



Families First
Annual Impact Report
2021-2022

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

2021: A Year of Strengthening Resiliency

2021 was a year full of challenges - and yet, through it all, Families First remained resilient! Although this was a year fraught with cycles of hope and disappointment, we remain proud of our organization's ability to bounce back and respond to the pandemic and related crises, as well as the needs of our community.

We continue to be indebted to the hard work, creativity, and resiliency demonstrated by our Families First staff, who worked tirelessly to keep the agency moving forward and carry out our mission, "Building resilient families so all children can thrive." Navigating through these difficult times has not been easy, but it would have been even harder without our amazing staff, Board of Directors, and community partners. We are also inspired by our donors, including our government partners, corporate sponsors, foundations, and philanthropic donors. We are so appreciative of your extraordinary commitment, generosity, and unwavering response to help us ensure that our families' needs are met.

Despite the difficulties of 2021, Families First has a great deal to be thrilled about!

This year was full of significant accomplishments. We're proud to report that we served nearly 16,000 individual clients across all programs. Additionally, we administered more than 500 Families First Resiliency Needs Screenings (FFRNS) and built a new FFRNS community portal piloted by eight of our community partners, who



Paula M. Moody
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

administered and collected their own clients' resiliency data. Our team also submitted our application to become a "Core" Tier II Community Medicaid Provider; we "Stomped the Stigma" around mental health during a community block party with over 300 Westside Atlanta residents; and we partnered with Starbucks, Target, Kroger, and Chick-fil-A, as well as several community organizations, to provide over 600 backpacks during our 1st annual Back to School Bash! Finally, we

completed a very successful first year of "ReCast" (Resiliency in Communities After Stress & Trauma), a five-year partnership initiative in Lawrenceville, Georgia that promotes resiliency and equity among high-risk youth and families.

For 132 years, Families First has provided empowering solutions for Atlanta's most vulnerable populations. We welcome you to read the stories of our resilient families and see "where are they now." Looking ahead, we are incredibly optimistic. Amidst this considerable uncertainty we are proud to say that Families First has emerged stronger and even more dedicated to our mission and the people we serve. We are very excited about the future! Thank you for supporting and joining us on our journey to lead positive systemic change that ultimately strengthens resiliency, builds stronger families, and empowers children to thrive.

Paula Moody

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Margaret “Peggy” Taylor, CFA *Investment Specialist, Principal, Atlanta Capital Management*

Blake Winters *Managing Director, Investment Advisory /SunTrust*



Our purpose Resilient people living in resilient communities achieve their fullest potential.

Our Vision All children and families are resilient and able to achieve their fullest potential.

Our Mission Building resilient families so all children can thrive.

Programs and Services

● BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Counseling
- ReCast Services

● PARENTING & PERMANENCY

- Adoptions & Adoption Support Services
- Access & Visitation
- Parenting Training & Book Sales

● NAVIGATOR SERVICES

- Community Services
- Programs: CHISPA | Second Chance Home | Shelter-A-Family | Teenage Pregnancy Prevention

Navigator Purpose

The Navigator Model treats families that heavily rely on social services, have complex challenges, and/or have significant barriers that will not allow them to achieve their goals and objectives. The Navigators work with diverse families who reside in the community, as well as families enrolled in various Families First programs. Navigators help people go from surviving to thriving by connecting them to internal Families First services and external community resources, in conjunction with helping them strengthen their resiliency while providing intensive support from intake to discharge, and throughout aftercare.

Program Vision

All families who need a Navigator have access to a Navigator.

Program Mission

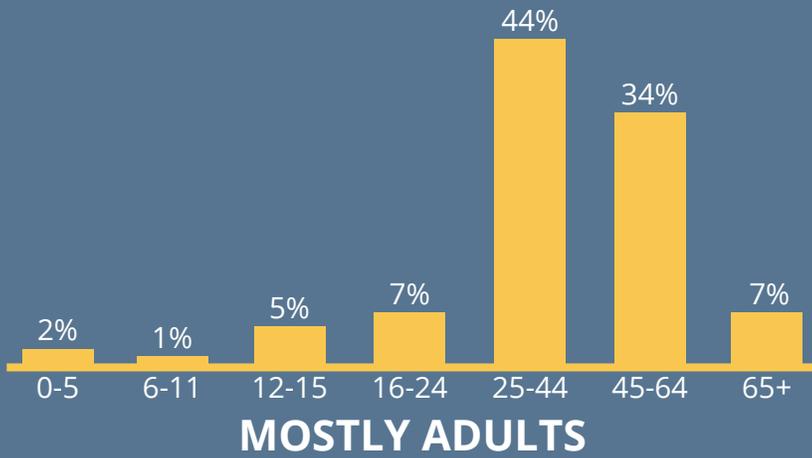
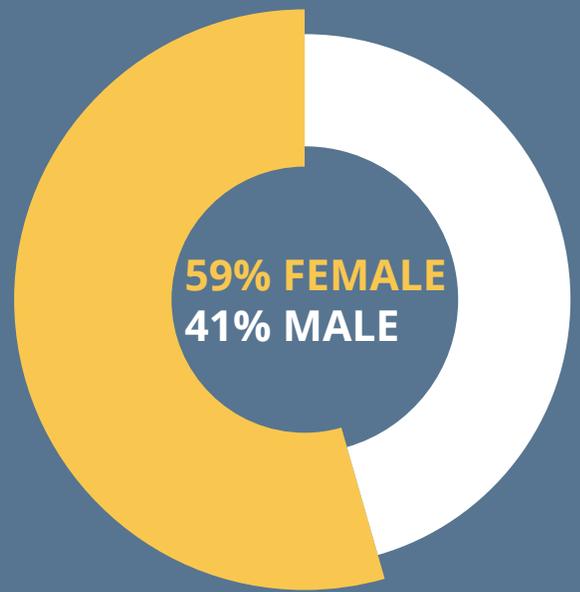
To help families build resiliency through Navigator Services.

Core Values

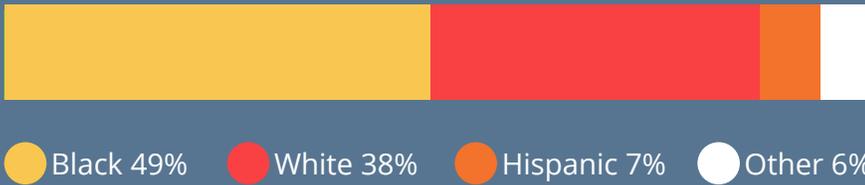
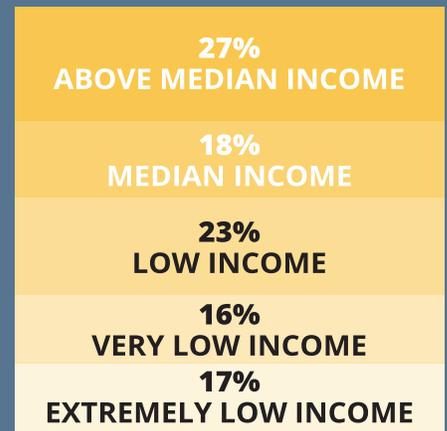
Non-judgemental, Empathetic, Customer First Approach; Data Driven, Responsiveness, Safety, and Respect.

Demographics

Families First served nearly 16,000 families, individuals, youth, and children throughout Georgia. We proudly welcome people of all backgrounds and walks of life.



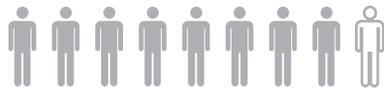
MOSTLY LOW-INCOME



Clinical Services

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Program Purpose: To provide psycho-therapy treatment to families, individuals and youth within the community or receiving services from a Families First program.



89%

of 117 clients with treatment plans exhibited progress on their goals



66%

of clients with 2+ visits maintained or increased their coping skills

2,455

counseling sessions were provided to 343 individuals

Parenting & Permanency

Families First provides a variety of parenting and permanency-related services, from adoption and foster support to family reunification, parenting classes, and comprehensive support to help families and children thrive.



REUNION REGISTRY

Program Purpose: To facilitate search and reunion as well as help families gain knowledge of their family, for families separated by adoption.

159 non-identifying adoption summaries completed for the reunion registry



IMPACT HUB

Program Purpose: To provide IMPACT pre-service classes for potential foster families and individuals.

820 individuals successfully completed the IMPACT certification class



GA CENTER FOR RESOURCES & SUPPORT

Program Purpose: To provide a comprehensive support network of post-placement services to strengthen Georgia's adoptive/foster families.

10,008 foster families and 1,222 adopted families served



ADOPTIONS

Program Purpose: Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) - To recruit, assess and match permanent families out of state to behavioral and emotionally challenged youth in foster care who are eligible for adoption.

PARTNERS IN PARENTING

ACCESS AND VISITATION

Program Purpose: To provide education and resources on Georgia Access and Visitation Laws and to increase parenting time with both parents including monitoring supervised visits.

COPEX/ACTIVE PARENTING:

Program Purpose: To provide co-parenting classes to divorced and separated parents and their child(ren), focusing on teaching parents to effectively parent within the best interests of the child(ren).



Community Navigator

Program Purpose: To connect families with external community resources and help them strengthen their resiliency with intensive support.



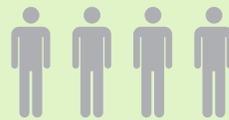
Provided clients with a total of **1,665 community referrals**, with nearly **600 referrals** for basic needs.

Increased resiliency overall by **24%** from moderate resiliency to high resiliency.

A decrease of **14%** of clients reported they often or very often are food insecure.



An increase of **18%** of clients reporting they have high housing security



98% of clients showed moderate or high resiliency in their access to basic needs.

Program Navigator

TAPP
Teenage Pregnancy & Parenting Program

Program Purpose: To support pregnant teens in delivering a healthy birth weight baby, graduating, preventing subsequent pregnancies, and attaining the skills to be effective, nurturing parents.

97% of teens delayed a subsequent pregnancy while enrolled in the TAPP program.

SECOND CHANCE HOME

Program Purpose: To ensure the safety, well-being and permanency needs for pregnant and parenting young mothers experiencing homelessness and/or working with DFCS.

96% of the 25 young mothers served in Second Chance Homes exited to safe, stable housing.

CHISPA

Program Purpose: To ensure the success of school age children by supporting and engaging parents and caregivers in Early Learning Programs including a Learning Space.

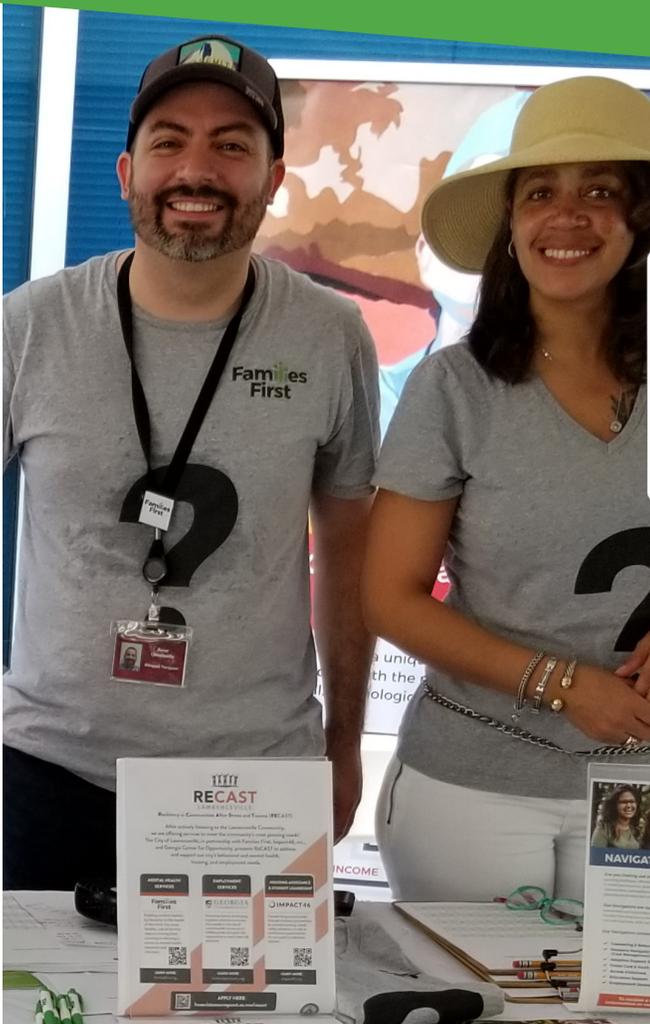
Of the 41 parents trained to be Parents as Teachers through CHISPA, **90%** made good progress or achieved their parent interaction goal, and **93%** achieved their child development goal.



CARF ACCREDITATION

Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities

In November of 2021, Families First was awarded the highest level of accreditation by CARF International for its Behavioral Health Program. CARF accreditation is a public seal of trust and commitment to quality based on internationally accepted standards. Achieving this accreditation demonstrates Families First's commitment to exceptional, personalized care. An organization receiving the highest level of CARF accreditation has undergone a detailed peer review process and has demonstrated to a team of surveyors, during an on-site visit, its commitment to providing programs and services of the highest quality.



ReCAST (RESILIENCY IN COMMUNITY AFTER STRESS AND TRAUMA)

Families First, in partnership with Georgia Center for Opportunity and Impact 46, successfully completed year one of a five-year, SAMSHA funded, “Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma” (ReCAST) grant. Through its Navigator and Behavioral Health programs, Families First’s ReCAST services aims to assist high risk youth and families in the City of Lawrenceville while promoting resiliency and equity among its residents



Presious

A few years ago, I hit a breaking point. The first thing my Families First counselor said to me was, “We have a place for you.”

My name is Presious, and my daughter and I came to Families First around six years ago. At that time, our living situation was unstable and unsafe. My family wasn't able to support me in the ways that I needed. My home life became so dysfunctional that one time, my mom and sister even jumped me for money. I knew my daughter and I needed a secure environment, but I wasn't sure where we could go. My uncle would let us stay with him - but his utilities kept getting cut off. That wasn't the life I wanted for my daughter.

Thanks to kind people like you - and my counselor, Ms. Lanisa - my daughter and I moved into the Families First Second Chance Home. We found safety, warmth, comfort, and a new beginning.

Now, I'm working with the Families First Navigator Program to receive support through therapy. After moving into my own apartment around 3 years ago, with the support of Families First, I'm now working in construction and security. My goal is to become a licensed elevator inspector - a stable, in-demand job where I can own my own business.

Celebrating a true Families First legend, Ms. Ruth Neill

After 35 years of facilitating adoptions, Families First celebrated Ruth Neill's retirement on June 30, 2022. "Ms. Ruth" has transformed the lives of countless families over the years by helping them make their "forever family" dreams come true via adoption.



On behalf of everyone at Families First, it was an honor to work with you, Ms. Ruth. We thank you for your 35-year commitment to Families First's families. We love and will miss you dearly!

FFRNS-14 Community Portal Launch

In 2021-2022 Families First launched an online site, buildresilience.net, to be able to administer the Families First Resiliency Needs Screening-14 (FFRNS-14).

This tool asks 14 questions that screen for needs in 3 different areas of psychosocial resiliency: Access, Connectedness, and Future Goal Orientation. The scores obtained from the FFRNS-14 serve to inform client service planning/ case coordination, collect community-level, resiliency data to support data-driven, collaboration between community stakeholders, and to support advocacy for deployment of various community resources. The online portal allows Families First community partners to refer individuals to complete the FFRNS-14 so that they may provide more individualized services based upon the screening outcome.



Major Events

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH | JULY 2021

A community focused event that helps our families celebrate back-to-school and provides them with the necessary resources to be prepared to successfully head back to the classroom.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY | HOLIDAY SEASON 2021

An opportunity to help our families enjoy and celebrate the season by having their holiday wishes granted, thanks to the support of our community and corporate partners.



SNEAKERS ON THE STREET

March 2022

Small teams walk the westside community distributing fliers that promote programs and services to local businesses and residential housing properties, connecting with the communities we support, while recruiting new clients.



DINING FOR A DIFFERENCE

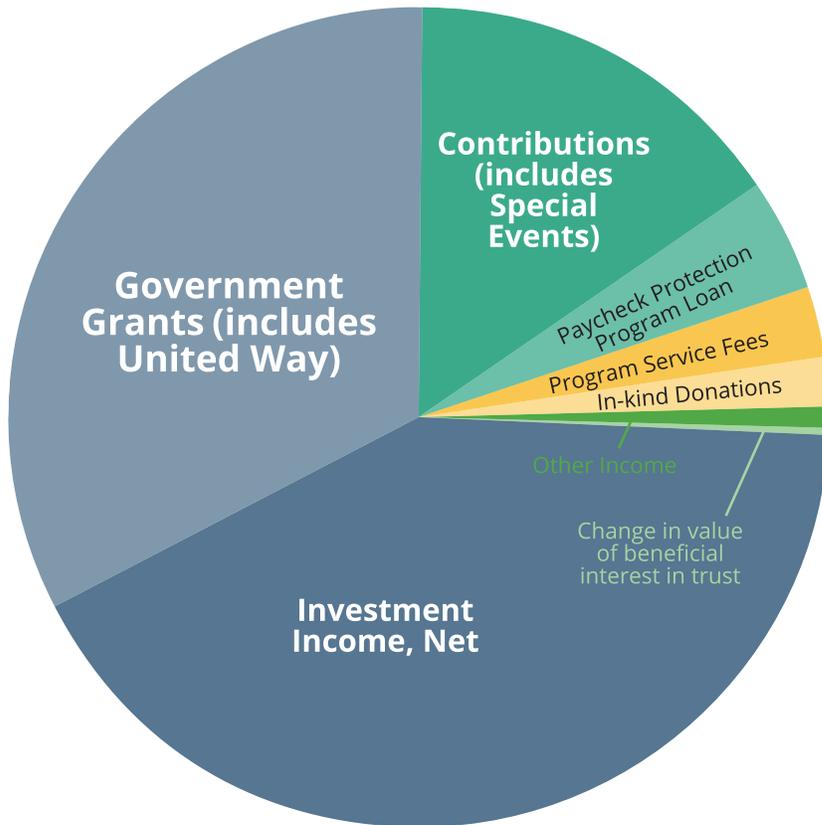
May 2022

A celebratory event to recognize the community leaders and Families First clients who demonstrate the power of resilience to build equitable communities and help all our neighbors thrive.

FISCAL YEAR 2021 REPORT

Financials

Families First's Board of Directors' participation was 100% in FY2021 • Fiscal Year 2021 experienced outstanding investment market performance (\$3.6M) • Fiscal Year 2021 financials coincide with the organization's response to community needs, execution of Families First's new mission and strategic plan.



REVENUE		
Investment Income, Net	\$4,380,666	41.9%
Government Grants (includes United Way)	\$3,395,316	32.5%
Contributions (includes Special Events)	\$1,623,015	15.5%
Paycheck Protection Program Loan	\$462,200	4.4%
Program Service Fees	\$278,734	2.7%
In-kind Donations	\$201,582	1.9%
Other income	\$81,825	0.8%
Change in value of beneficial interest in trust	\$21,945	0.2%
TOTAL	\$10,445,283	

EXPENSES		
Child and Youth Permanency	\$4,514,132	57.3%
General and Administration	\$1,750,291	22.2%
Healthy Families & Relationships	\$1,027,677	13%
Fundraising	\$587,717	7.5%
TOTAL	\$7,879,817	

