

PRESS RELEASE

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RECAP: Georgians for a Healthy Future Hosts 15th Annual Health Care Unscrambled

ATLANTA, GA — Earlier this week, Georgians for a Healthy Future (GHF), Georgia's leading nonpartisan health advocacy organization, hosted its [15th Annual Health Care Unscrambled](#) at the Georgia Freight Depot, bringing together policymakers, advocates, and public health experts from across the state. This year's event brought together more than 200 attendees for critical discussions on the future of health care in Georgia. The conversations amplified GHF's commitment to advancing equity, access, and innovation in health policy.

*"This year's Health Care Unscrambled demonstrated the power of bringing together diverse voices to address Georgia's critical health care issues," said **Laura Colbert, Executive Director of Georgians for a Healthy Future**. "As advocates, it's our responsibility to drive meaningful change. We are deeply grateful to our attendees, speakers, and sponsors for their contributions to this event. Together, we are building the foundation for greater health care access and equity for all Georgians."*

Event Highlights

The program featured a keynote address from [Hemi Tewarson, JD, MPH, Executive Director of the National Academy for State Health Policy](#). Tewarson shared insights on the incoming administration's health care agenda and highlighted strategies from other states to enhance access to care. She focused on the implications of these strategies for Georgia's current health care landscape.

A legislative panel discussion followed, with distinguished panelists:

- [Rep. Lee Hawkins, DDS \(R–Gainesville\)](#): Chair of the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee, focusing on health care delivery systems.
- [Sen. Kim Jackson \(D–Stone Mountain\)](#): Serving her first term as Democratic Whip and third term as Georgia State Senator for the 41st Senate District, Sen. Jackson is an advocate for equity and inclusive health care policies.
- [Rep. Darlene Taylor \(R–Thomasville\)](#): Chairwoman of the Appropriations: Health Subcommittee and champion of rural health solutions.

The panelists explored some of Georgia’s most pressing health care challenges – including Medicaid reimbursement rates, mental health access, rural health care quality, and the ongoing debate around Medicaid expansion.

Looking Ahead

Health Care Unscrambled 2025 highlighted the importance of collaboration in tackling systemic health care challenges in Georgia. As part of this effort, Georgians for a Healthy Future unveiled its new tagline: **Healthier future, powered by people**. This reflects the organization’s commitment to placing people at the forefront its advocacy work and policy solutions.

*“We’re reprioritizing efforts to reach and connect personally with more Georgians across the state, and to help them feel empowered to humanize and simplify the systems and policies that we all struggle with,” said **Laura Colbert, Executive Director of Georgians for a Healthy Future**. “We don’t want to push to make things different just to make things different. The right type of change should be simple and it should be people-centered. It should focus on those who are under-resourced and aren’t being treated fairly by a system. And putting those people back at the center of the work.”*

The discussions and insights shared during this year’s event align closely with the goals outlined in GHF’s [2025-2026 Policy Priorities](#). During this two-year session, GHF will focus on reducing the number of uninsured Georgians, improving behavioral health systems, and streamlining Medicaid to better serve individuals and families. These actionable priorities aim to create meaningful and lasting change in the lives of Georgians, and GHF remains committed to collaborating with policymakers and advocates to make them a reality.

To learn more about GHF’s [2025-2026 Policy Priorities](#), explore the insights shared during the event, or access the presentation slides and recording, visit the [Health Care Unscrambled 2025 Event Page](#).

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Georgians for a Healthy Future collaborates with communities and partners to lead policy change that advances health equity for all Georgians. Our vision is of a day in which all Georgians have equitable opportunities to achieve their highest level of health. We do this by delivering actionable health policy information to policymakers and advocates; providing resources to help consumers become strong advocates, and elevating the consumer experience to inform policy change. Read more at healthyfuturega.org.

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