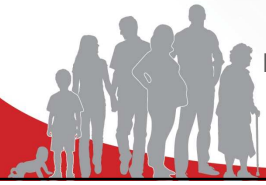
Georgia Department of Public Health

Telemedicine: Improving Population Health through Collaboration and Partnerships

When everyone plays well in the sandbox



Suleima Salgado, MBA
Director of Telehealth & Telemedicine



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Georgia Department of Public Health



159 County Health Departments
159 County Boards of Health
18 Public Health Districts
18 District Health Directors
1 Commissioner
1 Board of Public Health

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Collaboration without Boundaries

Example:

3rd Annual Statewide STD Conference (August 3-4th)

- 2 day training, hosted by the University of Alabama and UNC STD Training Center through their local AHEC (CDC grant funded).
- NC wrote in the Coastal Health District and the GA Department of Public Health into their grant.
- Providers funded to present through grant.
- Virtual registration/ evaluation
- Power Point slides provided virtually and in advance

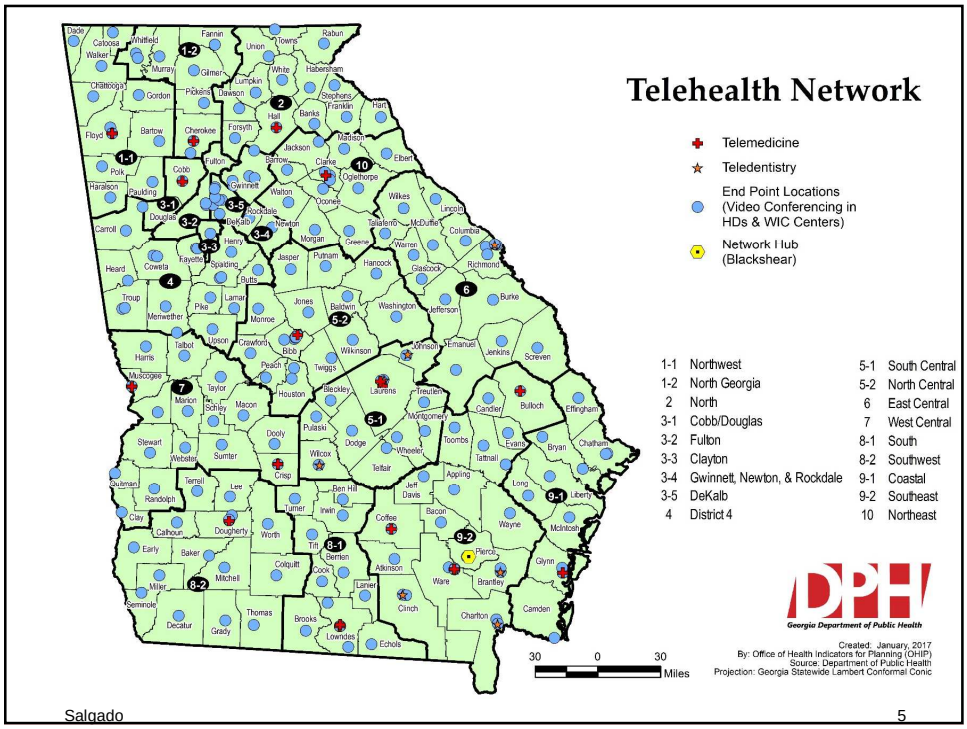
RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- No registration cost for participants since virtual (telehealth)
- Over 500 Public Health nurses and physicians tuned in to watch
- 7 hours of CEU's eligible for registered participants
- 158 of the 159 counties participated in training
- **Cost savings: i**f we consider NOT having to pay for travel, food and lodging for each person who received training and average it at $500/person, this is a cost savings of **$250.000.00.**

Telehealth in Georgia

- Georgia has undergone a dramatic change in the last ten years as a result of increased federal funding, state legislative support and intra-state collaboration.
- Partnerships at the highest levels of federal, state, and private health care organizations have been a major impetus for expansion.
- Significant inroads have been made with private physicians, local hospitals and other telehealth entities within Georgia to advance towards a cross collaborative network.
- DPH established our telehealth network as a means to better communicate between each other and most importantly as a way to provide access to specialty care for our patients.

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Salgado 5



Salgado 6

Telemedicine Providers in GA

- It is the goal of DPH to connect patients to providers in their local community and not extract business/medical services from local economy.
- In situations where a provider is not available within the community or through existing DPH referral services, DPH will look to surrounding counties and then eventually to metropolitan areas to find services.
- DPH also has an agreement with the ***Georgia Partnership for Telehealth***, for access to their telemedicine network, when needed.
- The Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth is a non-profit, Open Access Network, with over 200 specialists and providers that represent more than 30 medical specialties.
- In addition, DPH contracts directly with local, specialty providers to meet the healthcare needs of our patients.

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Salgado 7

DPH "Tele" Services

- **Administration-**
- **Asthma/Allergy**—pediatric
- **Audiology**—pediatric
- **Behavioral Health counseling**—pediatric
- **Dermatology**—pediatric
- **Diabetes Education**—adult and pediatric
- **Dental Services (School Based)**—pediatric
- **Emergency Preparedness-**
- **Endocrinology**—pediatric
- **Genetics/Developmental**—pediatric
- **Infectious Disease**—specialty clinical care for HIV/AIDS patients;
- **Interpreter Services**—health department clinical services;
- **Lactation Support/WIC**—adult
- **Maternal Fetal Medicine**—adult
- **Nephrology**—pediatric
- **Neurosurgery**—pediatric
- **Nutrition/WIC**—adult and pediatric
- **Sickle Cell** —adult & pediatric

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Salgado 8

Some of Georgia's DPH Telemedicine Initiatives

High Risk OB Clinic

- Centering Pregnancy
- Ultrasound / Colposcopy
- Consult w/ Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialist

Children's Medical Services

- Developmental & Genetics
- Endocrinology
- Nephrology
- Neurosurgery
- Pulmonology
- Sickle Cell

WIC Nutrition

- Breastfeeding Support
- Nutrition Education
- Staff Training/Development

Infectious Disease (HIV/AIDS)

- Patients at local clinics see DPH Infectious Disease specialist
- Mobile presentations from home or community setting

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High Risk OB (Centering)



- Access to telemedicine allows ultrasounds and Maternal Fetal Medicine consults to be done on- site
- On-site telemedicine allows for better coordination of services
- Through a partnership with Women's Telehealth, Dr. Patterson is included in facilitated discussions in Centering sessions on pre-term labor and gestational diabetes via the telemedicine cart
- Telemedicine allows easy access to providers for many consult needs including cardiac, dermatology and mental health

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Children's Medical Services


Cyber checkups connect patients with doctors miles away

Posted: Jan 13, 2014 6:33 PM EST
Updated: Feb 03, 2014 6:33 PM EST

By Beth Galvin, FOX Medical Team reporter - bio | email

FOX 5 CYBER CHECKUPS

ATLANTA - Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is offering cyber checkups as a way for some to see a doctor without making a road trip.

With chronic asthma, Jaeqvous Bethay and his mom, Kara, are used to coming to the doctor's office, but now it's easier for them. They can sit an exam room in Valdosta while lung

Caseload average @ one County Health Department:

Pulmonology	CHOA	87
Pulmonology	GRU	31
Nephrology	GRU	42
Endo/Diabetic	Dr. Wright	82

Looking to expand and provide Genetics & Neurology

- CMS provides Care Coordination
- CMS can assists eligible families with medications, tests, or supplies, if needed.

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Pediatric HIV & TB

- Continues to be a clinical concern in community & Gwinnett has pediatric patients needing ongoing clinical oversight from specialists at CHOA.
- Patients can come to local HD and see ID docs who already manage their care, virtually





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Behavioral Health Services

LAMAR COUNTY SCHOOLS



EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



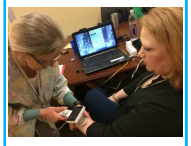
- Behavioral Health services to children and families with ADD/ADHD, grief, difficulty concentrating, medication management and much more via telemedicine.
- Integrated into existing school based health clinic.
- Health outcomes:
  - Improved access to care
  - Treatment compliance
  - Reduced time away from school/work

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TeleDermatology



Eligible patient presents with skin lesion of concern



Public Health nurse submits a teledermatology consult via DPH mobile telehealth platform



Remote dermatologist reviews images and sends findings and recommendations electronically to NP or PA for consultation with patient via DPH mobile telehealth device

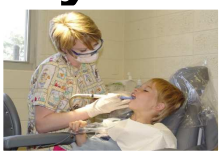


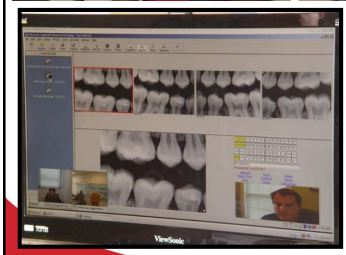
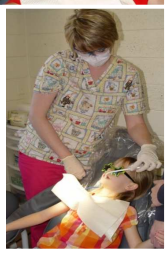
Licensed NP or PA utilizes video to discuss dermatologist findings with pt and develops a treatment and follow up plan for the patient

New questions, responses, and updates

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Teledentistry

- Tooth decay is one of the most preventable childhood chronic disease among children
- Collaboration with AU-School of Dentistry, private community dentist, local school system, area AHEC, DPH State office of Telehealth and Office of Oral Health, and local county health departments
- School-based dental clinic provides cleaning, fluoride, x-rays, and education
- Referrals and case management for follow-up

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Additional Programs

- **Adult Sickle Cell Telemedicine Clinic**
  - Augusta University /Emmanuel County HD / Sickle Cell Foundation
  - All payer sources accepted , first of its' kind
- **Diabetes Self Management/Therapy**
  - Delivery via telehealth across the state with follow up and referrals
- **Teletherapy for People Living with HIV/AIDS in Rural Georgia:**
  - UGA to supplement existing mental health services in rural areas by providing evidence-based therapy to people living with HIV/AIDS
  - Evidence-based therapy is provided by doctoral-level psychology students under the supervision of Dr. Bernadette Heckman (UGA)
- **GMC Concussion Institute: Tele-Concussion (Maria Chininis)**
  - Provide PCP access to expert secondary opinions about individuals who have or may have suffered concussions.
  - Assists with concussion management and prevention advice for coaches of young athletes who compete in high-contact sports.

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Contact Information



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