

# GRADING the States 2009



## Grading the States 2009 Report Card: Georgia

In 2006, Georgia's mental health system received a D. Three years later, it again receives a D. Even a D, however, cannot fully convey the horrendous scandal that has scarred the state, with consequences that are still unfolding. [Full narrative \(PDF\)](#).

### Grades by Category

[Detailed Score Card \(PDF\)](#)

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>I. Health Promotion and Measurement: D</b>  | <b>25% of Total Grade</b> |
| Basic measures, such as the number of programs delivering evidence-based practices, emergency room wait-times, and the quantity of psychiatric beds by setting.              |                           |
| <b>II. Financing &amp; Core Treatment/Recovery Services: C</b>   | <b>45% of Total Grade</b> |
| A variety of financing measures, such as whether Medicaid reimburses providers for all, or part of evidence-based practices; and more.                                       |                           |
| <b>III. Consumer &amp; Family Empowerment: C</b>   | <b>15% of Total Grade</b> |
| Includes measures such as consumer and family access to essential information from the state, promotion of consumer-run programs, and family and peer education and support. |                           |
| <b>IV. Community Integration and Social Inclusion: C</b>   | <b>15% of Total Grade</b> |
| Includes activities that require collaboration among state mental health agencies and other state agencies and systems.  |                           |

### Innovations

- Investigative reporting series leading to federal investigations of hospitals
- Georgia Crisis and Access Line
- Use of Medicaid funds for peer support specialists

### Urgent Needs

- Strong leadership by governor and legislature
- Improve patient care and safety in hospitals
- Increase access to community-based services
- Employ evidence-based practices that meet fidelity standards