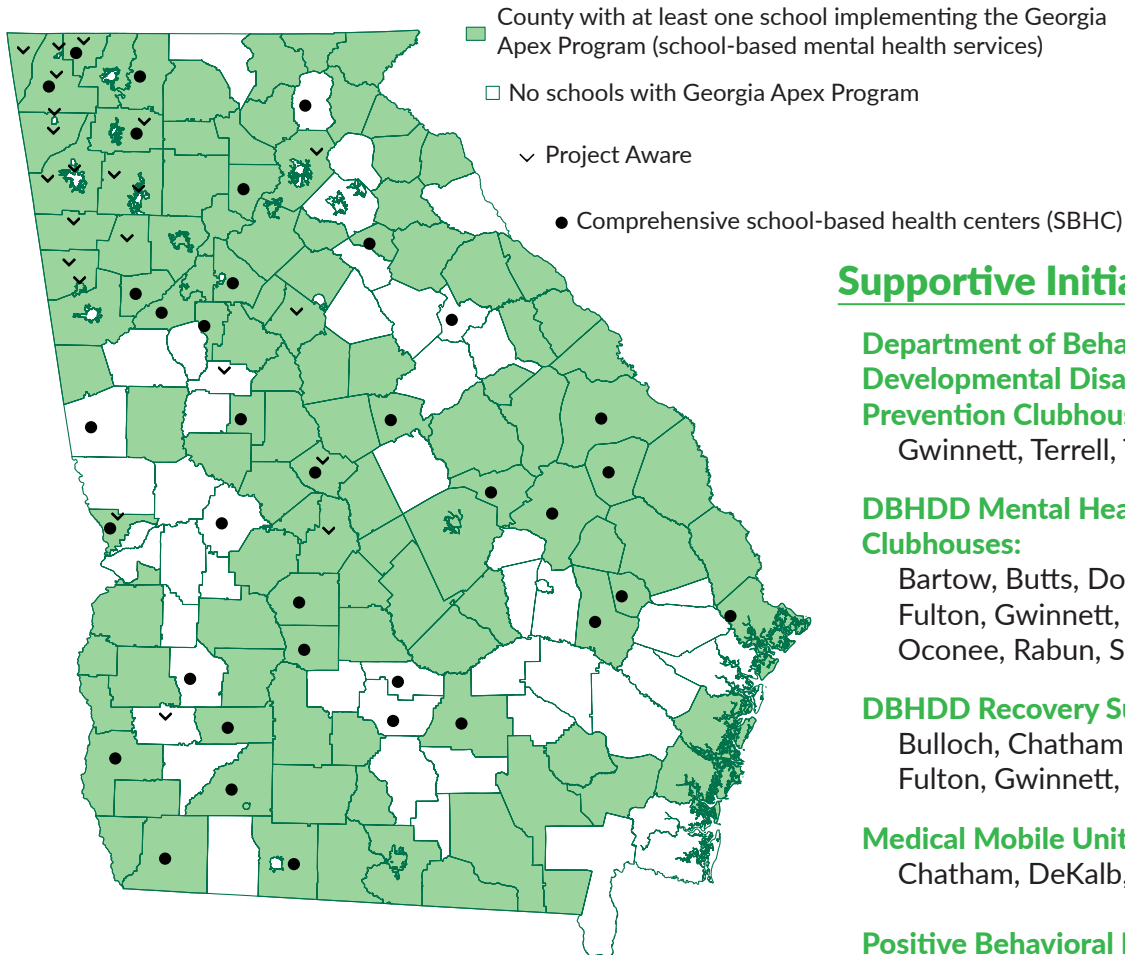




School-based mental health programs are well-positioned to provide a continuum of behavioral health care to students and their families. The following provides an overview of select school-based mental health programs:



Please note that some services and supports are only available in a certain school district or school and are not countywide.

## Supportive Initiatives

### Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities' (DBHDD) Prevention Clubhouses:

Gwinnett, Terrell, Troup

### DBHDD Mental Health Resiliency Clubhouses:

Bartow, Butts, Dougherty, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, Laurens, Newton, Oconee, Rabun, Sumter, Thomas, Ware

### DBHDD Recovery Support Clubhouses:

Bulloch, Chatham, Douglas, Floyd, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Muscogee

### Medical Mobile Unit:

Chatham, DeKalb, Fulton

### Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS): [See Voices' PBIS factsheet here](#)

As of September 2022, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) and Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESAs) had coordinated **1,304 Mental Health Awareness Trainings (MHAT)** for **32,444 educators and school staff**, including:<sup>1</sup>

- Trauma 101
- Brain 101
- Trauma to Resilience
- Secondary Traumatic Stress
- Psychological Safety

Please note this list is not comprehensive.

## School-based Access

### Georgia Apex Program

Increases school-based behavioral health capacity through partnerships between community-based providers and local schools and school districts. Both develop partnerships with local schools to provide behavioral health services. **Funding:** DBHDD state funds<sup>2</sup>

### Project Aware

Builds capacity of state and local educational agencies to increase awareness of mental and substance abuse issues through student screenings and school staff trainings. Grantees will assist in developing a statewide framework to provide training to school and community professionals to identify students with mental health needs and connect youth and families to community resources.<sup>3</sup> (Project Aware is currently partnering with the Northeast Georgia RESA serving 13 counties for grant period 2023-2028. Additionally, Bibb, Hall, and Houston County schools have also received awards for grand period 2020-2025.)

### Youth Mental Health First Aid

Provides individuals who interact with youth with skills for helping an adolescent who is experiencing a mental health or addiction challenge or is in crisis<sup>4</sup>

### Sources of Strength

Targets strengthening multiple sources of support, changing social norms and school culture. This program is designed to prevent suicide, violence, bullying and substance abuse by encouraging connections between peers and adults.<sup>5</sup>

### School-based Health Centers (SBHCs)

Improve childrens' access to health services. 117 SBHCs provide mental and behavioral health services through on-site services in partnership with community providers. **Funding:** Foundation grants for start-up costs, insurance billing for sustainability<sup>6</sup>, and the Georgia Department of Education<sup>7</sup>

### Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Facilitates positive school climate and timely identification of behavioral health needs for students. A network of 1,400+ schools and programs representing 62% of Georgia local educational agencies continue implementation with fidelity. **Funding:** DOE state funds PBIS specialists in each Regional Educational Service Agency<sup>8, 9, 10</sup> [See Voices' PBIS factsheet here.](#)

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## Telemedicine & Telehealth

### School-based Telehealth (SBTH)

Provides children and families with access to needed primary, acute, and specialty care on a school campus through telecommunication technologies

### Georgia Partnership for Telehealth

172 schools had telehealth equipment, as of September 2022, to be used for behavioral health services through the GPTH network. **Funding:** GPTH grant; school budget for staff time; Medicaid<sup>11</sup>

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## Out-of-School Time

### DBHDD-Supported Clubhouses

**DBHDD Mental Health Resiliency Support Clubhouses:** 16 clubhouses statewide, supported by the Office of Children, Young Adults & Family, to provide supportive services, e.g., educational, social, and employment support geared to engage youth and assist them in managing behaviors and symptoms<sup>12</sup>

**Prevention Clubhouses:** 3 clubhouses statewide, supported by the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention, that were designed to provide prevention services to high-risk youth ages 12-17 to address socio-economic ills and risk factors they face in their communities at home.<sup>13</sup>

**Recovery Support Clubhouses:** 9 clubhouses, supported by the Office of Recovery Transformation for youth and young adults aged 13 to 17 years with substance use challenges. The Recovery Support Clubhouses utilize a comprehensive substance use recovery support model designed to engage adolescents and their families in their recovery.<sup>14</sup>



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