



Region 5

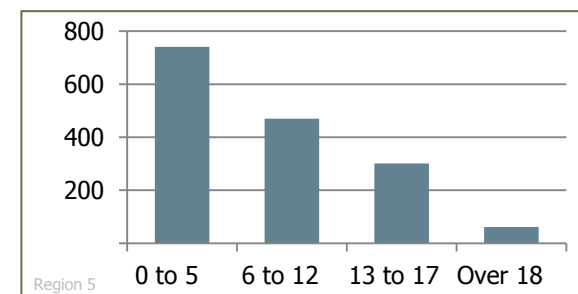


Our Children...

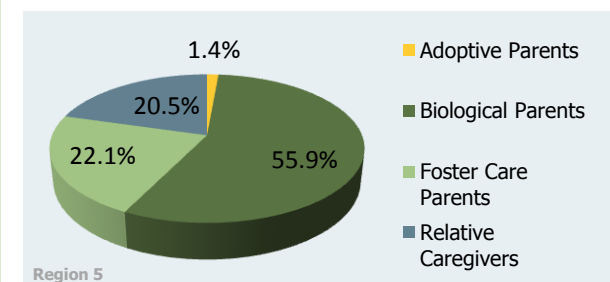
1,573

Children resided in all households

Number of Children by Age



Children being cared for by:



PSSF Making a Difference

The first three years of any child's life are critical to brain development and lay a unique foundation for social, emotional and physical growth. What if a parent has no idea how to encourage brain development or interact with her new baby? Becca was a senior in high school, struggling to cope with an unplanned pregnancy, whose teacher realized she needed help.

A referral to Parents as Teachers (PAT) matched Becca with Lee, a family support specialist at the PSSF-supported agency. Becca was eager to sign up, and they began meeting once a month to share information about the pregnancy and what would follow. Becca worked hard, received her high school diploma and gave birth to a beautiful daughter two weeks after graduation.

Becca learned to do activities with the baby that were designed to enhance the baby's brain development and promote parent/child interaction. Little Lexi exceeded all developmental markers and began saying sounds and words early, then walking early. Becca worked diligently to get her daughter a scholarship to a small faith-based school, and now Lexi takes dance lessons and is on a dance team! Becca works part-time and is taking classes at a local technical college.

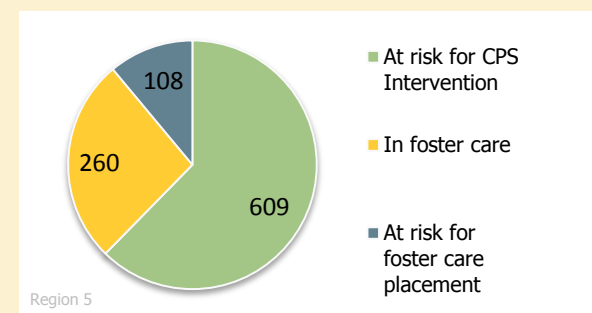
Four years after joining the PAT program, Becca is a successful student, a loving parent and a wonderful teacher for her daughter. She beams with pride as she shares what Lexi is learning in school with Lee – who is also proud of the role she played in creating the foundation for two successful lives.

Our Families...

977

Families residing in Region 5 received a wide array of community-based services

Family involvement with their local child welfare agency at referral:



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

- 41%** two-parent households
- 59%** single-parent households
- 77%** high school education or less
- 52%** employed full- and/or part-time
- 68%** income less than \$20,000

Producing Results...

For the families who completed services in FFY2011:

- 72%** Children remained safely in their homes
- 15%** Children remained in foster or relative care
- 7%** Children were reunified with their families
- 4%** Children achieved permanency through adoption or legal guardianship
- <1%** Youth emancipated from Foster Care
- 1%** Children were referred to DFCS for investigation

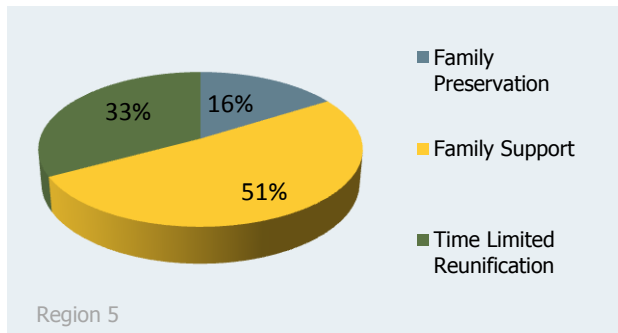
Georgia's Promoting Safe and Stable Families program has steadily built a network of community-based organizations reflecting the state's commitment to ensuring that families have access to the highest quality services and resources needed to help children and youth grow into healthy, contributing members 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

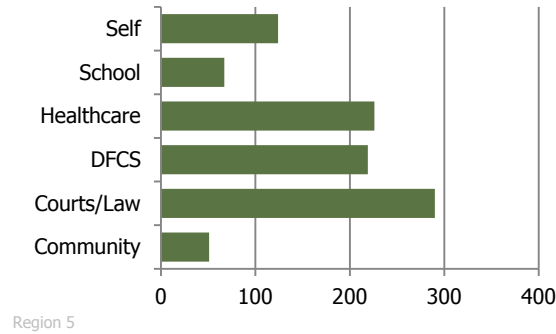
PSSF funds provide services to at-risk families in the areas of:

- **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

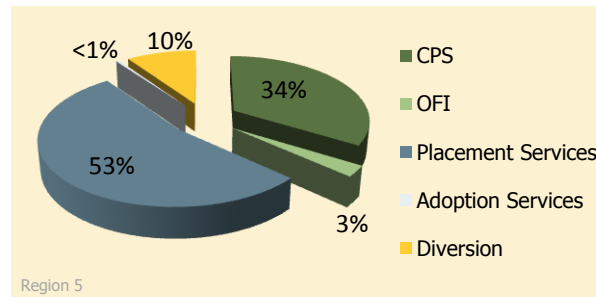
Service Allocation



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 5, visit the Family Services Resource Guide at www.pssfnet.com.

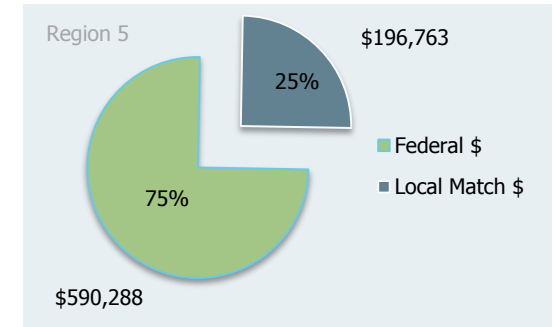
- Alcovy CASA, Inc.
- Athens Community Council on Aging, Inc.
- Children First, Inc.
- Clarke County School District
- Community Partnership of Elbert County
- Loganville Community Ministry Village
- Morningstar Children and Family Services, Inc. (Athens)
- Newton County Board of Commissioners
- Piedmont CASA, Inc.
- Prevent Child Abuse Athens, Inc.
- Tree House, Inc.. The

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 5.

- 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
- Mentoring and Tutoring
- Parent/Child Activities
- Supervised Visitation
- Therapeutic Counseling
- Transportation

