MEMORANDUM

TO: Georgians Trained in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)

FROM: Terri Timberlake, Ph.D., State Director
       Office of Adult Mental Health

DATE: March 26, 2020

RE: Mental Health First Aid Volunteers for COVID-19 Response

The current COVID-19 pandemic has sparked heightened health and safety concerns across our state, which in turn, is promoting increased anxiety. Additionally, requirements for social/physical distancing and quarantine, and the subsequent isolation may foster increased loneliness.

We are all in this together, and we need each other’s help. You can help with Georgia’s behavioral health response to the COVID-19 crisis. The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is seeking to engage people who are trained in Mental Health First Aid to provide support via a warm line. If you have completed Mental Health First Aid training and are interested and available to volunteer your services by staffing a warm line, please email your name and contact information to the following email address: MHFAvolunteer@dbhdd.ga.gov

We ask that you let us know if you can help by April 2.

Someone from DBHDD will contact you to provide additional details and discuss needs. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help people in Georgia who may be experiencing increased needs for emotional support.