

ADOLESCENT HEALTH and YOUTH DEVELOPMENT Outreach Program

What is the purpose of the program?

To improve the health and potential of adolescents by assisting them with enrolling in health care coverage and linking them to a medical home.

What does the program do?

- Provides coordination, follow-up and outreach activities that create awareness and access among Medicaid/PeachCare eligible teens.
- Identifies and links parenting teens to needed services such as WIC, parenting classes, family planning, and a primary care provider.

How many people does the program help?

In FY 2005, the Office of Adolescent Health and Youth Development Outreach Program served 13,951 youth.

Why is the program important?

This program facilitates access to health care providers who can identify potential health issues and risk behaviors among youth. Linking youth, particularly those at high-risk, to a regular provider or “medical home” represents a critical opportunity to positively effect their health and quality of life. Providers can offer effective health education messages in that most youth view their doctors or other health care providers as a trusted source of guidance and advice. In addition, access to routine preventive healthcare can prevent costly complications in the future.

Who is eligible?

AHYD programs and services target youth age 10 to 19.

Are services located throughout the State?

AHYD Outreach Programs are located in six (6) Health Districts: Dalton, Fulton, DeKalb, Valdosta, and Albany, Liberty (Coastal District).

Outcome measures are directly linked to national and state goals for reducing welfare dependency, specifically:

- Reduce the percent of children without health insurance, aged 10 through 19.
- Increase the percent of potentially Medicaid eligible children who have received a service paid by the Medicaid Program.
- Reduce the percent of very low birth weight live births.
- Increase the percent of infants born to pregnant women receiving prenatal care beginning in the first trimester.

Legislative authority

Title XIX.

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<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/adolescent/>

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