ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014



Believing in People



Message from the CEO

Unison Behavioral Health ended FY2014 with a strong balance sheet, dedicated staff and the benefits of good digital client records and data systems to provide quality care in the most efficient means possible. We know that our achievements are real, because we regularly exceed state and national benchmarks for financial performance and service quality. Furthermore, in August we were re-accredited by CARF through September 2017 for all of our programs and services.

Consequently, I believe that Unison is well-positioned to embrace the changes that will occur in the coming year. Early in 2014, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities announced plans for a radical re-design of funding and delivery of behavioral health services in our state. Unison will be one of currently 25 Comprehensive Community Providers which comprise the public safety

net of community mental health, substance abuse and developmental disability services. We will be reimbursed for services on a fee-for-service basis, and be subject to rigorous monitoring on a comprehensive set of key performance indicators.

As we move forward into this new operating environment, Unison will be strengthening ties with other Comprehensive Community Providers in Southeast Georgia, seeking ways to work together to improve access, efficiency and service quality for all the residents of our region of the state.

In November 2014, Unison also said goodbye to CEO Allen Brown, who departed for a new position as CEO of Adult and Child Center, a large community mental health center in Indiana. Under his leadership, Unison changed its name from Satilla Community Services, invested in a powerful service data analysis (SPQM), innovative on-line client supports ("MyStrength – a health club for the mind"), and upgraded many



facilities. We wish him well in his new position.

In concluding this message at the end of 2014. I feel a little like the returning prodigal son. Having retired as Executive Director from the then Satilla Community Services in 2011, I was honored to be asked if I would return as CEO on Allen Brown's departure in November (in part to help Unison through the service re-design referred to above). In the circumstances, this was an invitation that I felt I could not refuse, and am pleased for the opportunity to serve again. All of us at Unison will do the very best we can through the changes to come to provide our communities with cost-effective and high quality behavioral health services.

Glyn Thomas, Ph.D.

Chief Executive Officer

Unison Behavioral Health



Message from the Board Chairman

Unison Behavioral Health continues to develop as a leading provider in mental health, addictive disease, and developmental disability programs. We, the Board of Directors, are proud of the many accomplishments of Unison's staff this past year. Unison has served hundreds of satisfied clients and business partners in rural South Georgia in 2014. The direct impact is providing communities with healthier and happier citizens.

Unison Behavioral Health has successfully pursued expansion and improvement strategies, both in terms of developing innovative solutions and diversifying our client base across South Georgia. Programs and facilities have been evaluated and improved, in an effort to provide new and better services to local communities and citizens.

The Unison Board of Directors is always striving to be ahead of the curve by anticipating market and legislative needs and changes. The Board will continue this tradition by working closely with the Unison Leadership Team and Georgia's Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities officials.

Patrick Simmons

Chairman, Board of Directors

Unison Behavioral Health

To happier and healthier citizens.

ABOUT US



Unison Behavioral Health provides a wide-range of community based behavioral health services for individuals of all ages who struggle with difficulties at work, home, or at school.

Services are available for individuals and youth with emotional problems, psychiatric emergencies or mental illness such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major depression. Developmental disability services include residential programs, community access group programs, pre-vocational training, job coaching and placement.

Services include:

- 24/7 Crisis Stabilization Unit
- Medical Detox Program
- Individual, Group, and Family Outpatient Counseling
- Peer Support
- Psychiatric and Medication Services
- Day Treatment
- Hospital Alternative Programs
- Pre-vocational Training and Skills Training
- Transitional and Supported Employment
- School-based Services
- Case Management
- Accountability Court Services
- Home-based Services
- Advocacy
- Residential Programs
- Addictive Disease Residential Treatment Program

Person-Centered Services

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Atkinson County

Patricia Roberts, Treasurer

Bacon County

Laure Cohen
Eugene Dyal
Laine Reicher

Brantley County

Selena Stricklanc

Charlton County

Wade Johnson, Vice-Chair

Clinch County

Kerin Crew

Coffee County

Chief Gary Casteloes

Pierce County

Lowell Williamsor

Ware County

Patrick Simmons, *Chair* Carlos Nelson

Board Member Emeritus Coffee County

Commissioner Earl Brice

ANNUAL NUMBERS 7,282 Evaluations

5,198 Crisis Services

12,743 Physician Services

12,670 Nursing Services

24,803 Services in Community

> 9,854 Therapy Sessions

5,698 Group Sessions

30,799 <u>Prescriptions</u> Filled

61,224 Developmental Disability Services

34,729 Residential Services

Services That Enrich Lives and Strengthen Communities



Unison Provides:

- Mental health and addictive disease services to help persons move forward on the path of recovery
- Developmental disability services helping persons live to the fullest extent of their abilities
- Employment services helping persons with disabilities succeed in the workplace
- Housing and residential services that help persons with disabilities find safe, affordable places to live

LISTEN TO THEIR STORIES

Robert



I was connected with Unison's Supportive Living program and they got me started in PSR Day Treatment, I like PSR because of the wealth of information that flows through the staff into our program. I have learned how to cope with anxiety, depression, and stress much better. I started picking up information and applied it to my life. My new coping skills include how to cook nutritious meals for myself. I also learned how to cope

with anxiety and depression, because I was not sleeping like I should. Then I was able to start taking my meds and sleeping like I should and I started doing better. Another coping skill I recently started again is playing the guitar. It brings a lot of joy and peace. I have overcome my stage fright by playing at PSR. I felt like I had the ability to entertain others although the fear kept me from trying for a short time.

Donnie



Donnie presented to Unison with a 15 year history of opiate and marijuana addiction. He was unable to maintain employment and was on the verge of a divorce. All of his money was spent on drugs. He committed to his sobriety and treatment and began attending group therapy regularly. He is now employed as a truck driver and is purchasing his own truck. He has repaired his marriage and is able to pay his bills and meet his family's needs. Donnie

is so committed to his recovery and services at Unison that he has driven 9-10 hours to return home and attend group therapy sessions. He openly shares with peers how his support from family, working, and attending group therapy learning about his addiction has helped him to maintain his sobriety. He has reached out to coworkers who struggle with addiction and calls them to offer words of encouragement almost daily. He has been a source of encouragement to fellow group members to stay in treatment. Donnie has been in Unison services for over 2 years. He feels his marriage is strong. His health is improving and he feels his quality of life has improved tremendously.

Anna



After a very traumatic car accident where I suffered severe head injury, I found myself becoming very depressed. I made a few appointments with my Medical Doctor to get help, but to no avail. Out of desperation to find relief for my worsening depression, I decided to give Unison a call. Unison provided counseling and got me in to see their doctor who started me on medications. Unison sent case workers to my home to check on me, which

helped me a lot. Medications are helping to control my symptoms and I no longer need a counselor as I am no longer battling depression. Every staff member in Folkston goes above and beyond to make sure that my needs and any concerns I may have are taken care of. I feel more carefree, safe, secure, and more comfortable than I ever thought I would after the accident.

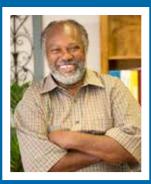
Dan



I have witnessed my husband Dan struggle with symptoms of mental illness through endless days of feeling worthless and spells of anger. He confessed that there were days where he was consumed with the idea of suicide. We finally talked him into getting help and he was placed on medication and received therapy from another provider. The medication was like a roller coaster and many days he did not want to take it.

We moved and needed assistance at our new location and we discovered Unison. Dan was given more than just medication. He and our family were taught skills on how to cope with his illness. We learned to recognize triggers and techniques to work through episodes. Unison staff embraced Dan and it was evident that everyone had his best interest in mind along with that of the family. Today, Dan has a job that he is successful at. Communication is open within the family and the staff at Unison. He has important life saving skills to cope with his illness. Unison has not only saved the life of Dan but also that of his family.

Derwood



Derwood is a fun loving and outgoing individual who has celebrated a number of successes in his life. Through the **Supported Employment** program, Derwood enjoyed a 20 year career with Pizza Hut before retiring. Derwood's favorite part about working was being able to meet new people. Derwood was a very dedicated employee and was awarded "Employee of the Month" numerous times.

Since his retirement,
Derwood has enjoyed
attending a number of
trips with friends he met
through the Bacon Center.
He loves participating
with the group to attend
shopping trips and other
adventures.

With the assistance of Unison's Residential program, Derwood was able to purchase his own home. He loves living in town and having his favorite restaurants within walking distance. Derwood's favorite thing to do is sit on his front porch to visit with family and friends.

Joan



Joan was referred to Unison by South Georgia State College counseling center to deal with marital discord that contributed to trust issues. This created ongoing problems within their relationship. Joan has struggled with depression, anxiety, low self esteem and eventually separation and divorce. She continued to be a full time student at South Georgia State College, single parent of her two children ages 2 and 7,

homeschooling, and having a part-time job to sustain the family unit financially. When she first initiated services with Unison, Joan never cared how she looked, cried all the time and felt overwhelmed with life. After being in Unison's services for the past 2 years, she has graduated from South Georgia State College with honors. Her children are ages 3 and 9 and are doing well. She is now working part time at Hospice and giving back to others through her work. She is now taking time out for herself and finding the time to engage in leisure activities with positive supports in her life, which has improved her self esteem. Currently, she is pursuing a Masters Degree in Social Work in Waycross.

2013-2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Served 5844 clients in 8 counties
- Implemented Mystrength on-line wellness support for persons with mental illness – a "health club for the mind"
- Introduced "just-in-time" scheduling of appointments to improve customer service and efficiency
- Provided Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for regional law enforcement
- Provided Mental Health First Aid training to local communities
- Initiated open access without appointments for persons seeking to enroll in services
- Collaborated with Tapestry, Inc. to offer on-site mental health services at The Villages in Blackshear
- Partnered with Blackshear Family Practice to offer mental health assessments and services at their primary care clinic
- Maintained a high level of customer satisfaction
- Expanded accountability court services
- Supported staff to gain higher credentials
- Provided CEU opportunities on-site for staff of Unison Behavioral Health

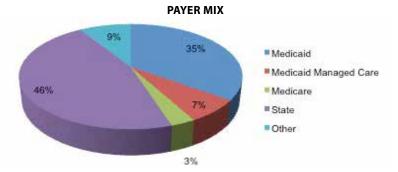
- Two clinicians were certified in Primary Care Behavioral Health through University of Massachusetts Medical School
- Renovated both resident bathrooms at Cypress Hill Group
 Home, resulting in modern, handicap-accessible facilities
- Completed a portion of phased renovations at St. Illa
- Purchased four vans and one car to replace aged fleet vehicles
- Upgraded telephone system software
- Acquired the Coffee DD Center building and land from Coffee County
- Relocated Brantley County Behavioral Health Services into a new building constructed for our use by Brantley County utilizing CDBG funds
- Began offering Employee Assistance Services at no cost to
 Unison employees and their families

Advancing the Mission

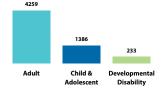
FISCAL YEAR 2014

Consolidated Financial Position

Ending Balance, Net Assets	\$5,479,396
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets Beginning Balance, Net Assets	(7,081) 5,486,477
Total Expenditures	19,098,642
Expenditures Salary & Fringe Benefits Other Operating Expenses	13,436,745 5,661,897
Total Revenue	19,091,561
Grant Revenues & Contributions Charges for Services	Revenue \$8,643,904 10,447,657



UNDUPLICATED CLIENTS SERVED



Revenue by Payer

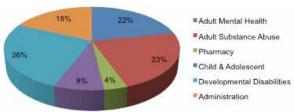
Medicaid Medicaid Managed Care Medicare State Other		35% 7% 3% 46% 9%
Expenditure by Program		
Adult Mental Health	4,153,008	22%
Adult Substance Abuse	4,270,666	23%
Pharmacy	681,441	4%
Child & Adolescent	1,477,215	8%
Developmental Disabilities	4,910,556	26%
Administration	3,431,361	18%

\$18,924,247

Count
4259
1386
233

Total Unduplicated Served 5844

EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM



Behavioral Health

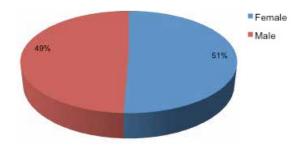
Race / Ethnicity

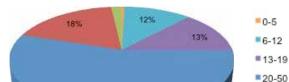
African American	1573	28%
Hispanic	96	2%
Multiracial	68	1%
Other Single Race	52	1%
Unspecified	29	1%
White/Caucasian	3793	68%

Age Group

0-5	26	0%
6-12	647	12%
13-19	744	13%
20-50	3068	55%
51-65	1023	18%
66+	103	2%

5611



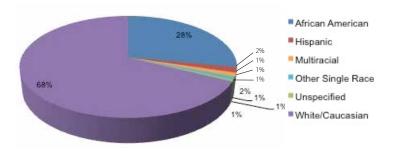


55%

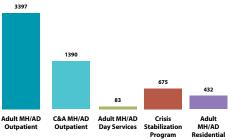
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■51-65

66+







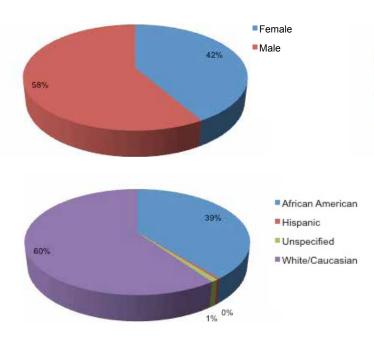
Developmental Disabilities

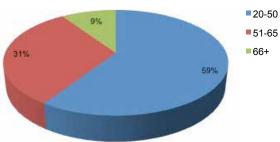
Race / Ethnicity

African American	91	39%
Hispanic	1	0%
Unspecified	2	1%
White/Caucasian	139	60%
	233	

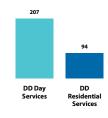
Age Group

51-65	73 22	31% 9%
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UNDUPLICATED CLIENTS SERVED



SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM





Lionel Bryan Acting Medical Director



Janett Carter, LCSW, CACII Director of Behavioral Health



Eva Fedd, LPC Deputy Director of Behavioral Director of Human Resources Health Residential Services



Laura Fullard



LaCretia Y. Gassem **Executive Assistant**



Tiffany Henderson, LCSW **Deputy Director of Outpatient Services**



Jerad Johnson **Director of Information** Technology



Kevin Rodgers Director of Developmental Disabilities



Lynn Simpson, R.Ph. **Director of Pharmacy**



Glyn V. Thomas, Ph.D. **Chief Executive Officer**

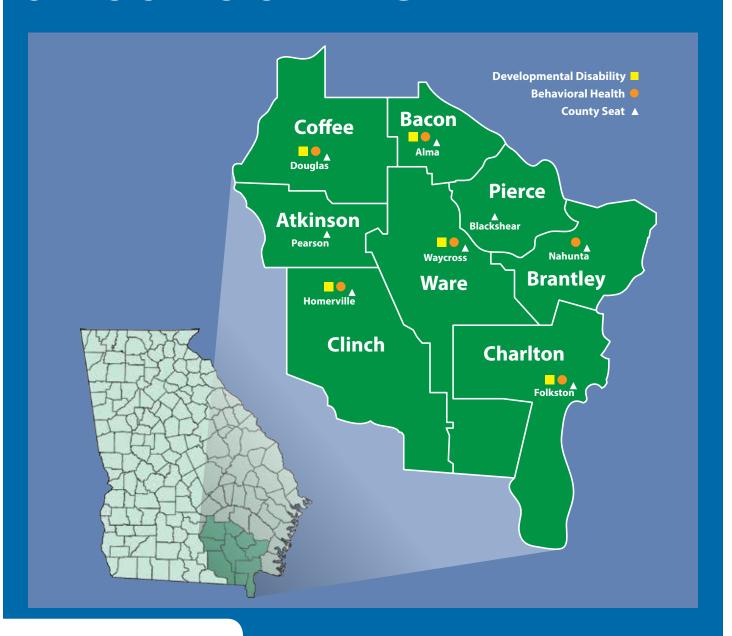


Katrina Wheeler, CPA **Chief Financial Officer**



Brenda Wildes, M.Ed. Director of Quality and Compliance

UNISON'S SERVICE AREA





Coffee BHS



Bacon BHS



Garden Gate Residential Treatment Center



Ware Service Center

SERVICE LOCATIONS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Bacon BHS

108 E 5th Street Alma, GA 31510

Brantley BHS

434 Bryan Street Nahunta, GA 31553

Charlton BHS

3010 Homeland Park Road Folkston, GA 31537

Clinch BHS

551 Old Pearson Road Homerville, GA 31634

Coffee BHS

1005 Shirley Avenue Douglas, GA 31533

Garden Gate Residential Treatment Center

852 Tiffany Lane Waycross, GA 31503

St. Illa Crisis Stabilization Unit

3455 Harris Road Waycross, GA 31503

Supported Employment

300 Williams Street Waycross, GA 31501

Supported Living

3455 Harris Road Waycross, GA 31503

Ware BHS

1007 Mary Street Waycross, GA 31503

Ware Child and Family Services

1003 Mary Street Waycross, GA 31503

Ware Day Services

310 Williams Street Waycross, GA 31501

Waycross Accountability Court

800 Church Street, B202 Waycross, GA 31501

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICE CENTERS

Bacon Service Center

1835 W 12th Street Alma, GA 31510

Charlton Service Center

3010 Homeland Park Road Folkston, GA 31537

Clinch Service Center

551 Old Pearson Road Homerville, GA 31634

Coffee Service Center

920 W College Park Drive Douglas, GA 31533

Ware Service Center

3201 Harris Road Waycross, GA 31503

Developmental Disability Residential Services

Atkinson CountyPeachtree Group Home

Bacon County

Cypress Hill Group Home

Pierce County

Camellia House Group Home
Oakwood Group Home





