Welcome to Your Town Hall Meeting

We are glad You are here.

Bainbridge, GA
Thursday, April 18, 2013

SILCGA Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Today's Agenda

- 10:30 – 11:00 AM
- Welcome & Introduction: Carolyn Phillips, Liz Persaud, Pat Puckett and Virginia Harris
- Why we are here: To hear from you about needs and priorities of people with disabilities.

- 11:00 to 11:45 AM
- Next describe the role of AT and IL in removing barriers – at the individual level and at the community level.
- A Closer Look at Your Statewide Independent Living Council & Tools for Life Program
- A Closer Look the Your CIL & TFL Network

- 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM
- Break for lunch and discussion.
- Do the goals and objectives make sense to you? What should we change? What should be deleted? What should be added?
- Please note that adding money is always a GREAT idea but not one that we have a great deal of control over especially in this economic climate! Though we are always open to creative ideas, mainly what we are looking for is how to use the resources we have in ways that make better sense.

- 1:00 – 1:45 PM – Sharing ideas

- 1:45 – 2:00 PM – Wrap up and next steps for AT and for IL

Examples of how Your Input Matters: A Look Back at the last 3-year State Plan for AT in Georgia 2008-2011

- Georgia's Last State Plan for AT: 2008 - 2011
- Developed thru Your Guidance and Town Hall/Listening Tour
  - Over 700 Georgians participated
  - Developed AT Depot – AT Co-Op
  - Explored Last Resort - Scholarships
  - Developed new check out system for Device Demos
  - Developed new procedures for AT Reuse
  - Re-visioned Training
  - Introduced Webinars
  - Worked on Public Awareness

  - Exceeded Your Goals & DOE/Rehabilitation Services Administration Goals!!

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Talk with Us…

Your ideas are important:

- **What is the greatest barrier to your independence?**
- **What do you think is the greatest barrier for our community as a whole?**

Mission Statement

The Mission of Georgia's IL Program is to promote a philosophy of independent living, including a philosophy of consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and systems advocacy, to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence and productivity of individuals with significant disabilities , and to promote and maximize the integration and full inclusion of individuals with significant disabilities into the mainstream of American society.

State Plan for Independent Living

Goal 1: CIL Consumers receive needed Assistive Technology (AT) Services from CILs.

- a. Establish two baselines of AT services currently available to CIL Consumers. Note: Two CILs are also Assistive Technology Resource Centers through Georgia's AT program while the other 7 CILs are not ATRCs. Therefore, two baselines are needed.
- b. In conjunction with the AT program, develop a process to assess the interest and capacity of each CIL to expand AT services to their consumers.
- c. Develop individualized AT plans for each CIL.
- d. Establish at least one additional Assistive Technology Resource Center in a CIL.

Goal 2: CIL consumers have access to transportation.

- a. Research existing transportation options – both public and private - in each CIL service area.
- b. Compile Transportation Status Reports for each CIL service area that describe what is – and what is not available to CIL consumers.
- c. Share Transportation Status Reports with local and state transportation planning offices/agencies.
- d. Advocate for improvements in availability and access to transportation.
- e. Advocate for increased use of taxi services or voucher programs or both to expand transportation options in CIL areas.

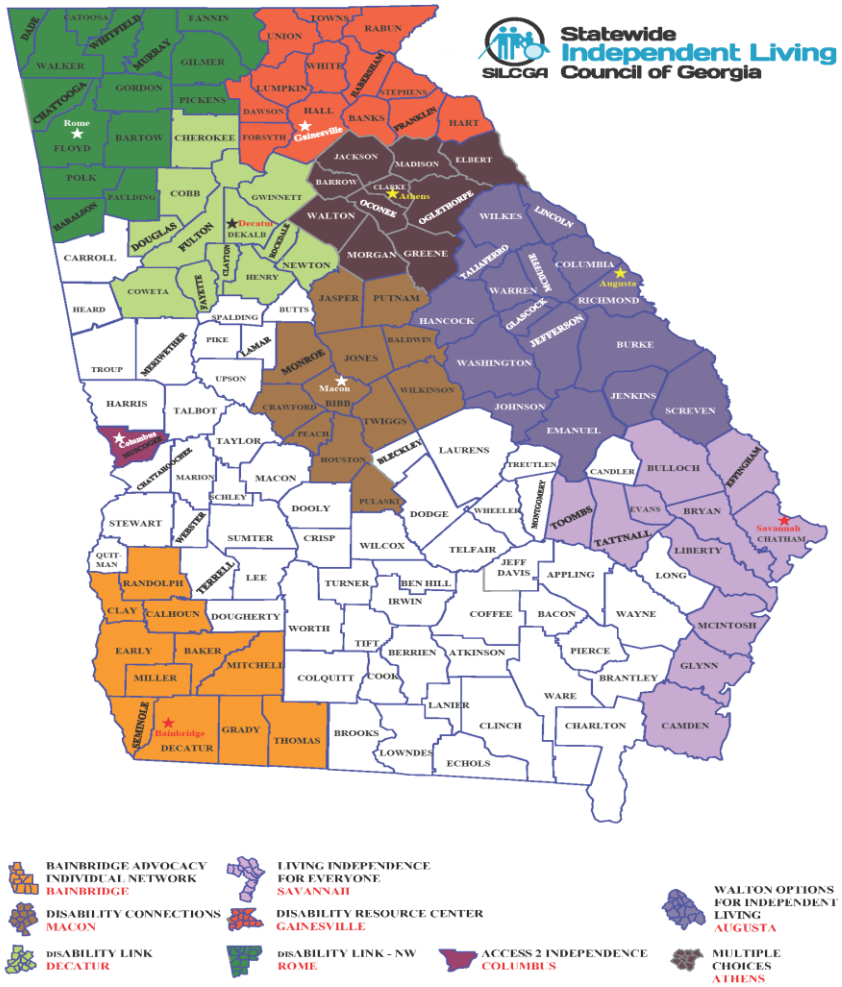
Goal 3. CIL consumers have access to health care.

- a. Identify barriers to access to care starting with the largest providers in each CIL area.
- b. Provide technical assistance to health care providers on barrier removal.
- c. Assist consumers with ongoing advocacy when technical assistance proves unsuccessful.
- d. Advocate for expanding the Medicaid Buy In for workers with disabilities.

Goal 3. CIL consumers have access to affordable, accessible housing.

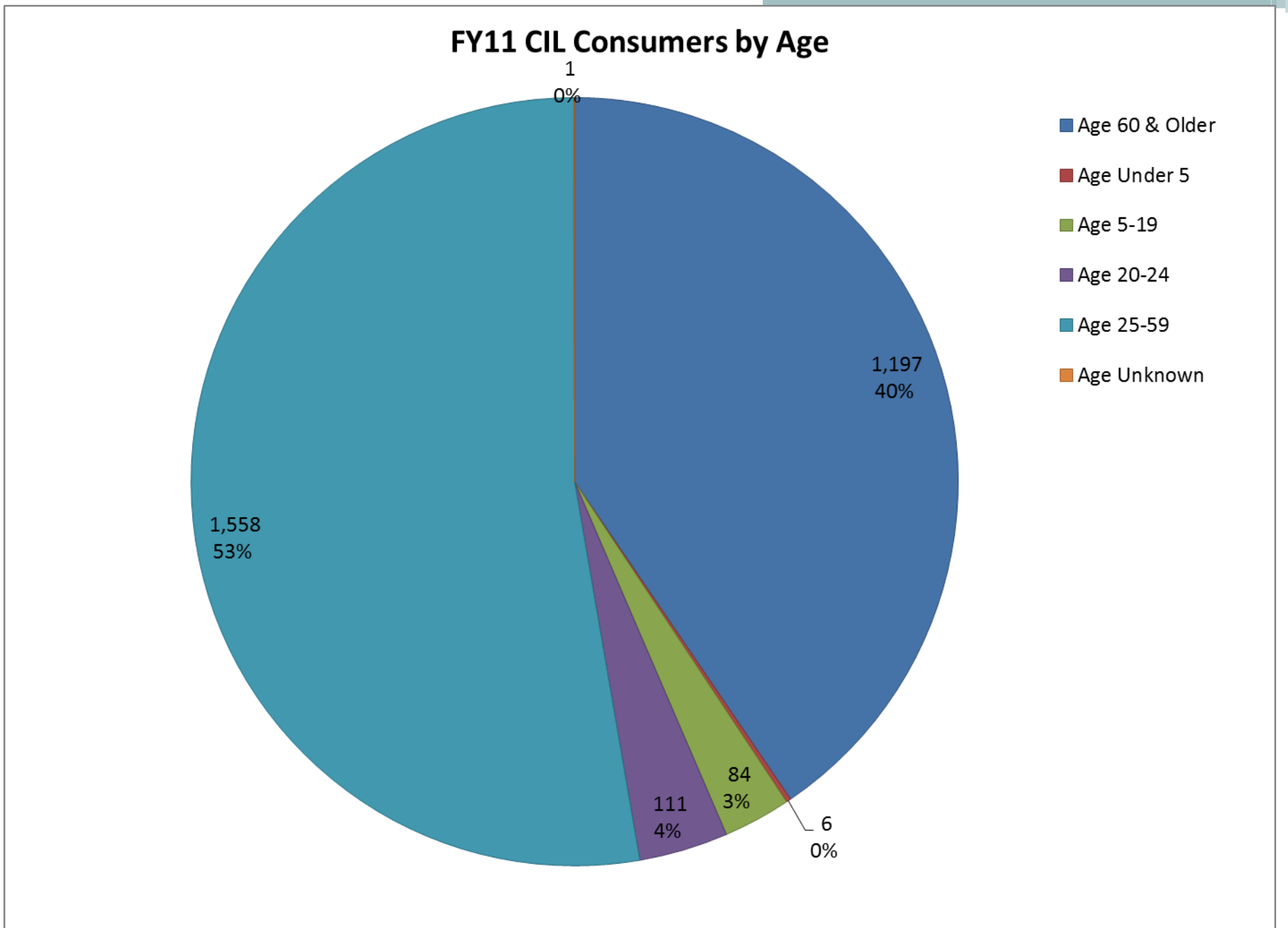
- a. Assess the availability of affordable, accessible housing in each CIL area.
- b. Survey low income housing providers/developers in each CIL area regarding the demand for accessible, affordable housing, e.g. waiting lists.
- c. Provide SOPOS report (Shut Out, Priced Out, Segregated) strategies to interested providers/developers.
- d. Develop and disseminate a tool kit for retrofitting that includes basic access.

State Map of Centers for Independent Living

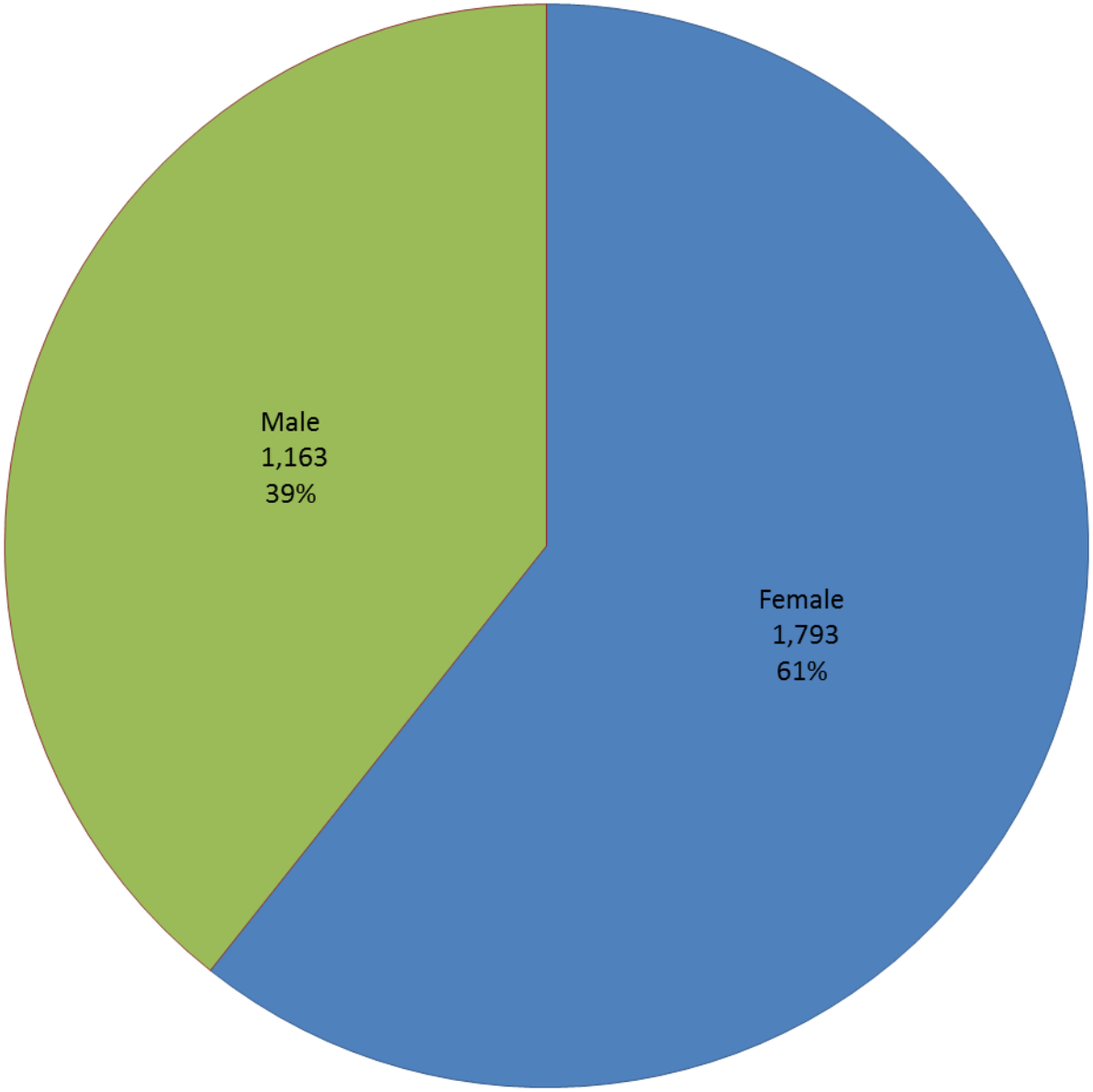


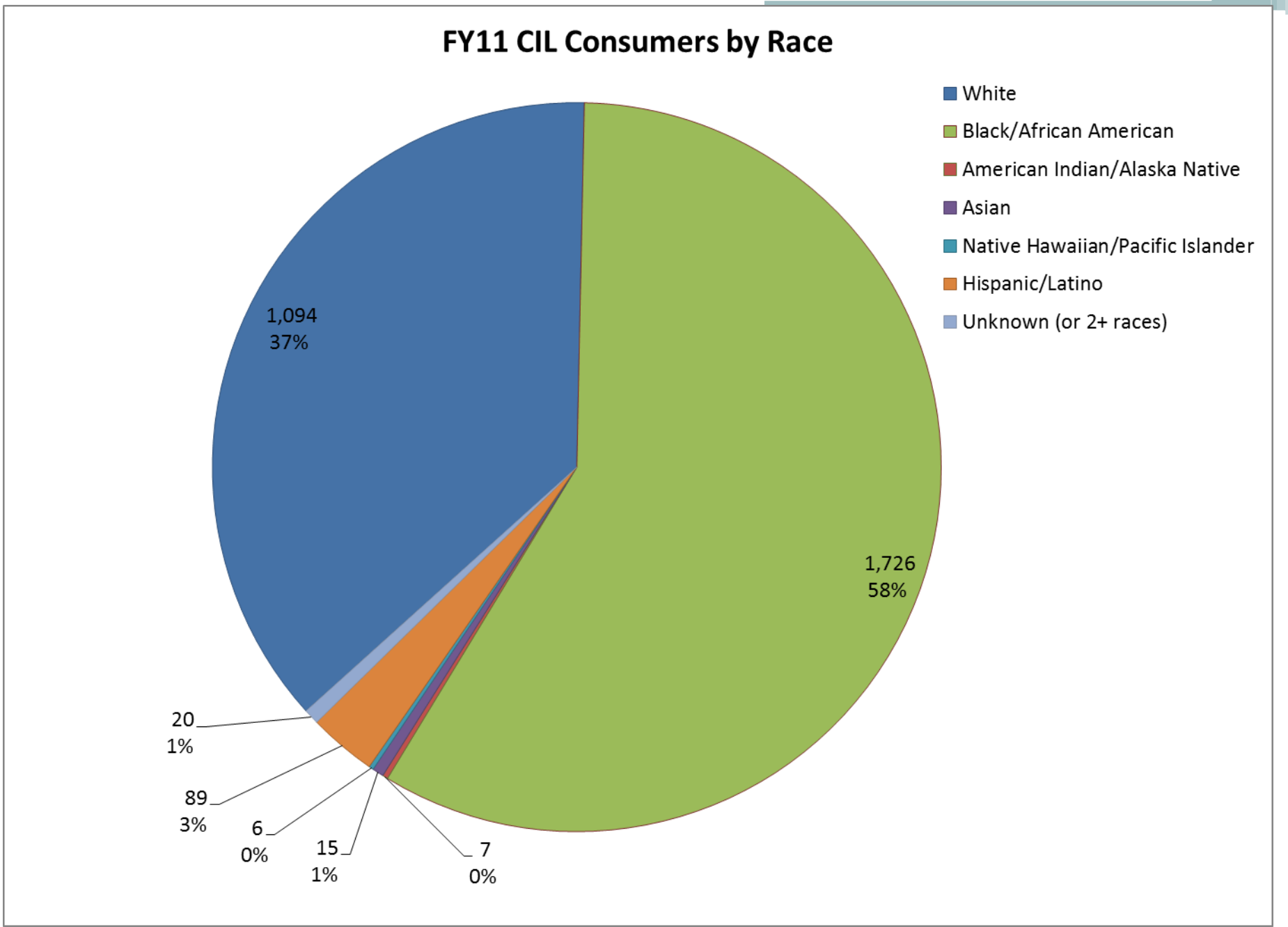
Consumer Totals Fiscal Year 2011

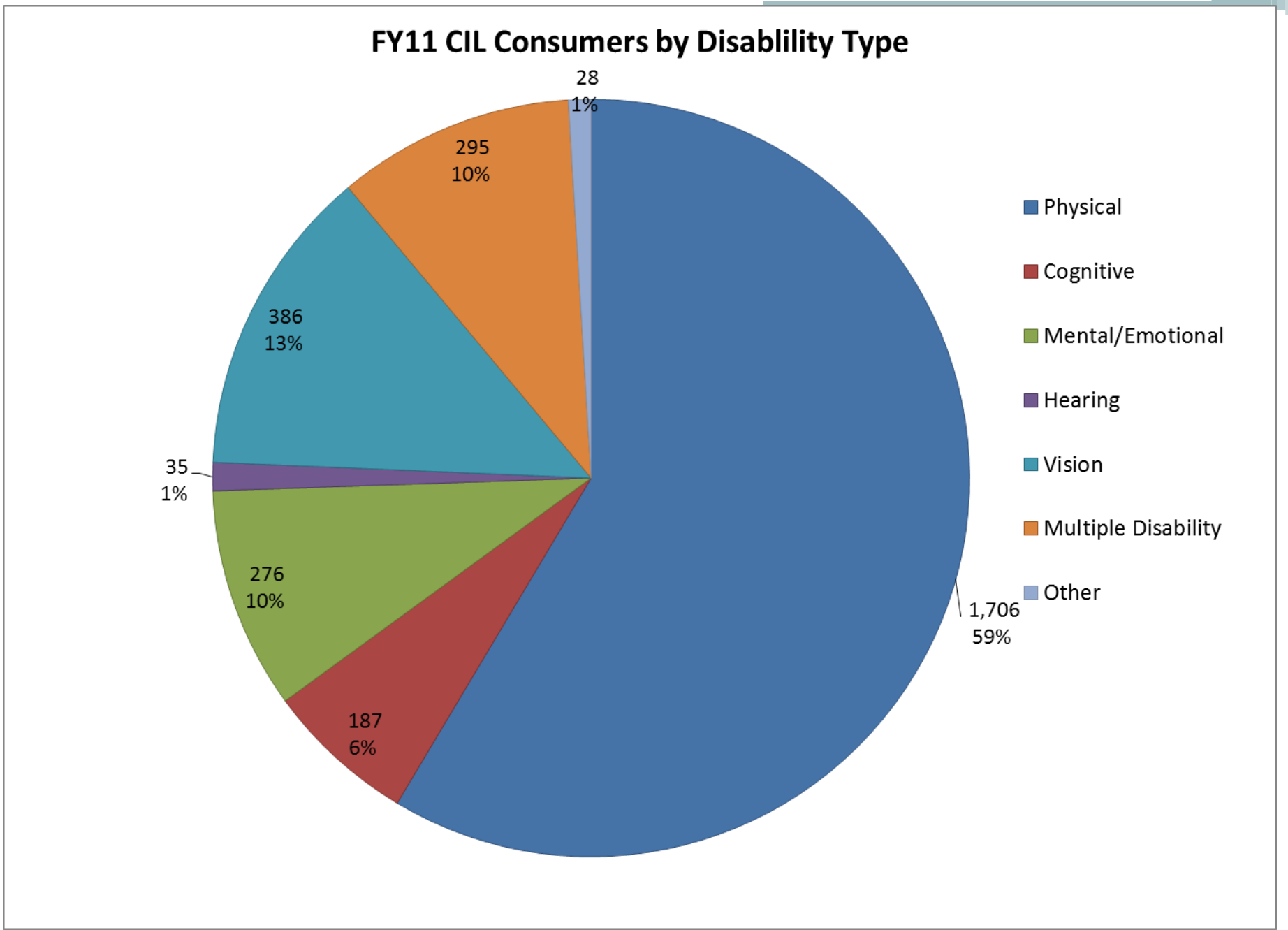
Total Consumers Served	2,956
Total Consumer Goals Set	7,107
Total Consumer Goals Met	3,782


FY11 CIL Consumers by Age
1
0%
1,197
40%
1,558
53%
111
4%
84
3%
6
0%
Age 60 & Older
Age Under 5
Age 5-19
Age 20-24
Age 25-59
Age Unknown

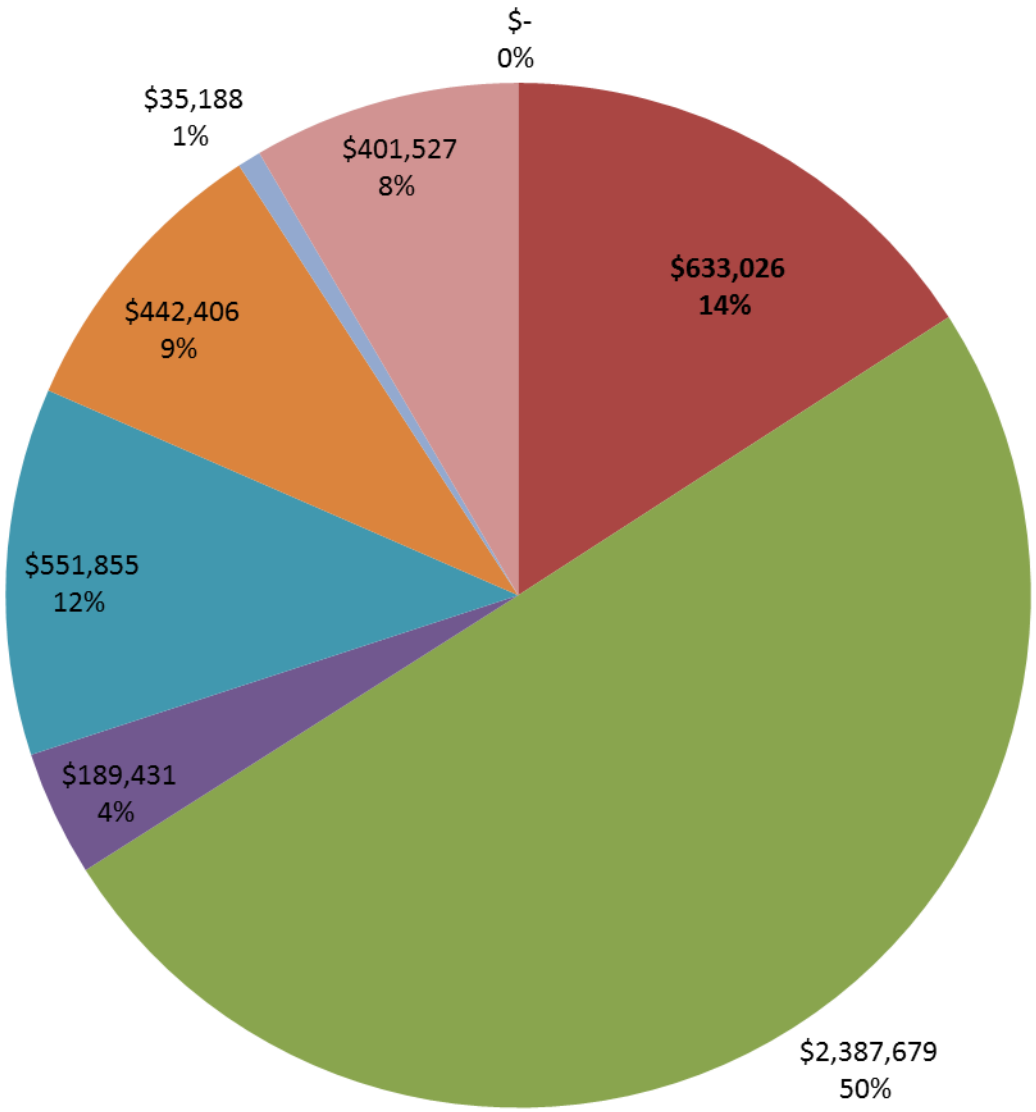
FY11 CIL Consumers by Gender




FY11 CIL Consumers by Race
White
Black/African American
American Indian/Alaska Native
Asian
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
Hispanic/Latino
Unknown (or 2+ races)
1,094
37%
1,726
58%
20
1%
89
3%
6
0%
15
1%
7
0%


FY11 CIL Consumers by Disablility Type
28
1%
295
10%
386
13%
35
1%
276
10%
187
6%
1,706
59%
Physical
Cognitive
Mental/Emotional
Hearing
Vision
Multiple Disability
Other

GILN FY11 Fund Sources



Federal Funds	
Ch. 1, Part B, Title VII	$ 633,026
Ch. 1, Part C, Title VII	$ 1,864,904
Ch. 2, Title VII	$ 75,117
Other Federal Funds	$ 699,343
Total Federal Funds	$ 3,272,390
State Funds	$ 714,014
Local Govenment	$ 134,358
Private Funds*	$ 351,650
Total Funds	$ 4,472,412

* Not including SILC foundation grants passed through to Georgians for a Healthy Future

Centers for Independent Living in Georgia

- ***Access 2 Independence*** – Serves the west central Georgia county of Muskogee -
  www.access2independence.com
  Executive Director – Nichole Davis
  nichole@access2independence.com
  3127 Tower Road, Suite B-2
  Columbus, GA 31909
  Phone: 706.405.2393 TTY: 711

- ***Bainbridge Advocacy Individual Network (BAIN)*** – Serves the southwest Georgia counties of Calhoun, Clay, Baker, Decatur, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Thomas, Randolph and Seminole – www.baincil.org

  Executive Director: Virginia Harris

  vharris@baincil.org

  PO Box 1674

  Bainbridge, GA 39818

  Phone: 229.246.0150 TTY: 711

- ***Disability Connections*** – Serves the central Georgia counties of Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs and Wilkinson – www.disabilityconnections.com

  Executive Director: Jerilyn Leverett

  kilby8494@aol.com

  170 College Street

  Macon, GA 31201

  Phone: 478.741.1425 TTY: 711

- ***disABILITY LINK*** – Serves the metro Atlanta counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Douglas, DeKalb, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton and Rockdale – www.disabilitylink.org

  Acting Executive Directors: Hilary Elliott and Linda Pogue

  hilarye@disabilitylink.org

  greenpogue@aol.com

  755 Commerce Drive, Suite 105

  Decatur, GA 30030

  Phone: 404.687.8890 TTY: 711

- ***NW Georgia Center for Independent Living***– Serves the northwest Georgia counties of Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Walker, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk and Whitfield.
  www.disabilitylink.org

  Acting Executive Director: Maia Santamaria

  msantamaria@disabilitylink.org

  245 North 5th Avenue

  Rome, GA 30165

  Phone: 706.314.0008 TTY: 706.314.0017

- ***Disability Resource Center*** – Serves the northeast Georgia counties of Union, Towns, Rabun, Lumpkin, White, Habersham, Stephens, Hart, Franklin, Banks, Dawson, Forsyth and Hall – www.disabilityresourcecenter.org

  Executive Director: Bob McGarry

  bob.mcgarry@disabilityresourcecenter.org

  470-A Woods Mill Drive

  Gainesville, GA 30501

  Phone: 770.534.6656 TTY: 711

- ***LIFE*** – Serves the southeast Georgia counties of Bulloch, Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Evans, Glynn, Liberty, McIntosh, Tattnall and Toombs – www.lifecil.com

  Executive Director: Fran Todd

  ftodd@lifecil.com

  5105 Paulsen Street, Suite 143-B

  Savannah, GA 31405

  Phone 912.920.2314 TTY: 912.920.2419

- ***Multiple Choices*** – Serves the northeast Georgia counties of Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe and Walton – www.multiplechoices.us

  Executive Director: Bill Holley

  kermitholley@msn.com

  850 Gaines School Road

  Athens, GA 30605

  Phone: 706.549.1020 TTY: 706.549.1060

- ***Walton Options for Independent Living*** – Serves the east Georgia counties of Burke, Columbia, Emanuel, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington and Wilkes – www.waltonoptions.org

  Executive Director: Tiffany Johnston-Sparks

  tjohnston@waltonoptions.org

  948 Walton Way

  Augusta, GA 30903

  Phone: 706.724.6262 TTY: 711

Statewide Independent Living Council Board of Directors

- **Shelly Simmons – President**
  shellys5@hotmail.com
- **Andreena Patton – Vice-President**
  seagrengal@aol.com
- **Mark Schreiber – Treasurer**
  Illinifan72@yahoo.com
- **Scott Osborne – Secretary**
  decaturblue@gmail.com
- **Bob McGarry – CIL Representative**
  bob.mcgarry@disabilityresources.org

- **Robbie Breshears** rbreshears@waltonoptions.org
- **Cecilia James** Cecilia.y.james@irs.gov
- **Joy Norman** norman_joy@columbusstate.edu
- **Steve Oldaker** steve.oldaker@comcast.net
- **Peggy Venable** mvr4@rose.net

SILC Ex-Officio Board Members

- **Shanti Aaron** – VR shanti.aaron@gvra.ga.us
- **James Bulot** - Dept of Human Services – Aging Division jjbulot@dhr.ga.gov
- **Ronald Pounds** – Dept of Community Affairs – Housing Finance Division Ronald.pounds@dca.ga.gov

“Technology gives me hope & I need a lot of Hope!"

~ Earnestine

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Tools for Life: Mission

Tools for Life increases access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Tools for Life
Georgia's Federal AT Act Program

- On February 1, 2012 we joined:
  - AMAC @ Georgia Institute of Technology
  - Enterprise Innovation Institute [EI2]
  - www.amacusg.org

The Assistive Technology Act of 1998 as Amended in 2004 (AT Act)

- Support programs of grants to States to address the assistive technology needs of individuals with disabilities
- Past: AT state grant program was established in 1988 as a 10-year program (sunset) to enable states to create systems for improving access to AT devices through public awareness, public policy initiatives (systems change), and training and technical assistance
- Present: Formula grant run through DOE/RSA that requires states to spend a significant portion of state grants on direct AT services for individuals with disabilities
- Tools for Life is on Reauthorization Committee!

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Tools for Life
Georgia's Federal AT Act Program

- Worked with You to Develop GA's Plan for AT
- Serve individuals of all ages & all disabilities in Georgia
  - Over 60,000 thru various activities throughout the year
- TFL Network
  - Credit-Able – **90 devices financed $895,529 value**
  - Assistive Technology Resource Centers
  - Lending Libraries - **1,363**
  - AT Training – **8280 folks trained**
  - AT Demonstrations - **1,404**
  - AT Reuse – **4,953 at a value of $2,163,043**
  - AT Funding Education/Assistance/Resources – **56,849 folks**
- www.gatfl.org - 12,000 unique visitors a month

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Georgia Tech TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

TRAINING

- View Presentations
- Request Training

FUNDING

- Resource & Assistance
- Dollars & Sense Database
- Online Equipment Exchange

RESOURCES

- TFL Newsletter

CONTACT US

- Meet the TFL Team

Welcome | AT Services | Try AT | Get AT | AT Guides | Research

Welcome to Tools for Life

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

Tools for Life and the TFL Network work collaboratively together to accomplish our mission through:

- AT Demonstration
- AT Evaluations and Assessments
- AT Funding Options & Education
- Access to the TFL AT Lending Libraries
- AT & Durable Medical Equipment Reuse
- AT Training (Individual)
- AT Training (Groups)

WEBINARS

APR 4 — Interactive Whiteboards and Inclusive Classrooms

APR 18 — Free for All! Resources for Teachers and Students

APR 24 — Assistive Technology and Adapted Recreation: A Perfect Match

Current Webinar Schedule
Webinar Archives

APP FINDER

...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE

gTRADE — gTRADE, Georgia's Online Equipment Exchange, encourages members to offer AT and DME for sale or

Tools for Life Network

AT Lending Library (try before you buy)

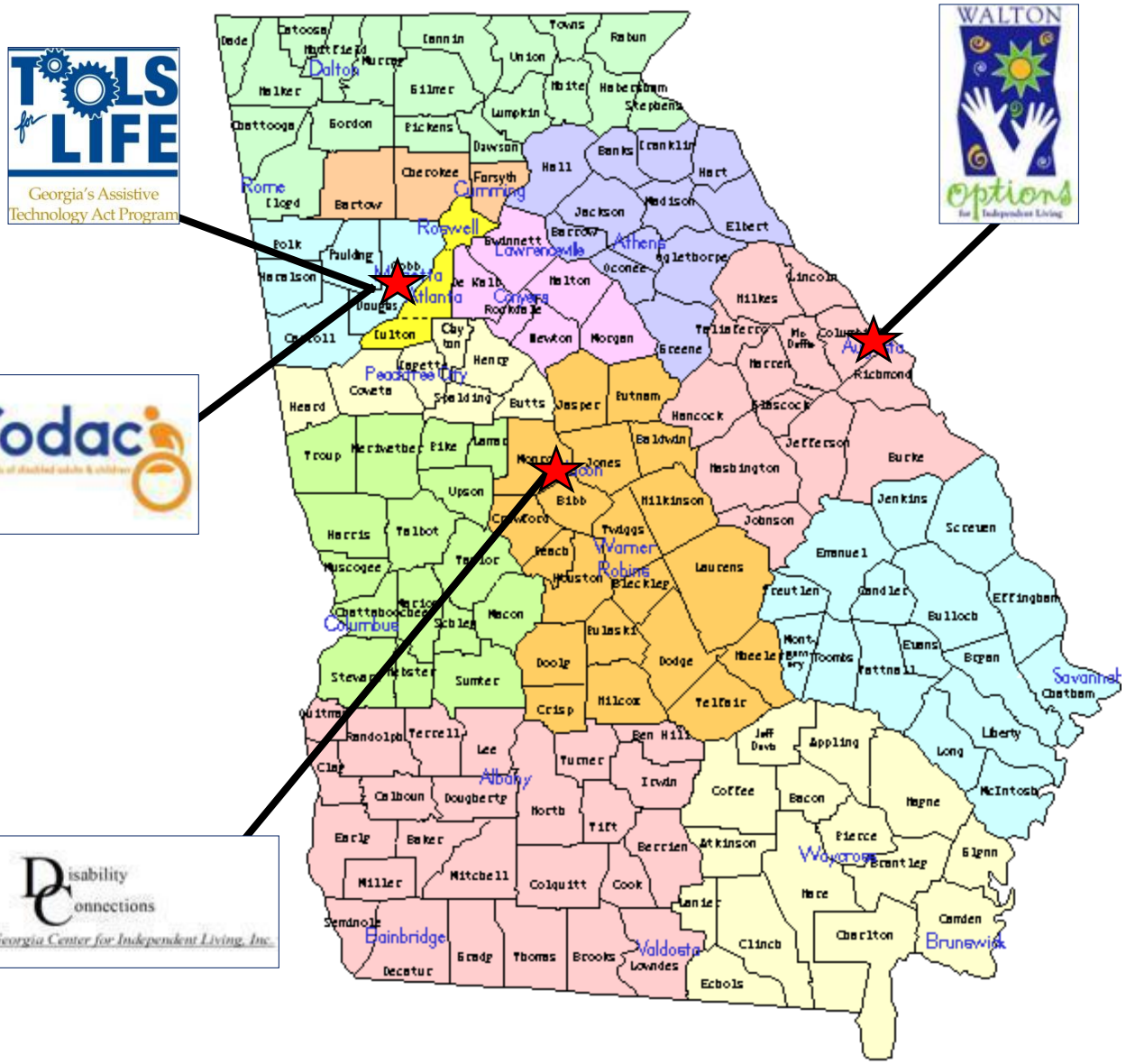
AT Evaluations & Training

AT Demonstrations

Resource and Assistance

AT Funding Assistance & Education

DME & Computer Reuse (FODAC)



Guiding Principle

- Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to:
  - (A) live independently;
  - (B) enjoy self-determination and make choices;
  - (C) benefit from an education;
  - (D) pursue meaningful careers; and
  - (E) enjoy full inclusion and integration in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of society in the United States.

Public Law 108-364

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Statewide Activities

- Assistive Technology Awareness
- AT Reuse
  - FODAC - DME and computer reuse
- Funding Education and Assistance
  - Dollars & Sense, gTRADE, 1-800#
- AT Training, AT Demonstration, ATRCs
- Monthly Webinars
- Tools for Life Conferences and Collaborations

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Webinars

- April 4 - Interactive Whiteboards and Inclusive Classrooms
- April 18 - Free for All! Resources for Teachers and Students
- April 24 - Assistive Technology and Adapted Recreation: A Perfect Match
- May 9 - Universal Design for Learning
- May 25 - Tools for Life AppFinder
- June 26 - Understanding How AT Can Light the Path for Dementia
- July 31 - Up to the Challenge: App and Tablet Showdown
- August 14 - Student Led Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- August 28 - Your Top 10 Assistive Technology Funding Resources
- September 25 - Navigating the Medicaid Process to Fund Assistive Technology
- October 30 - Vocational Rehabilitation Services: Assistive Technology to Go to Work
- November 20 - Update on Current and Future TFL Projects: Live Q&A
- December 18 - A Closer Look at the TFL Demo Lab at AMAC/GT

Conferences

- **IDEAS Conference, June 3-6, 2013**
  - St. Simons @ Epworth by the Sea
  - Call for proposals is open until April 30
  - Last year we exceeded our goal and had 586 participants!
  - We are expecting more than 700 participants this year!
  - For more information visit www.gatfl.org

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Pizza & Conversation

- Do the goals and objectives make sense to you?
- What should we change?
- What should be deleted?
- What should be added?
- Please note that adding money is always a GREAT idea but not one that we have a great deal of control over especially in this economic climate! Though we are always open to creative ideas.

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SILCGA

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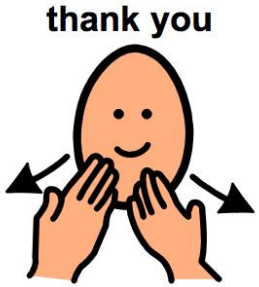

Let's Keep the Conversation Going!