



— DAWSON COUNTY —
family connection™



FY24
July 2023-
June 2024

Connecting our FAMILIES



Provided monthly support to Dawson County's Kinship Caregivers engaging **19 families** (**27 caregivers and 34 children**)

Awarded Kinship Cohort funds in FY22, FY23, & FY24 totaling **\$19,750.00** to bolster kinship support groups and the families attending



350+ families (est 400-500 people) connected to **43** local resources at **A Family Fair**

"It [A Family Fair] was a great time!!! Thank you for all you do for the community!!! We love these times!! Lots of family fun!!" -Cassie Byrum

Connecting our COMMUNITY

\$13,986 worth of goods collected and distributed to Dawson County families



Coordinated **1,129** hours of training including:

- Community Resiliency Model (CRM)
- Connections Matter
- Recovery Messaging Training
- Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI)
- Trusted Sources Students



1,561 volunteer hours accumulated = **\$46,830** in-kind dollars contributed



Connecting our RESOURCES



- **4,000+** Community Resource Directories distributed
- **330** Dawson County Junior High 9th graders connected to **47** local resources at **Teen Maze**
- **11** Community Collaborative Meetings held in FY24
 - **50+** local resource agencies represented
- Youth mental wellness resources shared with **950+**

Scan QR Code to access our updated **Community Resource Directory**



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45 Medical Center Drive, Suite 101
PO Box 872
Dawsonville, GA 30534
706-265-1981



www.dawson.gafcp.org



facebook.com/DawsonFamilyConnection



facebook.com/groups/1011085806690999

Scan QR Code to sign up for our **NEWSLETTER**



Our MISSION: Providing leadership through collaboration with all segments of the community for the well-being of families and children.



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FY25
July 2024-
June 2025

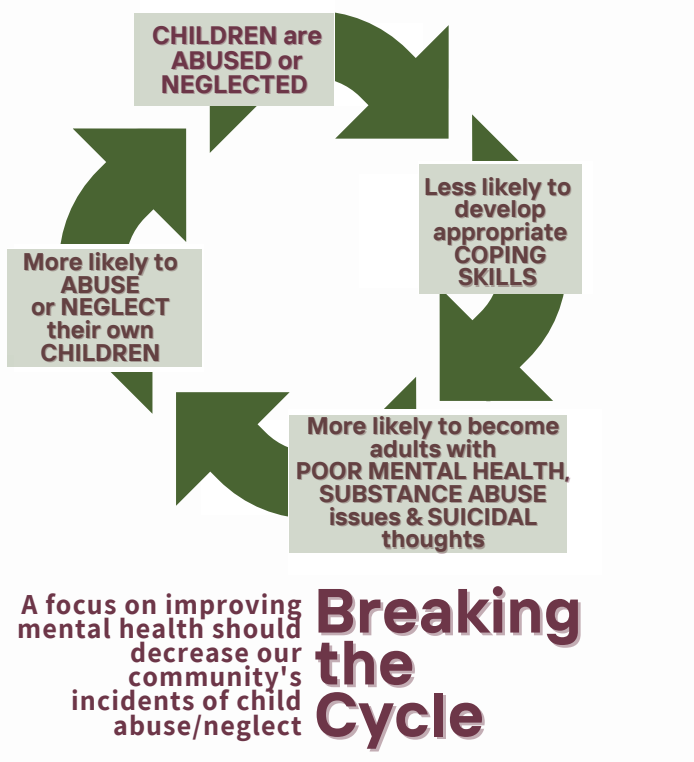
Dawson County Family Connection Collaborative Structure

Resources/Support	Georgia Family Connection Partnership Technical Assistance/Support To Counties, State Agencies, & Partners	Georgia General Assembly Funding to Fiscal Agent Dawson County Government, Fiscal Agent Since 1999
	Dawson County Family Connection PO Box 872 45 Medical Center Drive, Suite 101 Dawsonville, GA 30534 706-265-1981	
Local	Dawson County Family Connection PO Box 872 45 Medical Center Drive, Suite 101 Dawsonville, GA 30534 706-265-1981	
2024 Collaborative Board	Mandy Power 2024 Chair John Cronan 2024 Vice Chair Kelsey Harrison 2024 2nd Vice Chair Natalie Johnson 2024 Treasurer Billy Thurmond DC Board of Commissioners Buffie Hamil DC Parks & Recreation Clark MacAllister UGA Extension Office	Dawn Johnson DC Senior Center Jeff Johnson DC Sheriff's Office Jeremy Merritt Avita Community Partners Joe Stapp Blue Ridge Counseling Nicole LeCave DC School System Sandy Sawyer City of Dawsonville Sher Whitmore DC Health Department
	Ben Barrett 2023 Chair	
Staff	Rebecca Bliss Coordinator, Since 2021	Layla McBrayer Administrative Specialist

Indicators of Focus FY25

Children with a substantiated incident of neglect*	DAWSON 4.9 per 1,000	GEORGIA 2.9 per 1,000	
Children leaving foster care who are reunified with their families or placed with a relative within 12 months of entering foster care*	DAWSON 25.0 %	GEORGIA 25.4%	
Number of mentally unhealthy days reported in the past 30 days** (Adults)	DAWSON 4.9	GEORGIA 4.8	
How often do you feel stressed?*** (736 Dawson County High School Students)	SOMETIMES 29.8%	ALWAYS 30.3%	
In the past 30 days, how many days have you felt depressed, sad, or withdrawn?*** (736 Dawson County High School Students)	NONE 58.0%	AT LEAST ONE DAY 42.0%	
Number of approved foster families in Dawson County who can accept children placed in care.****	HOMES/PRIVATE 6	HOMES/DFCS 5	BEDS 23

*2022 Kids Count **2021 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System ***2023 Georgia Student Health Survey ****2024 Department of Human Resources, Open Records



FY25 Strategy

Dawson County Family Connection (DCFC) has consolidated its FY24 strategies of Family Stability & Mental Wellness into one singular strategy for FY25: Mental Wellness. DCFC will engage partners & provide/promote resources & activities that support the five-stage model known as Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (MHON) to improve the mental wellness of Dawson County families. MHON is arranged in a hierarchy with physiological (survival) needs at the bottom & more self-actualization needs at the top. It is argued that each tier must be satisfied before an individual (or family) can satisfy higher needs. Therefore, in FY25, DCFC will focus on activities/programs/services that support the three lower tiers of MHON to improve the mental wellness of Dawson County families & children & build a foundation for their realization of the higher two tiers of MHON.

Historically, DCFC has received tremendous support from its local school system, government, & resource agencies in its efforts to serve the community. In FY25, DCFC is excited to fill a missing seat at the table by initiating a Church Collaborative; created to provide the faith-based community an opportunity to work together to efficiently reach shared goals.

Many local mental wellness facilitators are currently at capacity & therefore extending a critical gap of time, the gap of time between realizing professional help is needed & receiving professional help, for families in Dawson County. The FY25 annual plan addresses this issue by coordinating group counseling sessions for families & children as an expedient, no-cost, mental wellness opportunity for children & families in need of such services.

A special thank you to all who support Dawson County Family Connection and have made a time or monetary donation towards our success! We appreciate your contribution to us and the Dawson County community!