



2019 Annual Meeting & Conference

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OCTOBER 28-29, 2019
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***Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies. In That Order.
Centering Mother's Voices in Maternal Care.***

Healthy Teens



for a Healthy Savannah



Georgia
Primary Care
Association

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Lakisha Samuels

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Project Coordinator
Community Liaison

Healthy Teens for a Healthy Savannah

- **The Georgia Primary Care Association is one of 3 grantees awarded CDC funding in October 2015 for the planning and implementation of a model to reduce teen pregnancy among women 15-19 years of age in Chatham County, GA.**
- **The focus of the project model is the reduction of teen pregnancy by partnerships among community health providers such as federally qualified health centers and health departments and youth serving organizations such as:**
 - Public Schools**
 - Juvenile Justice**
 - Other programs serving “vulnerable youth”**

Community Overview



Population (*Census, 2018*)

- 289,000 County Residents
- 145,000 Savannah Residents

Population Characteristics (Savannah)

Race/Ethnicity

- **54%** African American; **41%** Caucasian
- **5%** Hispanic/Latino

Poverty

- **24%** of Savannah residents live in poverty (**33%** of all minors; **59%** in some populations)

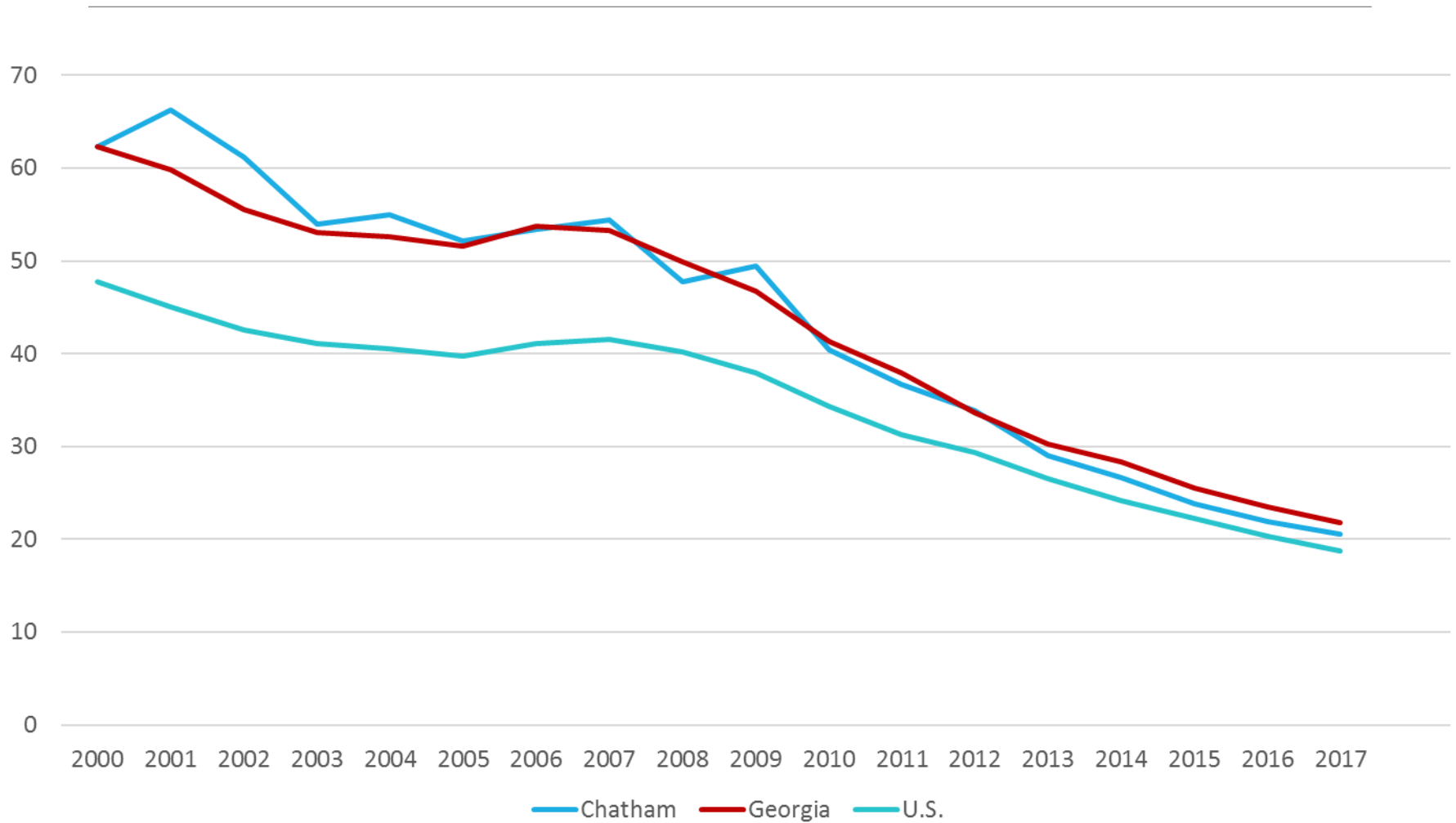
Homelessness

- **4,513** Homeless Residents; **1,001** Minors

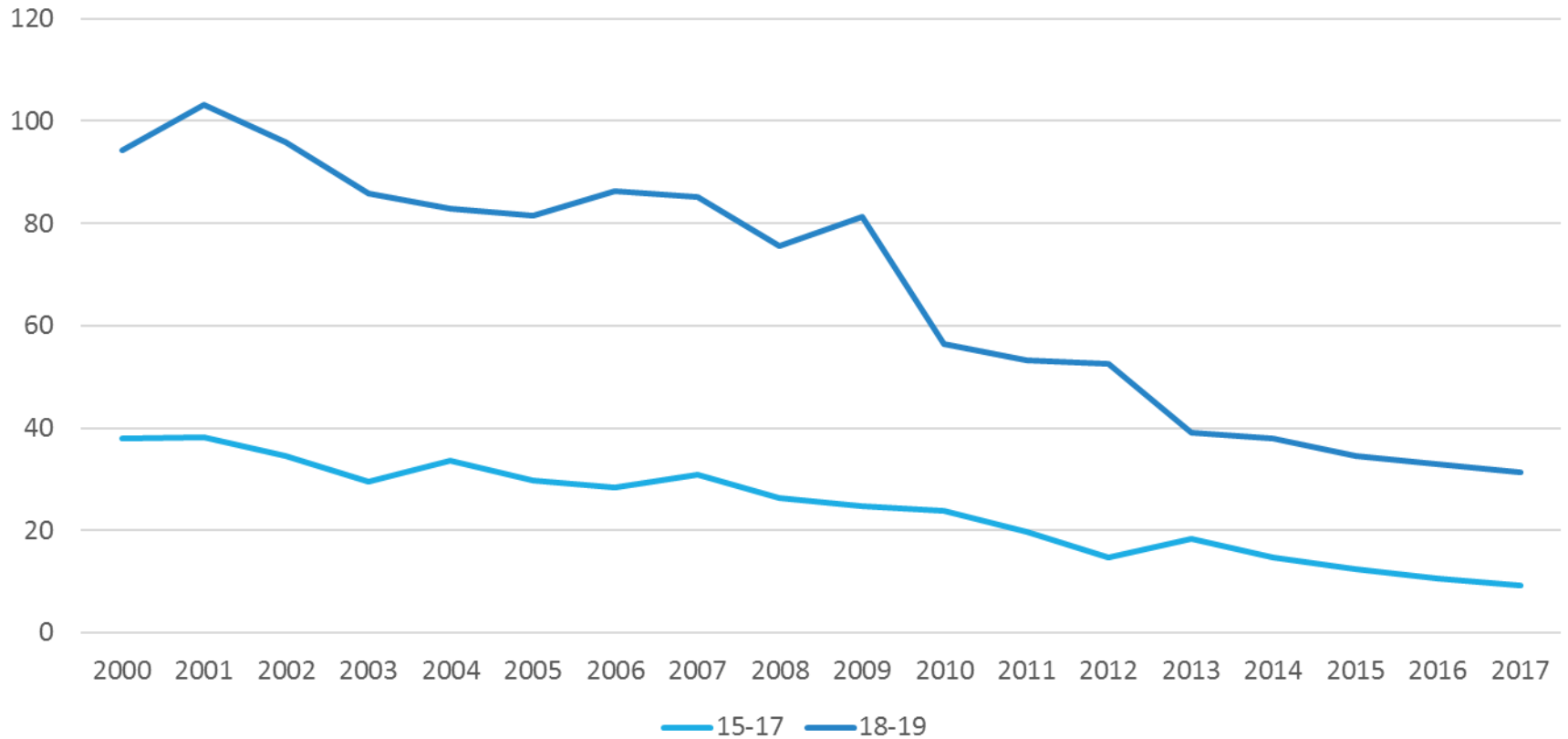
Education

- **86.6%** Graduation rate – Savannah Public Schools

Birth Rates for Youth ages 15-19 (per 1,000)



County Birth Rates by Age Group (per 1,000)



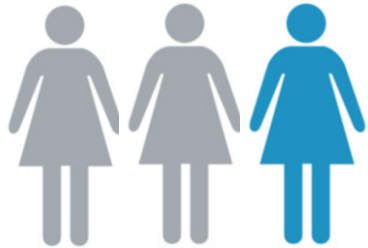
Birth Rate by Race, 15-19 (per 1,000)

Geography	Race	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Selected Years Total
		<u>Pregnancy Rate</u>	<u>Pregnancy Rate</u>	<u>Pregnancy Rate</u>	<u>Pregnancy Rate</u>	<u>Pregnancy Rate</u>	<u>Pregnancy Rate</u>
<u>Chatham</u>	White	24.0	21.2	17.5	17.3	19.4	19.8
<u>Chatham</u>	Black or African-American	51.5	46.4	43.4	42.1	32.1	43.0
<u>Chatham</u>	Asian	17.3	*	16.9	*	*	11.2
<u>Chatham</u>	American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	*
<u>Chatham</u>	Selected Races Total	37.8	33.5	30.8	29.7	25.6	31.4

Repeat Teen Pregnancies & Births

Amongst African American & Hispanic/Latino teens...

1 in 3 pregnancies



&

1 in 4 births



Vulnerable Youth in Chatham County

- **Low socioeconomic status**
- **Poor housing & educational opportunities**
- **Being out of school**
- **Substance abuse**
- **Stressful neighborhood environments**
- **Previous teen birth**
- **Experience with abuse**
- **Living in foster care**
- **Involvement with Juvenile Justice system**
- **Homelessness**
- **High unemployment in surrounding areas**

Project Purpose

- **Reduce adolescent pregnancy by:**
 - **Increasing the availability of and access to youth-friendly reproductive health services**
 - **Increasing the number of youth accessing reproductive health services through referrals by youth-serving agencies**
 - **Increasing the awareness of youth-friendly reproductive health services, minors' rights, and the importance of teenage pregnancy prevention in the Savannah community**

Baseline Key Informant Interviews

- **Teen pregnancy has not emerged as a community priority**
- **Lack of awareness of teen pregnancy rates**
- **Little to no education provided in school system**
- **Focus on pregnant and parenting teens**
- **Extreme difficulty in reaching 18-19 year-olds**
- **Focus should be on community priority issues, not teen pregnancy**

Clinical Partners

- **Curtis V. Cooper Primary Health, Inc.**
- **J.C. Lewis Primary Health Care Center**
- **The Chatham County Health Department**

Clinical Partner's Contributions

- **Coordinate with other project partners to accept referrals for youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services.**
- **Creation of an internal Improvement Team to implement best practices.**
- **Participation in training and technical assistance (all staff)**
- **Assistance in raising awareness about the project and the importance of youth-friendly reproductive health care services**
- **Operationalize the provision of evidence-based, youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health care services**

Clinical Outcomes Achieved

- **Six practice sites within two health systems**
- **Each health system established an Improvement Team**
- **Address barriers to same-day insertion of IUDs and implants, also known as Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)**
 - Provider training & clinic scheduling modifications**
- **Each practice site now has:**
 - Project data collection procedures**
 - Integrated clinic support tools**
 - Youth-friendly patient education materials**

Clinical Outcomes Achieved

Total of 70 clinical staff trained

- **Adolescent development**
- **Minors' rights and confidentiality**
- **Client-centered contraceptive counseling**
- **LARCs**

Youth Serving Organizations

- **The Chatham County Juvenile Court**
- **Build-A-Bridge Foundation**
- **Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club**
- **Rape Crisis Center**
- **Greenbriar Children's Center**

YSO Partners' Contributions

- **Development and formalization of system to identify youth vulnerable for teenage pregnancy.**
- **Provision and tracking of referrals to youth for local reproductive health care services.**
- **Creation of an internal Improvement Team to implement best practices.**
- **Participation in evaluation activities.**
- **Participation in the project's Leadership Team (key staff).**
- **Participation in training and technical assistance (all staff).**
- **Assistance in raising awareness about the project and the importance of youth-friendly reproductive health care services.**

YSO Outcomes Achieved

- **All five YSOs have implemented a referral system for linking youth to local sexual reproductive health services (SRHS).**
- **YSOs have identified 36 primary and 17 secondary referral staff, trained their staff on referral procedures and the referral guide, and begun monthly submission of the HTHS referral tracking form.**
- **YSOs have also established Improvement Teams, which began quarterly meetings in October 2016 to execute key activities from the T/TA plans, including continuous monitoring and improvement of referral systems.**
- **A total of 42 YSO staff have received training on topics such as adolescent development, minors' rights and confidentiality, birth control basics, and SRH referral best practices.**

Outcomes Achieved

- **The Healthy Teens for a Healthy Savannah project has been successful in meeting its goal of establishing a community-based partnership among health providers and youth serving organizations in Chatham County.**

HTHS Staff

- Lakisha Samuels

- Project Coordinator

- Latrell Davis

- Community Liaison

- Pamela Brooks

- Clinical Technical Assistance

- Dave Luke

- Information Technology

- Christine Ley, PhD

- Evaluator

- Duane Kavka

- GPCA CEO

- Frank Bonati, PhD

- Project Consultant

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Thank
You!
