



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

RECAST ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA

Wednesday, January 25, 2023
6:00 PM

Third Floor GwMA Conference Room
70 S. Clayton St, GA 30046

Call to Order

Approval of Agenda

Citizen Comments

To participate in the Public Comment part of this agenda, you must register with the Advisory Board Secretary prior to the beginning of the meeting. Presentations will be limited to two (2) minutes per person and the Board will not respond to comments.

Officer Elections

- [1.](#) Election of 2023 Board Officers

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- [2.](#) Approve Prior Meeting Minutes

General Discussion

- [3.](#) Board Member Check-In
- [4.](#) 2023 Meeting Calendar Approval
- [5.](#) ReCAST Data Presentation & Update
- [6.](#) Project Manager Update

Other Business

Final Adjournment



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

AGENDA REPORT
MEETING: RECAST ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: Election of 2023 Board Officers

Department: Community Relations

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Fiscal Impact: \$0

Presented By: Marcus Thorne, ReCAST Program Manager

Action Requested: Elect Officers for 2023

Summary: Marcus Thorne will provide a brief overview of the Board position responsibilities. A vote will be taken to elect the 2023 ReCAST Board Officers.



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

AGENDA REPORT
MEETING: RECAST ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA CATEGORY: APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Item: Approve Prior Meeting Minutes

Department: Community Relations

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Fiscal Impact: \$0

Presented By: Board Chair

Action Requested: Approval of Minutes

Summary: Board Chair will ask for approval of prior meeting minutes from September 28, 2022 and October 26, 2022.

Attachment:
ReCAST Advisory Board Minutes Document 9.28.2022
ReCAST Advisory Board Minutes Document 10.26.2022



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

AGENDA REPORT
MEETING: RECAST ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: Board Member Check-In

Department: Community Relations

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Fiscal Impact: \$0

Presented By: Chanda Floyd-Bryant

Action Requested: Hearing how each member is doing

Summary: Because Mental Health is an essential part of the ReCAST Grant, Board Members will spend a brief amount of time hearing how each member is doing mentally, physically, and emotionally.



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

AGENDA REPORT
MEETING: RECAST ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: 2023 Meeting Calendar Approval

Department: Community Relations

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Fiscal Impact: \$0

Presented By: Marcus Thorne, ReCAST Program Manager

Action Requested: Formally approve our ReCAST Advisory Board meeting calendar

Summary: ReCAST Program Manager requests the approval of our meeting schedule/calendar.

Attachments:
ReCAST Meeting Calendar



RECAST

LAWRENCEVILLE

Advisory Board Schedule (DRAFT)



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Anticipated meeting dates are **highlighted and bold** above; meetings are expected to run from 6-7:30 pm. Meetings are open to the public and will be published with required public notice. Be sure to check the City website for changes, if any.



LAWRENCEVILLE
GEORGIA

Gwinnett County Public Schools

2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR – Approved 12/16/21

This calendar is subject to change. See the calendar section of the website (www.gcpsk12.org) for the most current version.

4.

4Independence Day Observed (Systemwide Holiday) 20Administrative Staff Meeting 25-29Required Pre-planning/ Staff Development [#1-5]		JULY 2022 <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							JANUARY 2023 <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr><tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr><tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					2-3Winter Break (School Holidays) 4Teacher Planning/Staff Development [#8] (Student Holiday) 5Begin 2nd Semester [Day 90] 16MLK Jr. Day (Systemwide Holiday)							
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 **Phased-in First and Last Day of School** *Includes students who spend the majority of the day in a small-group setting: Severe/Moderate & Mild Autism; Severe/Profound, Moderate & Mild Intellectual Disabilities; Emotional-Behavioral Disabilities; ADAPT; GNES; Visual Impairment; Moderate Visual Impairment; Orthopedic Impairment; Significant Developmentally Delayed; Specific Learning Disabilities (self-contained); Deaf/Hard of Hearing; Early Childhood Program (special needs pre-school.)

 **Student/Teacher Holiday**

 **Teacher Planning/Staff Development/Student Holiday**

 **Digital Learning Day (all students learn at home)**



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

AGENDA REPORT
MEETING: RECAST ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: ReCAST Data Presentation & Update

Department: Community Relations

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Fiscal Impact: \$0

Presented By: Betsy Crane, ReCAST Data Evaluator

Action Requested: Present new data presentation format

Summary: ReCAST Data Evaluator, Betsy Crane, will present/propose a new data presentation format to be provided to the ReCAST Advisory Board quarterly.

Attachments:
ReCAST Data Report (new format) – reporting on Q1 data

ReCAST Quarterly Status Report

Quarterly Report for the Quarter Ending (Month, Year)	December 2022
Date Report Completed	January 10, 2023

A. Goals on Target

1. Describe your progress in meeting the defined program goals in this quarter.

Metric	Actual	Target	%
# of new individuals referred to FF Navigator	52	80	65%
# of new individuals served through Navigator and Behavioral Health	45	100	45%
# of new families screened using SDOH Survey AND FFRNS-14	25	80	31%
# of new individuals referred to workforce development services	28	60	47%
# of youth engaged in Youth Advisory Council (YAC)	18	20	90%
# of YAC members trained to be peer mentors	13	20	65%
# of individuals exposed to MH messages annually (AW1)	2157	100	2157%
# of individuals referred to I46	219	80	273%
# of ReCAST Advisory Board members	12	12	100%
# of ReCAST Advisory Board Meetings	1	4	25%
# of city employees recruited to be in DEI Council	12	6-10	120%
# of trainings provided to law enforcement, other mental health professionals	1	3-4	25%
# of law enforcement staff and/or other mental health professionals trained in trauma-informed approaches (WD2)	??	100	??%

- Navigator and Behavioral Health service provision in Q1 of Year 2 is almost doubled the amount of service provision for all of Year 1. This can be attributed to a variety of factors, but is mostly due to gaining partnerships via MOUs over the course of Year 1, as well as increasing individual outreach.
- Exposure to mental health messaging has exceeded the year 2 goal by more than 2000% in Q1.

B. Outcomes Not on Target (PDSA)

1. Identify any key performance indicators/measures for which you are not currently on track. **(Please add lines as required)**

Tracker Indicator	Indicator	Planned	Actual	% of Goal
I46, Line 10	# of trainings YAC members provide to youth	4	0	0%
FF, Line 6	# of trainings on implicit bias provided to community members (BH)	6	0	0%
CoL, Line 17	# of citizens included in DEI Council	2-3	0	0%
CoL, Line 19	# of new organizations that have begun collaborating, coordinating, or sharing resources as a result of the grant (PC2)	3-4 (need confirmation)	0	0%

- 2.** Use the section below to explain barriers and/or provide additional details about measures, which fall below planned indicator target(s). Please include action steps that will be implemented to get back on target for all indicated KPI.

Indicator	Barriers and Action Plan
I46 , trainings YAC members provide to youth	Impact46 is currently in the process of planning a student-lead community event for March 10 th that will reach 200 students minimum with mental health messaging.
FF, Line 6 trainings on implicit bias provided to community members (BH)	Q1 was focused on curriculum building and scheduling trainings. 1 training is on the calendar for February, others are being scheduled with the schools and for the community via town hall meetings.
CoL, Line 17 citizens included in DEI Council	This metric was originally for Year 2 but previous GPO J. Winston approved moving this activity to Year 3. Need to confirm with current GPO, J. Traeger, that postponing this activity is still acceptable.
CoL, Line 19 new organizations that have begun collaborating, coordinating, or sharing resources as a result of the grant (PC2)	This metric is heavily focused on in Year 1, according to the GPO. In Year 2 the number of partnerships required is significantly lower. There is not a specific goal of how many, but should be 3-4. These partnerships will be made during the remainder of the grant year.



LAWRENCEVILLE

GEORGIA

AGENDA REPORT
MEETING: RECAST ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA CATEGORY: GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item: Project Manager Update

Department: Community Relations

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Fiscal Impact: \$0

Presented By: Marcus Thorne, ReCAST Program Manager

Action Requested: Hear program updates

Summary: ReCAST Program Manager, Marcus Thorne, will share program updates and answer board questions.

Attachments:
ReCAST Year 1 Annual Report

ReCAST Lawrenceville

Annual Progress Report

December 2022



RECAST

LAWRENCEVILLE

Background

In the fall of 2021, the City of Lawrenceville received funding from SAMHSA to implement the Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma (ReCAST) program in conjunction with Families First, Impact46 and the Georgia Center for Opportunity (GCO). Through the ReCAST program, project partners propose to assist 1,700 high-risk youth and families in the City of Lawrenceville access needed services and promote resiliency and equity among residents by the end of the grant period. In Year 1 of the grant, ReCAST proposed to serve 200 high-risk youth.

The overall goal of the program is to provide evidence-based violence prevention and community youth engagement programs and linkages to trauma-informed behavioral health services to build community resilience and address needs. ReCAST aims to:

1. Increase well-being, resiliency and community healing through community-based participatory approaches (CBPA).
2. Increase community/youth engagement, leadership development and capacity-building.
3. Increase cultural competency among City staff and Lawrenceville residents.
4. Strengthen community-based services addressing the social determinants of health.
5. Increase access to trauma informed behavioral health resources.

To achieve these goals, ReCAST implemented the following activities in Year 1 of the grant and will continue to build upon these activities in Years 2-5 of the grant:



Convened a multidisciplinary Advisory Council to support the project. Expanded upon the Summer of Impact youth internship program and created a Youth Council, known as Lawrenceville Legacy Leaders, to engage youth in civic and community engagement efforts and mental health advocacy.



Provided trauma-informed training on violence prevention and restorative justice principles to City of Lawrenceville law enforcement officers, to youth enrolled in the Summer of Impact program, and to Youth Advisory Council members.



Trained City of Lawrenceville employees in implicit bias and recruited a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee comprised of 14 city employees to create culturally specific and developmentally appropriate strategies that increase cultural competency amongst City staff and Lawrenceville residents.



Assessed individuals and families' social determinants of health, resiliency and needs, developed an individual care plan and provided referrals to housing, workforce development and other needed services.



Provided evidence-based, person-centered, trauma-informed outpatient behavioral health services to individuals in need.

Evaluation Goals

The evaluation sought to assess the process of implementing the project and determine project impact. The main goals of the evaluation were to evaluate the effectiveness of the ReCAST program in:

1. Building a foundation to promote well-being, resiliency and community healing through community-based participatory approaches (CBPA).
2. Creating community change through approaches that promote community and youth engagement, leadership development, improved governance and capacity building.
3. Ensuring that programs are culturally specific and developmentally appropriate.
4. Strengthening the integration of services to address the social determinants of health.
5. Creating more equitable access to trauma-informed behavioral health resources.

Additionally, the evaluation sought to assess how well the program assisted high-risk youth and their families in accessing needed services and explored the successes, challenges and lessons learned in implementing the Lawrenceville ReCAST program.

To answer these questions, the team gathered information from the following participants via a variety of methods:

Activity	Participant	Methods	Time Frame
Community Coalitions and Trainings	Advisory Board Members Law Enforcement Officers Summer of Impact Youth Participants	Meeting Sign-In Sheets Training Sign-In Sheets Training Pre-Post Surveys	Before and after trainings
Youth Engagement and Leadership Development	Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Members	YAC Meeting Sign-In Sheets Training Pre-Post Surveys	Before and after trainings
Cultural Competency	City of Lawrenceville employees	Meeting Sign-In Sheets Implicit Bias Training Pre-Post Surveys	Before and after trainings
Social Determinants of Health	Individuals referred to Families First Navigator	Families First Resiliency Needs Screener (FFRNS) Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Tool	At screening
Behavioral Health	Individuals referred to behavioral health services	Treatment Plan	Intake and every 3 months
Overall Program	NA	Project Tracking Tools	Ongoing

Summary of Key Accomplishments

Evaluation findings indicate that ReCAST achieved most of the Year 1 project goals and has increased community awareness of key issues facing the City of Lawrenceville and empowered various community members to take action to address the issues. While ReCAST was able to exceed its targets related to training activities and recruitment of Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Council members, the project faced challenges identifying and serving individuals and families in need of behavioral health services. To address this challenge, the target number to be provided behavioral health services in Year 2 has been decreased and the team is identifying more effective strategies to increase referrals and enrollment. A summary of the progress made towards each goal and the key evaluation findings is below.

Goal 1: Increase well-being, resiliency and community healing through CBPA.

To increase the well-being, resiliency and community healing through Community-Based Participatory Approaches (CBPA), the ReCAST team proposed to implement the following activities:

1. Establish an Advisory Board Council comprised of 10 community members that will meet at least four times and provide project oversight and input.
2. Mitigate the presence of community trauma due to structural violence by providing four trainings to law enforcement in restorative justice practices by the end of Year 1.
3. Increase leadership opportunities for youth involvement by providing eight leadership trainings to 50 youth by the end of Year 1.

Results indicate that ReCAST exceeded these goals and was able to increase knowledge and skills among law enforcement professionals and youth trained.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACTUAL
	Recruit 10 Advisory Board Members Hold 4 Meetings	12 Advisory Board Members 8 Meetings
	Train 75 law enforcement professionals Conduct 4 trainings	126 professionals trained 6 trainings
	Train 50 youth Provide 8 leadership trainings	79 youth trained 11 leadership trainings

Advisory Council Results

Advisory Council members represent a variety of community members including school administrators and staff, parents, community-based organizations, law enforcement and the Department of Behavioral

Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). Half of the Council members are African American, two identify as Hispanic and ten are female. Council members have provided valuable input to date.

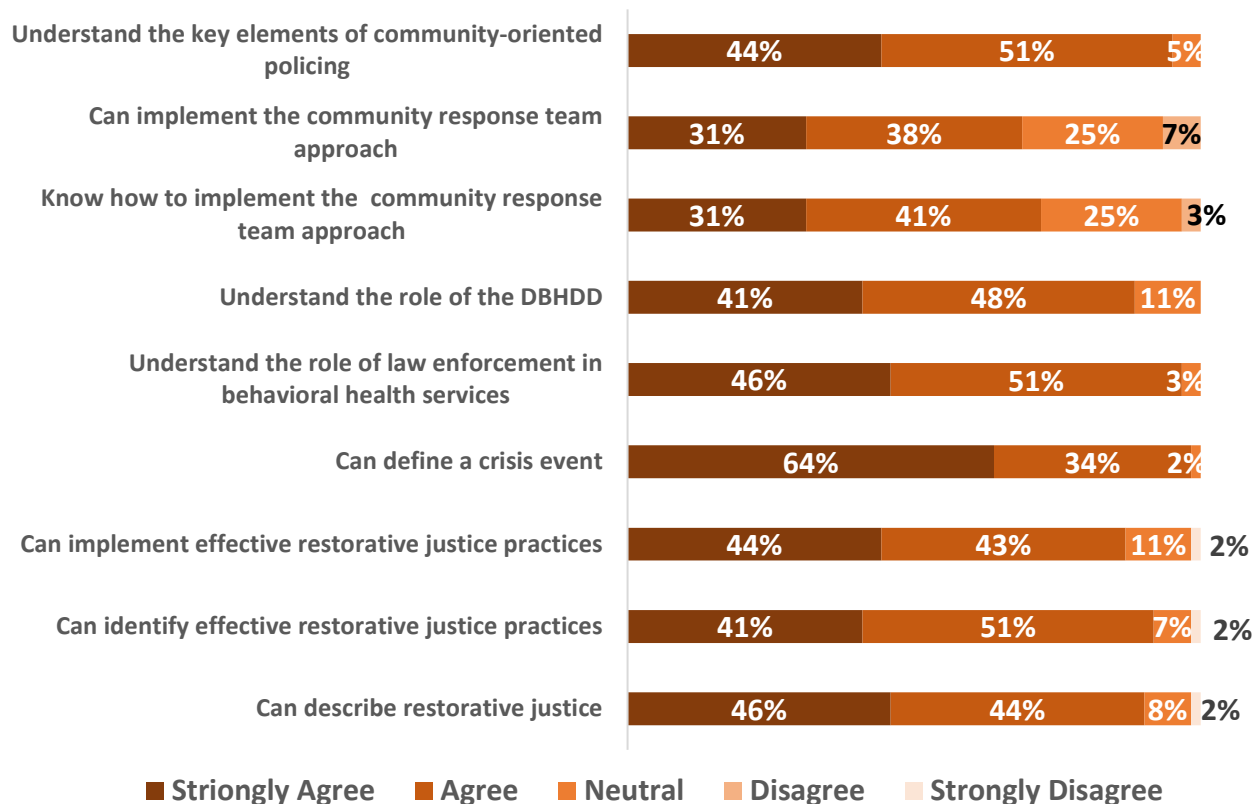
In addition to the council members, ReCAST formed partnerships with four other agencies including the Gwinnett Juvenile Justice Court, Gwinnett County Schools, Nothing but the Truth nonprofit and the Families First Clinical Logistics Officer to further expand outreach and services.

Law Enforcement Training Results

The primary objectives of the law enforcement trainings were to increase officers' knowledge of effective restorative practices and effective techniques to mitigate biases and increase understanding of their role as it relates to the provision of trauma-informed behavioral health services. While 126 law enforcement officers were trained, only 61 completed training pre-post surveys. Of the 61 respondents, the majority were school resource officers and community supervisors and 70% had been trained in restorative justice practices before. Of the 46 for whom demographic information was collected, nearly half chose not to provide information. Among those that did, the majority were white males ages 35-44.

Forty-six training participants completed a pre-posttest designed to test their knowledge of key elements of restorative justice. Prior to the training, **75% of respondents answered all questions correctly, compared to 84% after the training**, suggesting that participants did gain new knowledge. Participants were also asked to rate their levels of knowledge of key elements of restorative justice after the training.

Nearly all of the 50 participants for whom we have data reported increased knowledge and confidence post-training.



Youth Leadership Training Results

In Year 1, 79 youth who attended the Summer of Impact program participated in a total of 11 trainings on a variety of topics including diversity, equity, and inclusion, mental health, types of traumas, the cultural and historical components of trauma and trauma-informed care and leadership and advocacy. The goal of the trainings was to empower students with the skills to appreciate and leverage capabilities and ideas across a group of individuals with different cultures and abilities and to create and sustain an environment of inclusion, belonging, and respect. Additionally, trainings aimed to help youth identify implicit associations that lead to discrimination, inequality, and exclusion and increase their knowledge of effective techniques to overcome stereotypes and mitigate biases. While a total of 79 youth were trained via the Summer of Impact program, only five completed a post-survey. Thus, evaluation results are not presented.

GOAL 2: Increase community/youth engagement, leadership development and capacity-building through CBPA.

To increase community/youth engagement and leadership development, ReCAST implemented the following in Year 1.

1. Include trauma informed and diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) best practices in the Summer of Impact Internship program.
2. Engage 20 high-risk youth in civic engagement and leadership in the Youth Advisory Council (YAC).
3. Increase the capacity of YAC members to provide civic engagement training and peer mentorship to 200 youth by the end of Year 2.

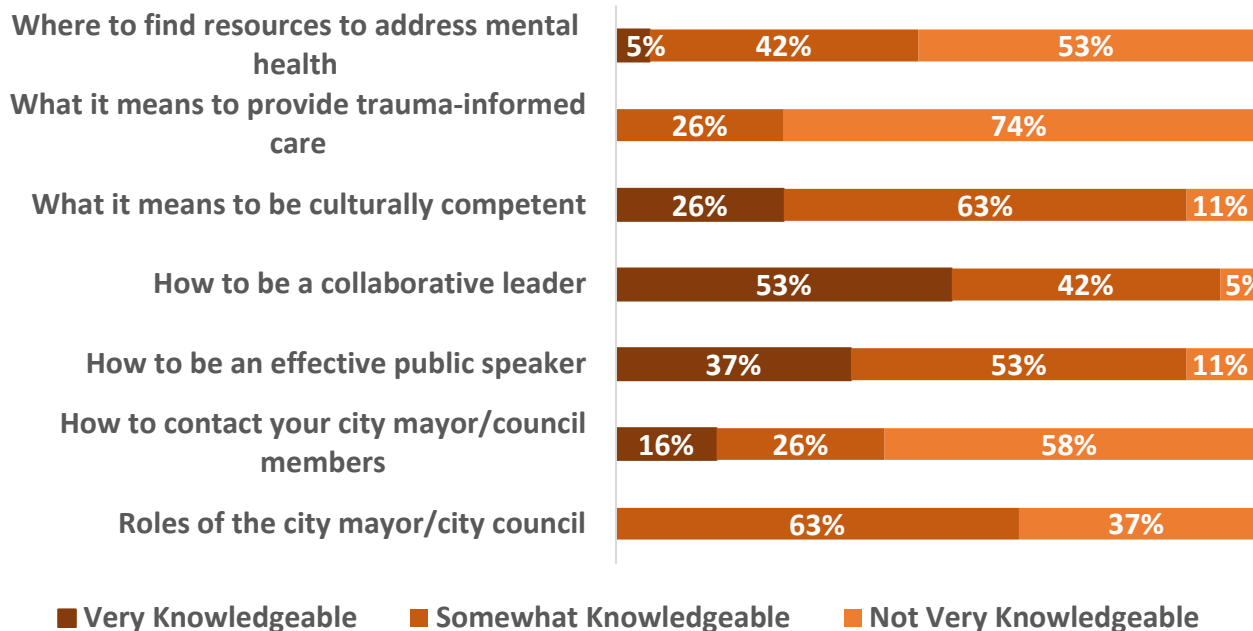
Results indicate that YAC members are poised to increase capacity among peers in Year 2.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACTUAL
	Update the Summer of Impact Internship Program	Program updated
	Recruit 20 YAC members Increase YAC members' capacity to train and mentor youth	24 YAC Members 18 YAC members trained

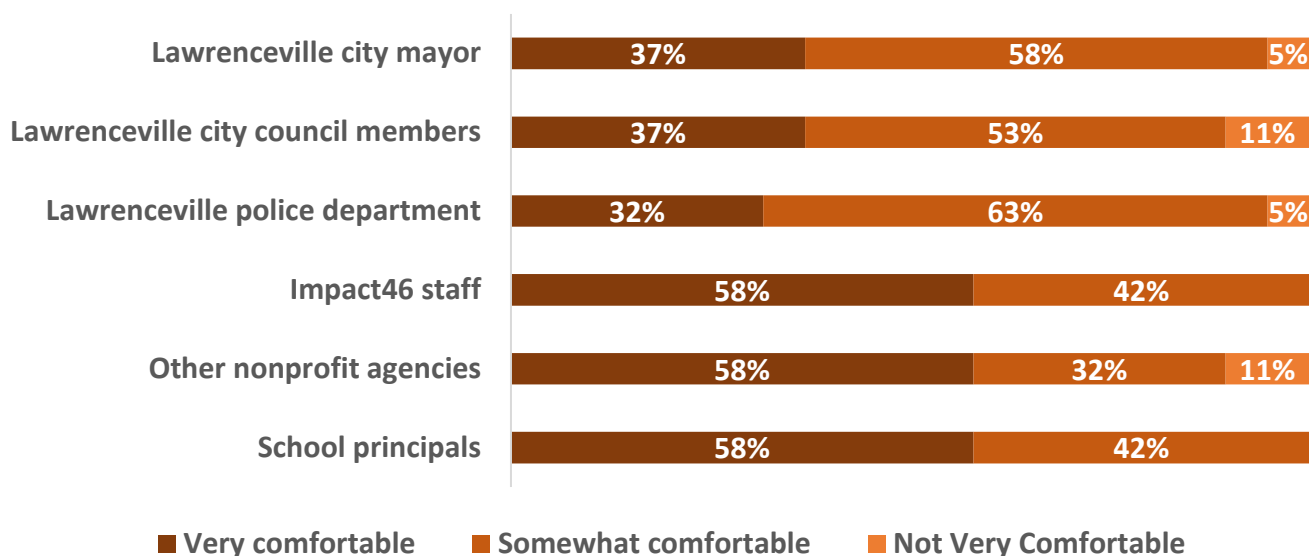
YAC Membership and Training Results

In May 2022, 24 youth were recruited to be YAC members and to form the Lawrenceville Legacy Leaders (L3) and 18 were selected. The majority of YAC members are 16–18-year-old, non-Hispanic females. A total of seven Asian and seven Black students and one multi-racial youth serve on the committee (three declined to provide their race). The mission of the L3 is to invest and empower youth by building a sense of place thru community engagement and civic awareness. In September 2022, L3 members attended the first of several trainings and meetings designed to increase their capacity to participate in and increase civic engagement among their peers. Evaluation results (n=18) indicate that YAC members lack knowledge about how to civically engage but feel comfortable working with key community stakeholders and leaders.

Participants lacked knowledge about how to engage civically.



Participants felt comfortable interacting with community leaders.



GOAL 3: Increase cultural competency among City staff and Lawrenceville residents.

To increase cultural competency among City of Lawrenceville staff and residents, ReCAST proposed to implement the following in Year 1.

1. Establish a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council (DEI) comprised of 6-10 city employees.
2. Provide implicit bias training to all City employees by Year 1.

3. Increase knowledge/skills among staff trained

Results indicate that the City of Lawrenceville is making progress towards increasing the cultural competency among city staff and residents and will continue to focus on this area in Year 2.

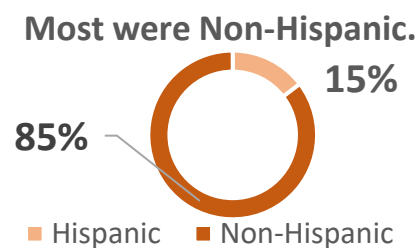
ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACTUAL
	DEI Council with 6-10 city employees	Members recruited, but council not yet established
	Train 100% of city employees in implicit bias	98% trained

DEI Council Results

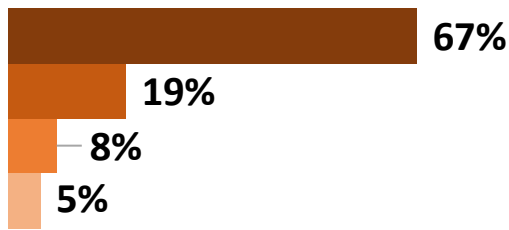
Due to delays in training city employees in implicit bias, ReCAST was not able to establish the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Council in Year 1. Now that nearly all employees have been trained and have a better understanding of DEI activities and goals, ReCAST recruited employees to serve on the Council at the end of Year 1. 14 employees were recruited to serve on the Council with meetings beginning in Year 2.

Implicit Bias Training Results

In September and October 2022, 281 of the 287 City of Lawrenceville employees (98%) participated in six implicit bias trainings – the first-time implicit bias training has been offered through the City. The 281 total respondents included both the ReCAST Program Manager (1) and the Mayor and City Council (5). Of the 281 trained, 243 completed evaluation surveys before and after the trainings. Just over 40% reported that they had been trained in implicit bias before the training. Training participants were mostly white, non-Hispanic, males ages 25-54 and represented a variety of city employees including police officers, utility workers, finance, public works, sanitation and information technology.

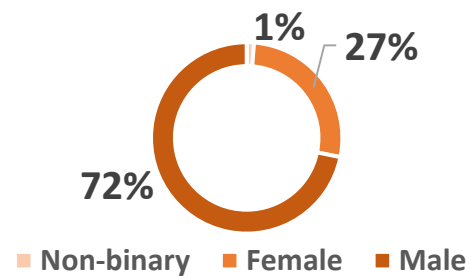


Most respondents were white.



- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- Asian or Asian American
- Multi-racial

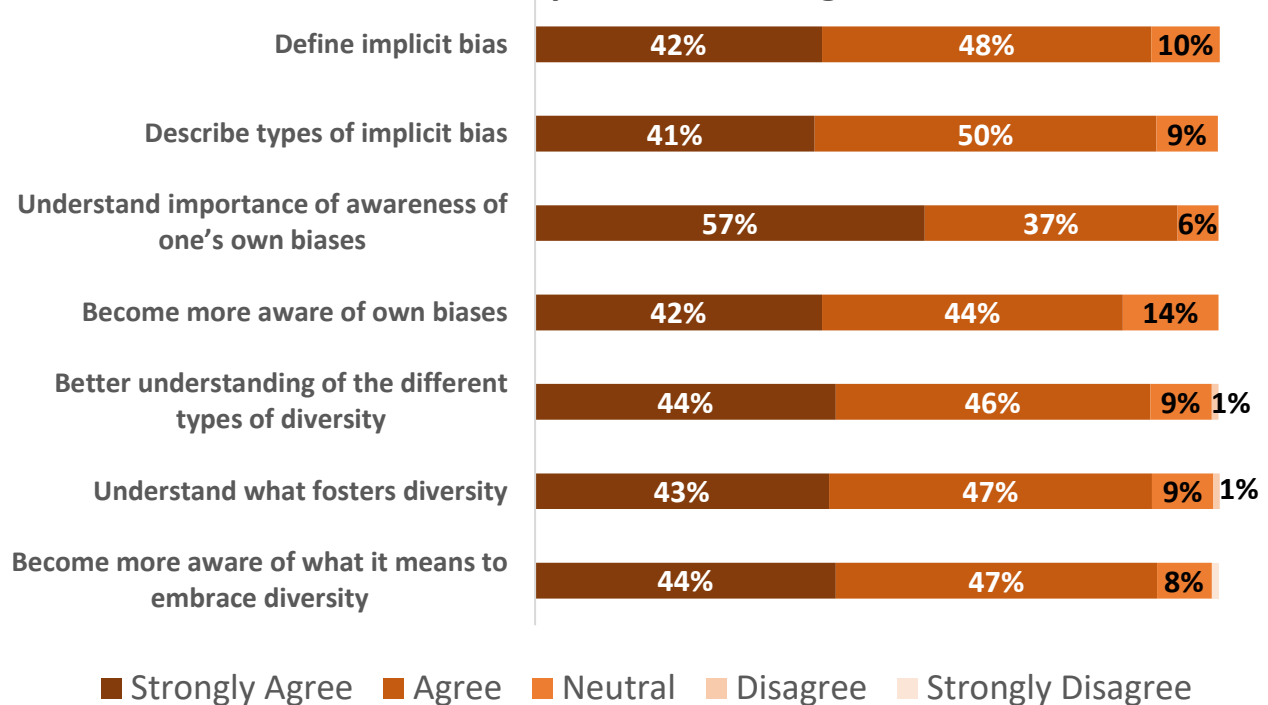
Most respondents were male.



- Non-binary
- Female
- Male

Employees were asked to rate their knowledge of implicit bias after the training.

Employees reported a strong understanding of bias and diversity after the training.



- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

GOAL 4: Strengthen the integration of community-based services addressing the social determinants of health for high-risk youth and their families

To strengthen the integration of community-based services, ReCAST proposed to implement the following in Year 1:

1. Screen 80 families annually, 400 by the end of the grant period, to assess resiliency and the social determinants of health using the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and the Families First Resiliency Needs Screener (FFRNS) tools.
2. Create referral process to connect 80 families to needed services.

Results indicate that while the team referred many individuals and families in need of basic services (e.g., housing, food, employment, etc.), ReCAST faced some challenges identifying and screening families and individuals in need of more intensive services. In Year 1, outreach efforts focused on raising awareness of mental health issues in the community but were not specifically targeted to residents in need of assessment and services. To address these challenges, the team adapted new, targeted outreach efforts designed to identify and screen individuals and families in need.

ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACTUAL
	Screen 80 families	19 screened using SDOH 31 screened using FFRNS
	Refer 80 families to needed services	303 individuals screened 187 referred to services

Assessment Results

A total of 31 clients were screened using the FFRNS while 19 clients were screened using the SDOH. Of the 31 clients, nineteen provided demographic data. Eleven clients served identified as Black or African American while five identified as Hispanic or Latino. The remaining three identified as white, American Indian and other. The majority (n=23) identified as male while six identified as female and one as other.

The FFRNS is a 14-item tool created by Families First to screen for and measure level of resiliency in the areas of access, connectedness, and future goals. Of the 31 clients assessed at intake, four presented with some resiliency, fifteen with moderate resiliency and twelve with high resiliency. Only four clients were reassessed during this reporting period. Given the small number, findings are not presented.

The SDOH measures several different areas including economic and housing safety and stability, education, healthcare access, social support and connectedness, access to basic needs and discrimination. Only 19 clients completed a SDOH at intake and only three were reassessed during this reporting period. Given the low number of assessments, findings will not be presented at this time.

Referrals and Services Provided

Overall, 303 individuals were referred via the ReCAST referral tracking system to be screened and assessed for needs. Impact46 primarily served as the first point of contact, screening 284 individuals. Families First screened 14 individuals while GCO screened 5. Of the 303 individuals screened, 187 were referred to services. The majority (94) were referred to Families First for navigator and behavioral health screening. However, many of those referred were hard to reach and/or were more interested in having other needs met rather than addressing behavioral health issues. Nearly 60 (n=57) were referred to Impact46 for assistance with meeting basic needs such as utilities, housing, food, etc. The remaining 36 individuals were referred to GCO for employment-related services.

All three agencies received referrals outside of the ReCAST system. Impact46 reported receiving 306 individual referrals and 217 household referrals. Impact46 reported serving 428 individuals with a variety of services. GCO did not track referrals outside of the ReCAST system but did serve 77 individuals during this reporting period. Families First received 148 referrals, 133 of whom were did not or were not eligible to receive services (e.g., unable to contact, did not meet criteria).

Goal 5: Increase access to trauma-informed behavioral health services among Lawrenceville residents.

To increase the access to trauma-informed services, ReCAST proposed to implement the following in Year 1:

1. Provide individual, group, family therapy and/or peer counseling as identified via an assessment to 100 Lawrenceville residents, 1500 by the end of the grant period.
2. Improve behavioral health outcomes among those receiving services.

Results indicate that ReCAST encountered challenges identifying eligible residents and providing them with mental health services, reaching only 9 individuals and providing them with a total of 93 sessions. These nine individuals were included in the number screened above and include 5 females and 4 males, 5 Hispanic and 3 Black clients. In Year 1, outreach efforts focused on raising awareness of mental health issues in the community but were not specifically targeted to residents in need of behavioral health services. To address these challenges, the team adapted new, targeted outreach efforts designed to identify and enroll eligible residents. Additionally, ReCAST received approval to reduce the target number of residents to be served from 1500 to 750 over the five-year grant period and to 100 in Year 2.

ACTIVITY

TARGET

ACTUAL



Provide 100 residents with therapy

9 individuals received 93 sessions



Improve behavioral health among individuals served

2 made good progress, 2 made some and 1 made no progress

Other Activities

In addition to these activities the ReCAST team developed and implemented a variety of activities designed to increase mental health awareness in the community. Team members created and distributed a series of mental health awareness messages via social media, reaching a total of 11,903 youth. An additional 540 community members were exposed to mental health messages at city-wide ReCAST outreach events held in June, July and August.

Summary of Key Findings, Challenges Faced and Recommendations

ReCAST successfully achieved many of the proposed goals and objectives in Year 1 of the grant. The team recruited 12 active Advisory Board members and 18 Youth Advisory Council members and developed several key community partnerships to support the work and engage the community. The team successfully trained law enforcement, youth and city employees in restorative justice and trauma-informed approaches, leadership and advocacy and implicit bias and equity. Participants report gaining valuable knowledge from the trainings. These efforts, combined with activities to raise awareness of mental health issues, have increased community awareness of key issues facing the City of Lawrenceville and empowered various community members to take action to address the issues.

In addition to increasing community awareness, ReCAST has worked to address individual needs, referring over 240 individuals to needed services. Of those referred to Families First for behavioral health and other services, only a small number were screened to assess needs, social determinants of health and eligibility for services. Those determined to be eligible were provided with behavioral health services and referrals to address other identified needs.

Challenges Faced

The primary challenges faced related to screening, recruiting and providing mental health services to City of Lawrenceville residents in need of services. As discussed, the outreach efforts were broad and aimed at increasing awareness of mental health issues rather than targeting specific individuals and groups in need of services. Adjustments to outreach strategies have been made for Year 2.

The referral process also proved challenging. The onboarding agency referred individuals to the variety of services they felt he/she could benefit from, and each agency then attempted to contact the referred individuals, many of whom were only interested in certain services. To engage individuals more effectively in their care, the team piloted the Pokket referral system which requires that the client complete and authorize all referrals. This ensures that the client is interested in being contacted and receiving services and provides more reliable, up-to-date contact information for clients.

Additionally, the location where behavioral health services were available in the City of Lawrenceville was not convenient for community members. To remedy this, the team identified other locations including the schools and a designated, HIPAA-compliant space authorized by City Council to provide behavioral health services. Solutions: set up call with Impact46 and FF person. Address initial contacts differently.

Recommendations for Improvement

Evaluation findings suggest that while ReCAST successfully achieved many of the project goals, there are some opportunities for continued success and improvement. Recommendations include the following:

- Continue to train and engage youth, employees and mental health professionals to build capacity to address the issues facing the City of Lawrenceville.
- Continue to raise mental health awareness in the community by leveraging partnerships with local schools and non-profits geared towards youth.
- Conduct more targeted outreach to identify eligible clients in need of services.
- Streamline the screening and assessment processes to identify more eligible residents and provide needed services.

Additional Artifact from Year One

[Link to the ReCAST Lawrenceville Mini-Documentary](#) (via YouTube)