



# Mobile Audiology Program

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FEBRUARY 2019

# The Challenge



- Anecdotal information from Needs Assessment
- Research data shows that children who are identified and receive services earlier have better outcomes in language, literacy, and academics (NCHAM Fact Sheet 2010; Yoshinago-Itano, 2013)
- Research on Georgia’s children who are DHH show that children in (a) rural areas; (b) families who speak a language other than English; and (c) families in low-income geographic areas (Georgia State University, 2014)

“Zip code lottery” – depending on where you live & income level determines your access to services, especially for children ages 0-5 years of age

# Mobile Audiology Program – Overview

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The goals for Georgia's Mobile Audiology Program (MAP) are to ensure that:

- **Families have access to audiological services**
- **The overall rate of children lost to follow-up goes down and does not disproportionately affect children in rural areas**
- **School-aged children receive timely ongoing care and management**

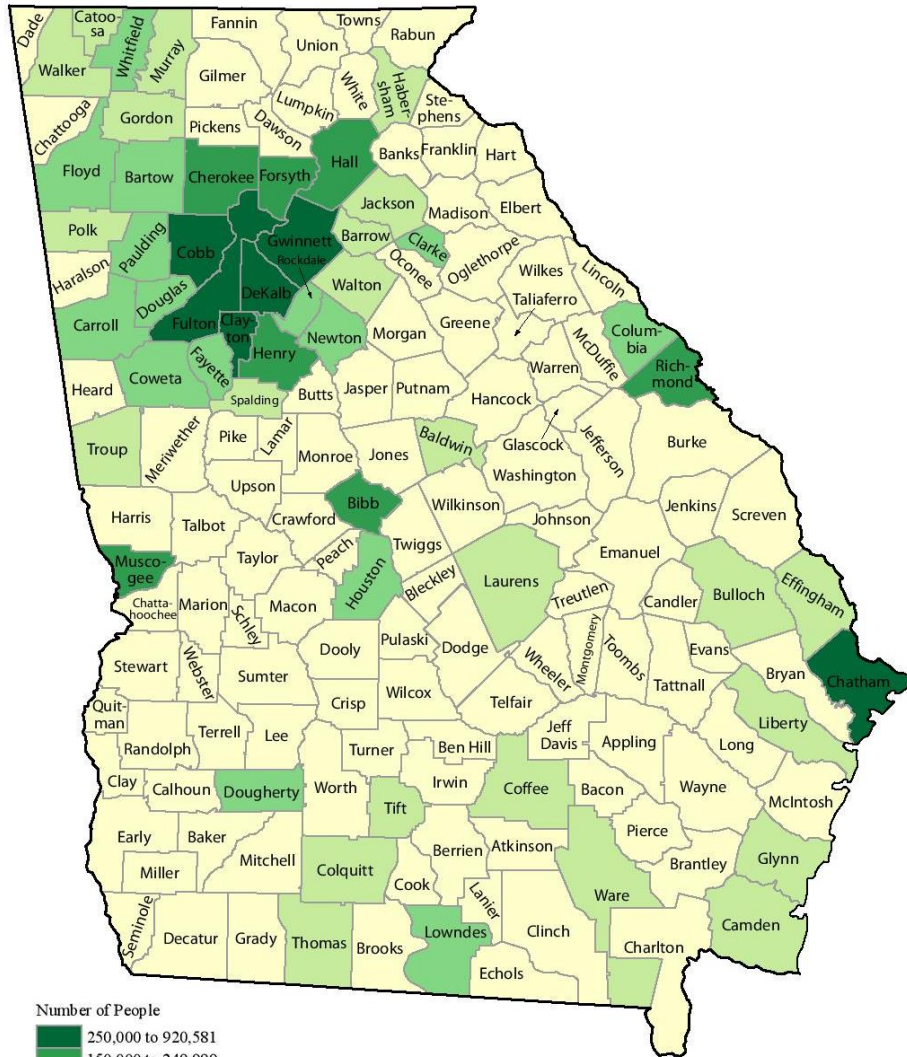
# MAP – Overview continued



The Mobile Audiology Program can successfully support these goals with:

- A Mobile traveling clinic staffed with a **licensed pediatric audiologist** that is strongly connected to communities in Georgia in which we serve, including educational, public health, social service, and community services;
- A **strong family engagement and education program** that supports information on building language (including bilingual language development), advocacy and care coordination; and
- A **collaborative approach with the members of Act 492 Taskforce** to finding, identifying, and supporting children and families that tracks an individual child's progress to ensure age-appropriate language and grade-level literacy

## GEORGIA - 2010 Census Results Total Population by County



Number of People



Total State Population: 9,687,653

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Redistricting Data Summary File  
For more information visit [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).



# Targets

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GET GEORGIA  
READING  
CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE LEVEL READING



Georgia  
Pathway  
to Language and  
Literacy



Georgia State  
University



Georgia Department of Public Health



Children's<sup>®</sup>  
Healthcare of Atlanta



Partners



# Services

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Services for children ages newborn up through school-aged children to 22 years of age:

- Audiological screenings & evaluations
- Audiological intervention, including dispensing hearing aids
- Audiological troubleshooting & management, including troubleshooting FM/Roger systems, Cis, and hearing aids
- Care Coordination and Referrals & Family Education



# Marketing

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- Website: Parent-facing with information, schedule, and education information
- Digital marketing and community level outreach
- Events that coordinate with other mobile or outreach programs



# Our Vehicle

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## Equipment

- Tympanometer – to measure middle ear pressure (to determine conductive losses)
- Portable audiometer – for conditioning and working with a second tester
- Otoscope – to determine health of the outer ear
- Visual Reinforcement Audiometry – for testing young children
- Otoacoustic emissions test – for screening babies
- ABR – for screening and diagnostics
- Equipment for fitting and programming hearing aids

# Staff

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## AUDIOLOGIST

Job responsibilities:

- Testing
- Dispensing equipment
- Develop/Collaborate to develop intervention plan
- Family Education
- Care for and drive the van

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Job responsibilities:

- Outreach and community networking
- Supporting and counseling families
- Care coordination and coordinate with local providers
- Family education
- Care for and drive the van

## SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

- Hearing screenings
- Serve as a second tester to audiologist
- Collaborate/Develop intervention plan
- Testing in language and literacy
- Oversee implementation of tele-therapy
- Care for and drive the van



# Family Education & Engagement

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- Family Education will emphasize the evidence-based behaviors that lead to successful outcomes in any language
- Care coordination and referrals will be an integral component of the program
- Outreach and community networking
- Lending Library

# Questions?

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