



PARTICIPANT DIRECTED
ADVOCATES OF GEORGIA
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LEADING CHANGE:

The Participant Directed Advocacy Forum

August 25, 2026

ORGANIZERS



Rita Young
Executive Director
PDAG



Mitzi Proffitt
Deputy Director
PDAG



Commissioner Kevin Tanner
Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
and Developmental Disabilities

SPECIAL GUEST

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Ron Wakefield, Director
Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
and Developmental Disabilities

PANELISTS



Janelle Adams



GA Representative Katie Dempsey



Julie Eshleman, PhD



Marian Frattarola-Saulino



GA State Senator Sally Harrell



GA State Representative Scott Hilton



Caitlin Kendrick



GA State Representative Mary Margaret Oliver



Dr. Jonathan Smith