



Georgia

FamilyConnection

Leading collaboration for 20 years

We **bring together** at the same table—the social worker, the nurse, the sheriff, the teacher, the minister, the business person, the public servant, and parents, then **let them figure out the best way** to help their kids thrive.



The image shows two tall, cylindrical metal grain silos with rusted, corrugated surfaces and conical roofs. They are situated in a rural landscape with dry, golden-brown grass in the foreground and a line of trees in the distance under a clear blue sky. The silos have ladders and pipes attached to their sides. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**Georgia's youth and
social services
organizations
before 1990**



Georgia Ranked

48th

**in the nation in
child well-being**

Collaboration



**“Collaboration is an
unnatural act between
non-consenting adults.”**

—Charles Bruner

Executive Director

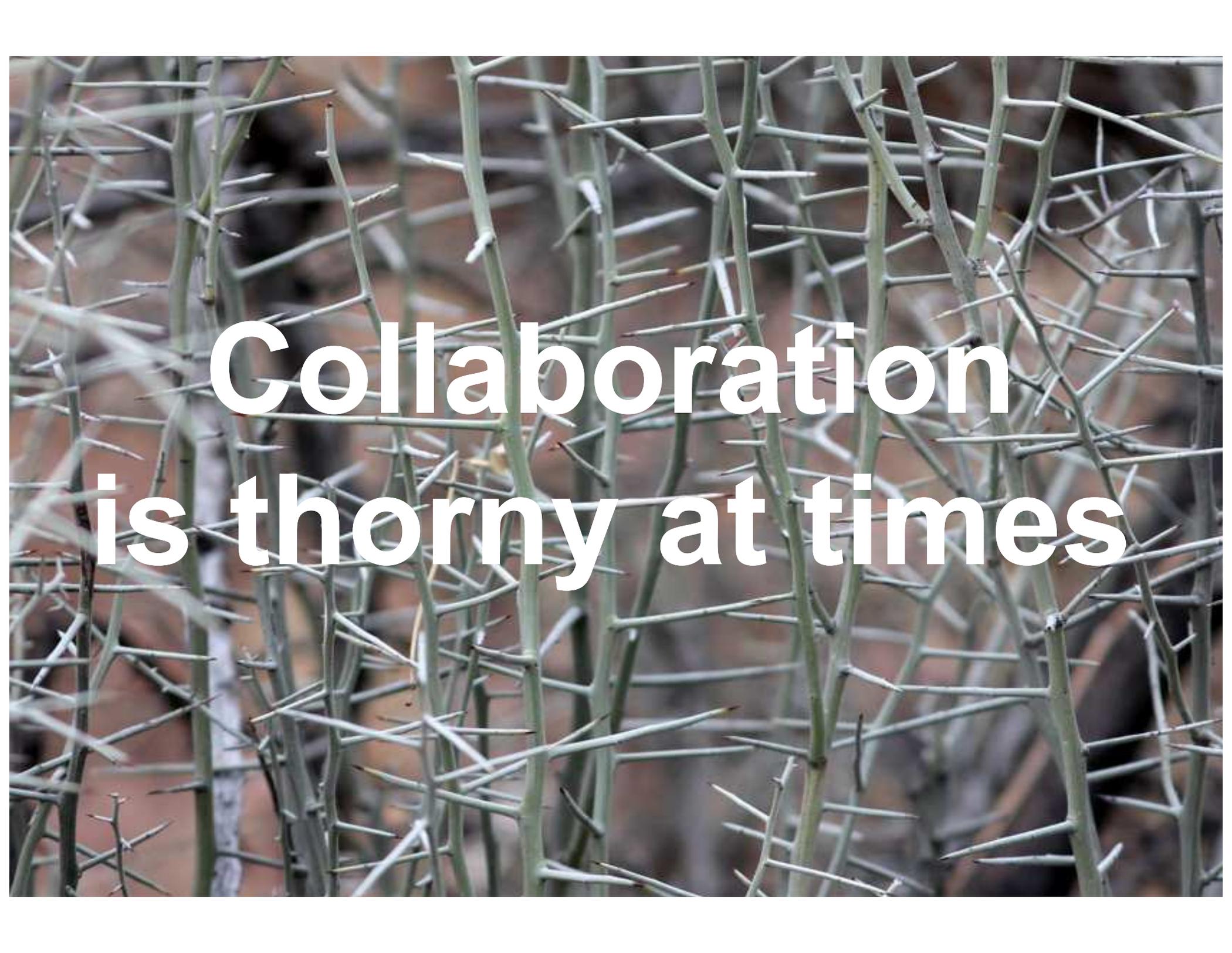
Child & Family Policy Center in Iowa

Change comes for children and families when we collaborate, promote results-focused planning and rely on local decision-making.



It can take years to move a hodgepodge of individuals to a team with a shared vision.





**Collaboration
is thorny at times**

The Collaborative Process



**Largest network of
its kind in the country**

**Collaborative organizations
in**

159 counties

**committed to improving the
quality of life for children
and families**



Our Vision

That **all children** in Georgia are healthy, ready to start school and do well when they get there, and that **every family** is stable and self-sufficient.

Decisions are rooted in neighborhood priorities, public-private partnerships, and county-based collaboration.



Core Principles

- ▶ **Collaboration**
- ▶ **Local decision-making**
- ▶ **Accountability**
- ▶ **Public-private partnerships**
- ▶ **Leveraging resources**



**Transforming statewide systems
begins in your neighborhood.**

Making Meetings Work

We all have to have meetings.
So what can we do to be sure
that the meeting is:

- **meaningful?**
- **accomplishes stated goals?**
- **gets commitment from attendees?**

Albert Einstein said:

**“Insanity is doing the
same thing over and
over again and
expecting different
results.”**

Planning and Preparation

- **Establish what the group needs to accomplish**
- **Select and invite the right people**
- **Prepare a written agenda**
- **Specify how members should be prepared**
- **Prepare site before first member arrives**

During the Meeting

- **Starting the meeting**
- **Maintaining the flow of the meeting**
- **Ending the meeting**
- **Participants Responsibilities**

Follow-up/Follow-through

- **Confirm assignments and action items**
- **Follow-through with progress checks on items**
- **Ensure accuracy and completeness of Minutes**
- **Communicate with interested others**

Evaluating the Success of Meetings

- **At the end of the meeting**
Ask the group at least once a quarter
- **Once or twice a year**
Ask the group for their response

**Building Successful Teams:
Community Partnerships for
Protecting Children**

Child safety is everyone's business

**What does
CPPC look like
in Georgia?**

DFCS joins with a local Family Connection Collaborative which includes:

- Community residents,
- Private service providers,
- Faith-based leaders,
- Domestic Violence/DJJ/Mental Health/the Courts,
- Community-Based Organizations,
- Law enforcement, and
- Other stakeholders

Then this CPPC partnership focuses on:

Implementing the 4 Core Components of the CPPC Model

Child safety is everyone's business

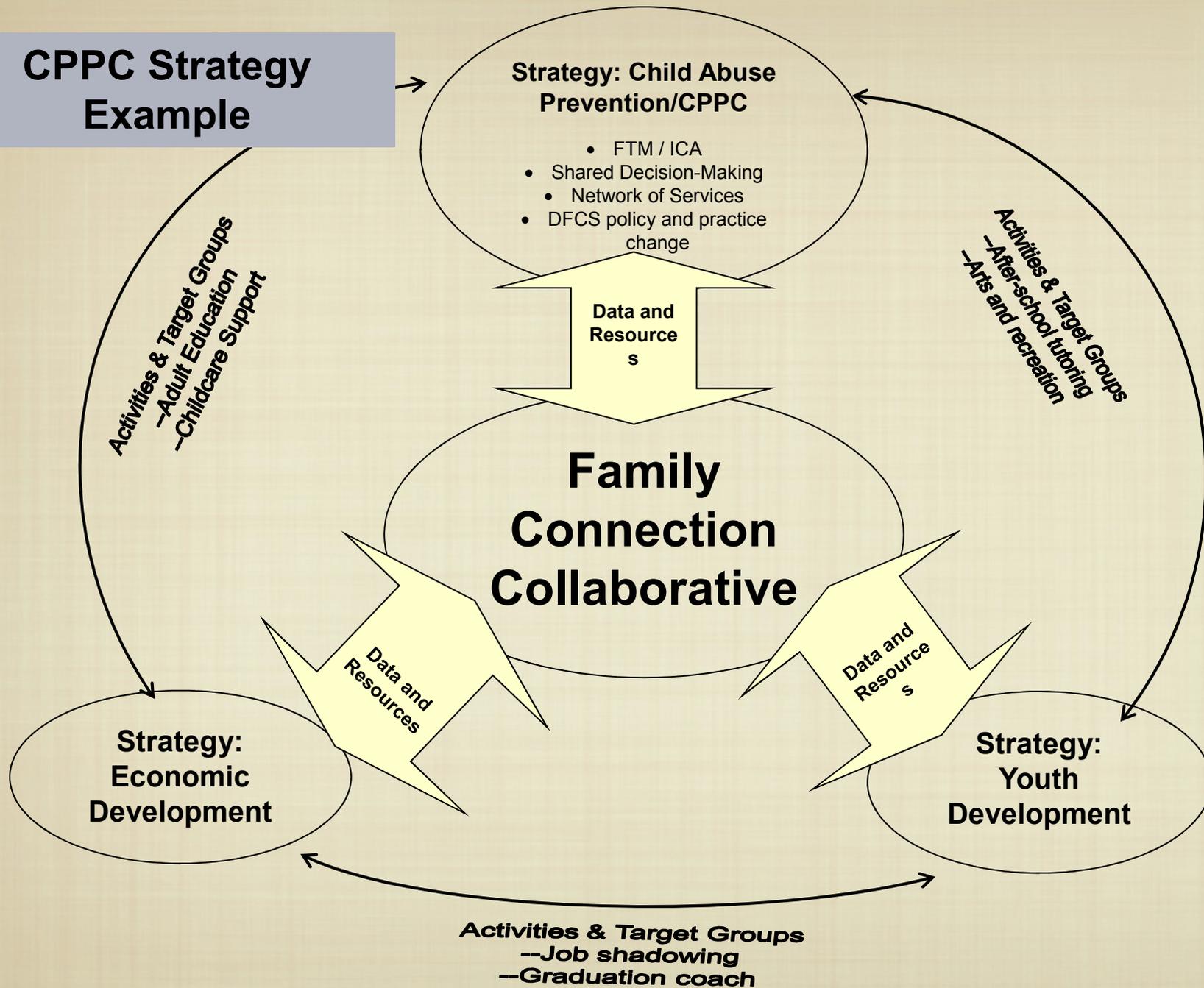
Core Components of the CPPC Model:

Georgia's CPPC is based on four basic components developed by child welfare experts based on research—and common sense:

1. Develop an “Individualized Course of Action” with each family that engages a full range of extended family supports and community services through Family Team Meetings [FTM]
2. Develop local networks of services and supports that involve natural/informal and formal resources and address both prevention and intervention; identify/address gaps in services.
3. Establish a shared decision-making process where families, community members and service providers design the strategies for results at both the community and agency levels.
4. Strengthen the practices, culture, and policies of DFACS, moving from “one size fits all” to individualized responses to families, geographic assignment of cases, and practice that is strength-based and collaborative with communities.



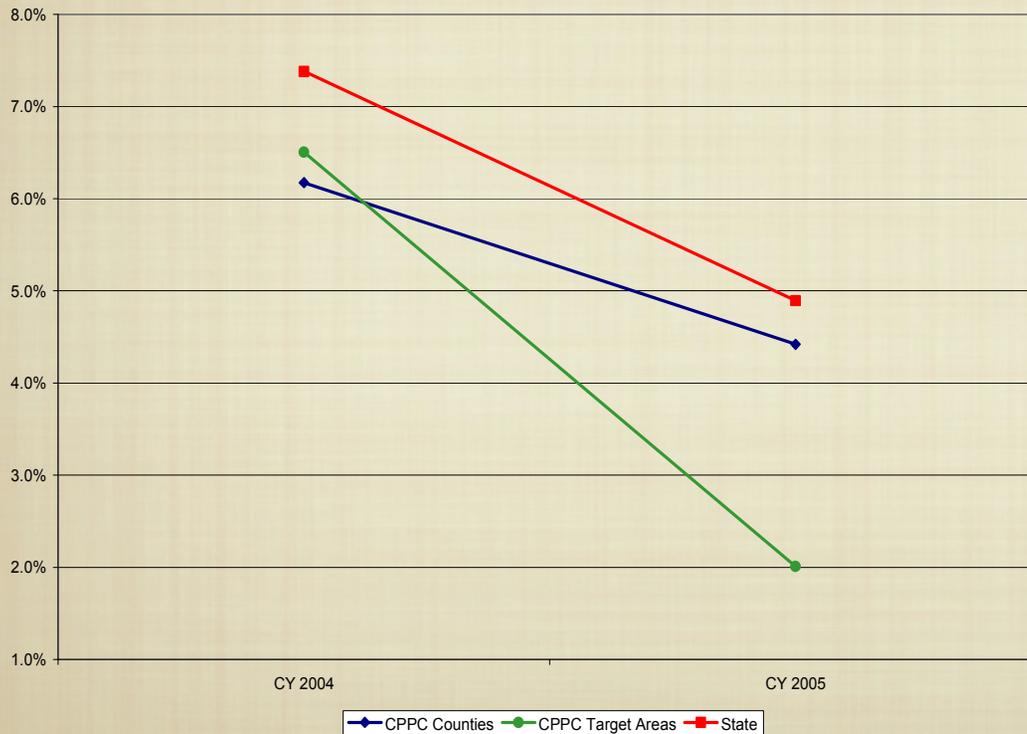
CPPC Strategy Example



Child safety is everyone's business

CPPC is Effective for Reducing Recurrence

Rate of Recurrence of Maltreatment



As of the end of the CPPC pilot, what was the Return on Investment?



Child safety is everyone's business

CPPPC 17 Counties:

- Brantley
- Catoosa
- Cobb
- DeKalb
- Fannin
- Fulton
- Gordon
- Hart
- Jeff Davis
- Jenkins
- Lanier
- Lumpkin
- Muscogee
- Peach
- Tift
- Toombs
- White

**CPPPC Partners
Engage,
Educate and
Empower their
community.**



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White County CPPC

- Monthly parent meetings focused on parental protective factors
- Worked with parent leaders and recovered substance users to attend Southeastern Institute on Chemical Dependency training “Enabling, Rescuing and Controlling”
- Individualized support to parents
- Natural helper parent advocate
- Parental support groups
- Reopening of Mental Health Center in the county; opened Jan. 2012 and currently has caseload of 130 adults

CPPC Partners Engage, Educate and Empower their community.

- Family Connection
- School System
- DFCS
- Mental Health
- Community Leaders

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Brantley County CPPC

Promise to Children Strategy Team

- Project CARE (Conflict Awareness and Responsibility Education)
- Southeast GA Mothers Against Meth
- GAP House support services
- Counseling
- Community FTMs
- Good Touch/Bad Touch
- Father-Daughter Dance
- Mother-Son Activity
- Jr. Police Academy

CPPC Partners Engage, Educate and Empower their community.

- Family Connection
- School System
- DFCS
- Mental Health
- Community Leaders
- Law Enforcement
- DJJ
- Public Health

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Common Programs/Activities

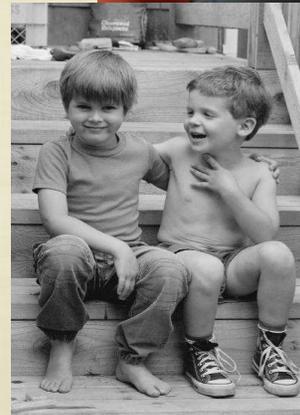
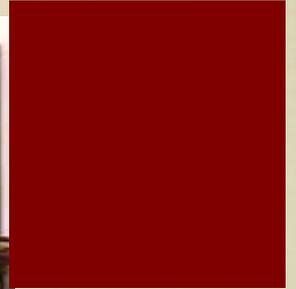
- Parent Cafés
- Lunch and Learns
- Parent Support Groups
- Support for community centers
- Family Support activities
- Foster youth support activities
- Community Resource guides
- Parent/Child support groups
- Prevention/Health Fairs

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Today these CPPC strategy teams, including state agencies, local organizations and community members, continue their work to support families and ensure children are safe and their families reach their highest potential - and they are making a difference in their communities!







gafcp.org