
- Crisis Intervention
- Effective Discipline/Behavior Management
- Family Life Skills
- Follow-up Services
- Healthcare Screening/Services
- Home-based Parent Education
- Information and Referral Services
- Legal Advocacy
- Parent/Child Activities
- Supervised Visitation
- Therapeutic Counseling
- Transportation

