

TRANSITION MANUAL



A Guide for Parents

**DeKalb Interagency
Transition Planning Council**

TRANSITION MANUAL: A GUIDE FOR PARENTS 2018 is a product of the DeKalb Interagency Transition Planning Council

The DeKalb Interagency Transition Planning Council is composed of members of the following agencies:

DeKalb County School District
Georgia Department of Education Region
3 DBHDD Board
Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Parent Representatives
Other Public and Private Adult Service Agencies

Transition Manual Committee:

Dr. Gwen Allen
Sally Atwell
Andrea Lester
Gail Mitchell
Jamie Shailer
Sharon Smith
Jennifer Witherspoon

Members of the DeKalb Interagency Planning Council cannot recommend or endorse individuals or agencies in this manual. It is meant to be a resource guide to assist you and your family with transition from school to the adult world. Use this guide to investigate which options can best meet the needs of your child and family members. **Every effort**

has been made to ensure that the information contained in the manual is accurate. Please confirm the information with each agency since changes can occur after the manual has been updated.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
ACRONYMS AND INITIALS	5
TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN: AN EXPLANATION	10
TRANSITION PLANNING TIME-LINE: LIFE SKILLS SPECIALIZATION	11
TRANSITION PLANNING TIME-LINE: COMMUNITY-BASED VOCATIONAL SPECIALIZATION TRAINING	14
TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN: EXAMPLES	18
TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN: SAMPLE	22
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS	26
RIGHTS, GUARDIANSHIP, AND ADVOCACY	32
SSI AND MEDICAID	37
DEEMING WAIVER	41
MEDICAID WAIVERS (NOW/COMP)	44
RESOURCES FOR AVAILABLE SERVICES	
ADVOCACY SERVICES	48
COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL ALTERNATIVE SERVICES (Formerly known as RESIDENTIAL SERVICES)	55
LEGAL SERVICES	63
MEDICAL/DENTAL SERVICES	66
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS	74
RECREATIONAL/LEISURE SERVICES	78
RESPIRE SERVICES	85
SUPPORT SERVICES	88
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	99
VOCATIONAL SERVICES	

COMMUNITY ACCESS SERVICES	
and PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES	101
(Formerly known as DAY SUPPORT SERVICES)	
SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES	108
OTHER VOCATIONAL SERVICES	113
POST-SECONDARY INCLUSIVE PROGRAMS IN GEORGIA	114
WEB SITES	
PHONE RECORD	124
INTRODUCTION	

Confused? Are you anxious about your son's or daughter's future? Many parents worry about the time when their son or daughter will no longer attend school. Those who plan for this change from student to adult life are faced with a confusing maze of services and options. All of this may seem overwhelming. There is help!

When is the best time to prepare for entry into adult life? There is no set time, but many experts agree that it is never too early to teach responsibility, independence, and a good work ethic. Serious planning should begin during the teen years for a smooth transition from school to adult service agencies.

This manual was put together as a guide for parents. The list of resources along with the question and answer section will be helpful in locating appropriate services. It must be noted that this manual is ONLY a resource. The choices are yours; therefore, it is the parents' responsibility to examine resources that may meet their child's own abilities, needs, and potentials.

Further, in serving the population with special needs, the importance of advocacy cannot be stated strongly enough. The Interagency Transition Planning Council encourages and applauds parental involvement in this process. Please commit now to becoming informed and involved. You may find the 'Support Services' and 'Web Sites' especially helpful.

ACRONYMS AND INITIALS ARE WE SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE?

The following is a list of acronyms or initials often used when dealing with school systems, state, and federal agencies. You may hear these initials used and feel lost. This list will help you understand the language of the school system and various agencies.

AADD	ALL ABOUT DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
A & D	ALCOHOL & DRUGS
ABA	APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
ABI	ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY
AFDC	AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN
APS	ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES
BD	BEHAVIOR DISORDER
BEH. SPEC.	BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST
C & A	CHILD & ADOLESCENT PROGRAM
CAC	CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL
CBI	COMMUNITY-BASED INSTRUCTION
CBVI	COMMUNITY-BASED VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTION
CBVT	COMMUNITY-BASED VOCATIONAL TRAINING
COMP	COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORTS WAIVER
CMI	CHRONICALLY MENTALLY ILL
CSH	CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL
CTR	CENTER
DBHDD	DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND

	DEVELOPEMENTAL DISABILITIES
DCH	DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
DCM	DEDICATED CASE MANAGEMENT
DCSC	DEKALB COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER
DD	DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY
DFCS	DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES
D/HH	DEAF/HARD OF HEARING
DHR	DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
DHS	DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DMA	DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
DMA 6	DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE – LEVEL OF CARE DETERMINATION FORM
DMA 80	DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE – PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FORM
DOE	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DOL	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
DS CHIEF	DISABILITIES SERVICES CHIEF
DTAE	DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL AND ADULT EDUCATION
DTH	DEVELOPMENTAL TRAINING HOME
EPSDT	EARLY PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT PROGRAM
ES	EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST
ESP	EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT PLAN
FY	FISCAL YEAR
GA DOL	GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
GAPSE	GA ASSOCIATION FOR PEOPLE IN SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

GDOE	GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
GLRS	GEORGIA LEARNING RESOURCES SYSTEM
GMCF	GEORGIA MEDICAL CARE FOUNDATION
GRH	GEORGIA REGIONAL HOSPITAL
HB	HOUSE BILL
HCBS	HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES
HR	HOUSE RESOLUTION
HRST	HEALTH RISK SCREENING TOOL
HOSP	HOSPITAL
HSP	HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDER
HSTP	HUMAN SERVICES TECHNICIAN-PRINCIPAL
HSTS	HUMAN SERVICES TECHNICIAN SENIOR
HV	HOME VISIT
I & E	INTAKE AND EVALUATION TEAM
ID	INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
IEP	INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM
IFSP	INDIVIDUAL FAMILY SERVICE PLAN
IGR	INDIVIDUAL GROUP RESIDENCE
IPP	INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM PLAN
IQ	INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT
ISP	INDIVIDUAL SERVICE PLAN
ISVT	IN-SCHOOL VOCATIONAL TRAINING
ITP	INDIVIDUAL TRANSITION PLAN
ITPC	INTERAGENCY TRANSITION PLANNING COUNCIL
ITR	INTENSIVE TRAINING RESIDENCE
IVP	INDIVIDUAL VOCATIONAL PLAN

IWRE	IMPAIRMENT WORK-RELATED EXPENSE
JD	JOB DEVELOPER
LB	LEGALLY BLIND
LD	LEARNING DISABILITY
LEA	LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY
LSS	LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM
LTSE	LEAD TEACHER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION
MA	MENTAL AGE
MAO	MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ONLY
MARC	METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RESPITE COOPERATIVE
MHDDAD	MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, ADDICTIVE DISEASES
MID	MILD INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
MID-I	MILD INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY-INDEPENDENT LIVING
MOID	MODERATE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
MTR	MODERATE TRAINING RESIDENCE
NOW	NEW OPTIONS WAIVER
OI	ORTHOPEDICALLY IMPAIRED
OJE	ON THE JOB EVALUATION
OT	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST
PAC	PARENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PASS	PLAN TO ACHIEVE SELF-SUPPORT
PEPP	PARENTS EDUCATING PARENTS AND PROFESSIONALS
PID	PROFOUND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
PLA	PLANNING LIST ADMINISTRATOR

PT	PHYSICAL THERAPIST
RVI	RELATED VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTOR
SB	SENATE BILL
SE	SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT
SED	SEVERE EMOTIONAL DISABILITY
SID	SEVERE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
SIS	SUPPORTS INTENSITY SCALE
SLA	SEMI-INDEPENDENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT
SLP	SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST
SR	SENATE RESOLUTION
SSA	SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
SSDI	SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INCOME
SSI	SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME
SSN	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
TANF	TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE/NEEDY FAMILIES
TSP	TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN
UCP	UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY
VI	VISUALLY IMPAIRED
VR	VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
WIA	WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (FORMERLY JTPA)
WIC	WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN

TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN: AN EXPLANATION

The Transition Service Plan (TSP) [formerly known as the Individual Transition Plan, ITP] serves as a guide to assist the student, the family, the school, and community service agencies to formulate a plan that will assist with transition from school to adult life. It is important to understand that school is an entitlement program for school-aged children. Entitlement means that all children are eligible to receive a free and appropriate education within the public school system. Adult programs have their own eligibility requirements. Most of these programs can and do maintain waiting lists.

The purpose of transition is to assist students with disabilities to build the skills and supports they need to successfully reach their post-school goals. The 2004 reauthorization of the Individual with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004) changed transition services to a “results-oriented process” that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child. IDEA also requires the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to include “appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and where appropriate independent living.” The state rules for special education require that transition plans be in place prior to the student entering ninth grade or by age 16, whichever comes first. The transition plan drives the content of the rest of the IEP. There should be a clear and direct relationship between a student’s transition goals and the other IEP goals and objectives. Transition requires support from multiple sources for the student and his/her family to make choices, develop connections, and access services.

(From: Georgia Department of Education, Transition Manual, February 2008)

Transition Planning
Time-Line for Life Skills Specialization

Student Age/Grade	Action	Person Responsible	Completion Date
*15/8 th	Complete vocational assessments: Student-Parent Transition Questionnaire and the Checklist of Adaptive Living Skills (CALs) PRIOR to meeting to develop the initial Transition Service Plan (TSP)	Student/Parent/Guardian School	

**15/8 th	Hold IEP meeting to develop initial TSP to be reviewed and updated annually	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Write statement indicating preferences, strengths and interests based on transition assessments	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Develop Measurable Post-Secondary goals based on age appropriate transition assessments and present levels of performance. Goals must be stated for the areas of Education/Training, Employment and Independent Living.	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Determine course of study	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Discuss and determine diploma type	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Consider graduation date	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Develop measurable transition goals and objectives in all areas	Student/Parent/Guardian School	

Student Age/Grade	Action	Person Responsible	Completion Date
16+	Identify vocational support needed	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
16	Consider guardianship	Parent /Guardian	
16	Inform student and parent that the student 's educational rights will transfer to him/her at age 18	Student/Parent/Guardian School	

16	Obtain official Georgia Identification Card (Georgia Department of Driver Services)	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
16+	Continue to provide instruction to address vocational interests/abilities/education and independent living based on continual transition assessments	Parent/Guardian/School	
17+	Update vocational training file with descriptions of acquired skills, vocational training history, and related transition assessment information	School	
18	Establish proposed graduation date as part of the IEP	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
18	Transfer of educational rights to student	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
18	Register for Selective Service (Males only)	Student/Parent/Guardian	

Student Age/Grade	Action	Person Responsible	Completion Date
18	Apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) through Social Security Administration at age 18, if not already established	Student/Parent/Guardian	
18+	Obtain updated IQ and Adaptive Behavior measures completed for Region 3	Student/Parent/Guardian School	

18+ (one-year prior to graduation)	Establish linkages to public and private adult service agencies: - Obtain signed releases for information sharing with other agencies - Intake for Region 3 DBHDD planning list for Medicaid Waiver - Investigate agencies for Community Access Services, Prevocational Services, and Community Residential Alternative Services	School refers Student/Parent/Guardian	
Transition Year: 18 - 21	- Targeted adult service agency will develop the appropriate individual written plan for future services. - Final review and summarization of TSP to include the Summary of Performance (SOP)	Student/Parent/Guardian Adult Services Agencies/ School	
Ongoing	Conduct additional vocational assessments or other assessments as needed	Student/Parent/Guardian Adult Services Agencies/ School	
Ongoing	Update Transition Plan (preferences, strengths, interests, goals and objectives) at least annually	Student/Parent/Guardian Adult Services Agencies/ School	

* Must be completed by student-parent before holding the IEP meeting to develop the initial TSP

** Must be done during 8th grade year prior to going to High School

Transition Planning

Time-Line for Community-Based Vocational Training

Student Age/Grade	Action	Person Responsible	Completion Date

*15/8 th	Complete vocational assessments: Student-Parent Transition Questionnaire and the Checklist of Adaptive Living Skills (CALs) PRIOR to meeting to develop the initial Transition Service Plan (TSP)	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
**15/8 th	Hold IEP meeting to develop initial TSP to be reviewed and updated annually	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Write statement indicating preferences, strengths, and interests based on transition assessments	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Develop Measurable Post-Secondary goals based on age appropriate transition assessments and present levels of performance. Goals must be stated for the areas of Education/Training, Employment and Independent Living.	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Determine course of study	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Discuss and determine diploma type	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
15/8 th	Consider graduation date	Student/Parent/Guardian School	

Student Age/Grade	Action	Person Responsible	Completion Date
15/8 th	Develop measurable transition goals and objectives in all areas	Student/Parent/Guardian School	

16+	Identify vocational interests/abilities based on age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and independent living	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
16+	Identify vocational support needed	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
16+	Continue to provide instruction to address vocational interests/abilities/education and independent living based on continual transition assessments	Parent/Guardian/School	
16	Consider guardianship	Parent /Guardian	
16	Inform student and parent that the student 's educational rights will transfer to him/her at age 18	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
16	Obtain official Georgia Identification Card (Georgia Department of Driver Services)	Student/Parent/Guardian	
16+	Complete Student Interest Inventory yearly	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
17	Begin vocational instruction in a variety of community sites	School	

Student Age/Grade	Action	Person Responsible	Completion Date
--------------------------	---------------	---------------------------	------------------------

17+	Update vocational training file with references, descriptions of acquired skills, vocational training history, weekend employment, and related transition assessment information	School	
18	Establish proposed graduation date as part of the IEP	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
18	Transfer of educational rights to student	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
18	Register for Selective Service (Males only)	Student/Parent/Guardian	
18	Apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) through Social Security Administration at age 18, if not already established	Student/Parent/Guardian	
18+	Obtain updated IQ and Adaptive Behavior measures completed for Region 3 and Vocational Rehabilitation	Student/Parent/Guardian School	
18+ (one-year prior to graduation)	<p>Establish linkages to public and private adult service agencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obtain signed releases for information sharing with other agencies - Intake for Region 3 DBHDD planning list for Medicaid Waiver - Investigate agencies for Community Access Services, Supported Employment Services, and Community Residential Alternative Services - Complete application with Georgia Department of Labor Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Counselor based on need 	School refers Student/Parent/Guardian Region 3 Representative VR Counselor	
18-21	Provide copy of vocational file and work history to parent during graduation year	Student/Parent/Guardian School	

Student Age/Grade	Action	Person Responsible	Completion Date
18-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seek job placement - Job coaching may be provided by school staff in cooperation with adult service agencies (Supported Employment Staff) - Parent support/assistance with job placement as Needed 	Student/Parent/Guardian Adult Services Agencies/School	
18 – 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted adult service agency will develop the appropriate individual written plan for future services - Final review and summarization of TSP to include the Summary of Performance (SOP) 	Student/Parent/Guardian Adult Services Agencies/School	
Ongoing	Conduct additional vocational assessments or other assessments as needed	Student/Parent/Guardian Adult Services Agencies/ School	
Ongoing	Update Transition Plan (preferences, strengths, interests, goals and objectives) at least annually	Student/Parent /Guardian Adult Services Agencies/ School	

* Must be completed by student- parent before holding the IEP meeting to develop the initial TSP **
Must be done during 8th grade year prior to going to High School

TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN
EXAMPLES for MID-Independent Living, MOID, SID, PID

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Vocational Preparation/Anticipated Post School Placement

- In-school vocational training experiences (office/clerical, custodial, cafeteria, grounds).
- Community-Based Vocational Training in a variety of job clusters (food service, commercial cleaning, retail, building maintenance, grounds maintenance, office/clerical, childcare, and packaging).
- Vocational classes/Warren Technical School
- Adapted equipment for vocational training
- Other

DEVELOPMENT OF EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Awareness/Employment Related Knowledge and Skills

- Volunteer work
- Odd jobs/neighborhood jobs
- Weekend jobs
- Summer employment/Workforce Investment Act
- Apprenticeship
- Georgia Department of Labor – Vocational Rehabilitation Services (career counseling, application of services)
- Supported Employment
 - Individual
 - Job Share
 - Enclave
- Competitive Employment (no support)
- Competitive Employment (transition support)
- Community Access Services and Prevocational Services
- Georgia Identification Card
- Other

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Social Behaviors

- Interpersonal/social skills
- Appropriate friendships/relationships
- Social responsibility/dependability
- Sex education
- Parenting skills
- Behavior management
- Communication skills (appropriate conversation skills, augmentative/alternative communication system, interpreters)
- Support groups
- Assistive Technology (augmentative/alternative communication systems, FM auditory system)
- Funding sources for assistive technology
- Other

Recreation/Leisure Skills

- In-home leisure activities (TV, music, games, pets, etc.)
- Independent activities/Outings with friends (bowling, skating, movies, plays, etc.)
- Sport/social clubs (YMCA)
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Parks and Recreation programs
- Adult Special Olympics
- Community center programs
- Specialized/social activities
- Church groups
- Hobby clubs
- Library
- Concerts
- Adapted equipment (switches, bowling ramp, talking books, CCTV, etc.)
- Other

Transportation Needs for Community Access

- Mobility/orientation training within school
- Mobility/orientation training within community
- Mobility aids/training (seeing-eye dog)
- Pedestrian safety/street crossing/parking lots
- Public transportation (MARTA – Breeze Half-fare and MARTA Mobility)
- Taxi
- Family member as source
- Car pool
- Driver's license

- Independent (own car, bike, walk)
- Supported (with peer or co-worker)
- Specialized (wheelchair van)
- Specialized equipment (power wheelchair)
- Financial resources available for transportation
- Other

ADULT LIVING SKILLS

Post-School Community Living Arrangements

- With family/relative
- Adult foster care
- Community Residential Alternative Services (group home/host home)
- Intermediate care facility
- Residential treatment facility
- Community Living Support Services (Semi-independent/supervised/supported living with paid supervision)
- Independent living (own home/apartment)
- Section 8 housing (subsidized housing)
- Respite
- Other

Financial/Other Benefits

- Region 3 referral
- Medicaid Waiver
- Adequate income for self-support
- Family financial support
- Eligibility/application for public assistance (Food stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families- TANF)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Supplemental Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Minimum pay/maximum pay (benefits from SSI)
- Benefits Navigator
- Insurance
- Income is not important
- Other

Medical needs

- Medication (self-medicating or requires assistance)
- Specialized procedures (catheterization, shots, feeding tube, trach, etc.)
- Dental
- Audiology (hearing aids, FM auditory system, etc.)
- Vision
- Seizure disorder considerations
- Emergency medical procedures

- Medical/accident insurance (private insurance, school insurance)
- Medicaid/Medicare
- Medical services (doctor/dental checkups)
- Free clinics
- Nutritional counseling
- Personal assistive devices
- Need of daily medical care (intermittent to extensive)
- Access to services
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Other

Advocacy/Legal Trust

- Advocacy services (Region 3, Medicaid Waiver, Congressman/Representative, etc.)
- Social services
- Wills/Trusts/Letter of Intent
- Legal Aid
- Transfer of educational rights at age 18
- Guardianship
- Register to vote
- Register for Selective Service

DAILY LIVING SKILLS

Independent Living Skills

- Personal management
 - Hygiene skills (dressing, bathing, shaving, toileting, etc.)
 - Personal preparation (use clock/alarms to follow various daily schedules, carry wallet/purse with I.D. card, money, keys, etc.)
 - Telephone skills
 - Household safety skills (locked doors, usage of 911, etc.)
- Money management
 - Budgeting/banking
 - Purchasing skills
 - Financial planning
- Household Management
 - Domestic skills (housekeeping, laundry, cleaning, shopping, cooking, etc.) □
 - Adapted equipment (TDD for hearing impaired, reachers, dressing aids, switches, puffy paint to mark appliances, braille labels, etc.)
- Assistive Technology (augmentative/alternative communication systems, FM auditory system)
- Funding sources available for assistive technology and adapted equipment

DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SAMPLE OF THE TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN (TSP)

TRANSITION SERVICE PLAN

STUDENT PREFERENCES, STRENGTHS, and INTERESTS: John is an 18 year old male in the 11th grade. He has obtained a Georgia ID card and a MARTA Half-Fare Breeze card. He currently receives SSI and Medicaid. He has also registered with Selective Service and to vote. He has reached the age of majority and retains his educational and legal rights.

According to the Student-Parent Transition Questionnaire completed on 2/20/17, John states that he enjoys working in the school cafeteria wiping tables. In the community, John likes to go bowling and he prefers to use Marta for his transportation needs. After graduation, he plans to live at home with his family; however, he is interested in developing a long-term plan for living arrangements for the future. After graduation he wants to obtain a job in the community where he can work with others doing building maintenance.

According to the Checklist of Adaptive Living Skills (CALs) updated on 2/25/17, in the Personal Living Skills Environment, John socializes by interacting with his peers and other adults. In addition, John expresses his personal opinions during group discussions. Furthermore, he knows to take precaution and not get too close to a person who is suffering from contagious illness. He can wash and bandage his wound in order to protect from getting infected. Observations and data collection show that John requires verbal prompts to complete his grooming tasks daily and to properly take his medication. In Home Living Skills Environment, John can take care of his clothes and do laundry with verbal prompts. He can plan and prepare a simple meal for himself with verbal prompting. For example, John can follow the steps to make a pizza and can use the microwave independently to warm food or make popcorn. He can select activities of his interest to keep himself busy in leisure time. In the Environment of Community Living Skills John travels by Marta bus and train independently to go to the library and other places. He is able to tell time in hours and minutes. John enjoys going to church and participates in the youth choir. In money management, John is able to budget his money up to twenty dollars. In the Employment Skills Environment, John knows how to fill out a job application and look for a job by going to the store and asking to speak to the manager. John is able to follow two-step requests and is able to ask questions about the way an unfamiliar work task is to be done.

The In-School Vocational Training (ISVT) Transition Assessment Report completed on 2/20/17 indicates John needs direct supervision and verbal prompts to complete job tasks. Currently he participates in vocational training within the school setting sorting silverware, operating a shredder, stuffing envelopes and cleaning tables in the cafeteria.

The CBVT Transition Assessment Report completed on 2/25/17 indicates John is able to follow three step directions independently. During the 2017-18 school year, John is receiving vocational training through the Community Based Vocational Training Program at Country Inn and Suites where his tasks include vacuuming, cleaning the tables and chairs in the breakfast area, cleaning windows, collecting towels from the work-out and pool area, replacing towels in the work-out and pool areas, and dusting. He needs direct supervision and verbal prompts to successfully complete these tasks.

COURSE OF STUDY: John receives specially designed instruction to access the general education curriculum using state grade level standards at an entry level as well as instruction focused on career development, life skills and community referenced skills.

Diploma Type = Regular Diploma

Desired Measurable Post- Secondary/Outcome Completion Goals (These goals are to be achieved *after* graduation and there must be completion goals for Education/Training and Employment)

Education/Training –

After graduation, John will participate in supported employment training in the area of building maintenance.

Employment-

After graduation, John will utilize supported employment services to obtain a part/full-time position in building maintenance.

Independent Living (as appropriate) –

After graduation, John will continue to live at home with his parents.

Based on age appropriate transition assessments, in the spaces below, include measurable Transition IEP Goals and Transition Activities/Services appropriate for the child's post-secondary preferences, strengths and needs. Note: There must be at least a measurable Transition IEP Goal to help the child reach each of the desired Measurable Post-Secondary/Outcome Completion Goals

Education/Training (Goals based on academics, functional academics, life centered competencies or career/technical or agricultural training needs and job training.)			
Transition IEP Goal(s)	Transition Activities/Services	Person/Agency Involved	Date of Completion/Achieved Outcome
<p>1 John will receive training 3 times per week through the Community-Based Vocational Training program with direct supervision and cues @ 90% as reflected in the Work Related Behavior Checklist and task analysis data.</p> <p>2. John will manage money when making purchases while in the community by counting his change and matching the amount on his receipt as measured by completion of the activities.</p>	<p>1a. Provide vocational training in a variety of job sites within the community</p> <p>1b. Complete and return permission forms yearly</p> <p>1c. Provide proof of insurance yearly</p> <p>1d. Increase work behaviors and skills using the WRBC and task analysis data</p> <p>1e. Reinforce and encourage good work habits and skills</p> <p>2a. Provide instruction on counting change</p> <p>2b. Provide opportunities for John to make purchases in the community and to count his change</p> <p>2c. Practice counting various amounts of money up to \$20</p> <p>2d. Count change and match the amount to his receipt after making a purchase</p>	<p>1a. Transition Liaison, Special Education Teacher (SET)</p> <p>1b, 1c. John, Mr/Mrs. Doe, SET</p> <p>1d. John</p> <p>1e. Mr/Mrs Doe, SET</p> <p>2a, 2b. Mr/Mrs. Doe, SET</p> <p>2c, 2d. John</p>	
Development of Employment (Goals based on occupational awareness, employment related knowledge and skills and specific career pathway knowledge and skills.)			
Transition IEP Goal(s)	Transition Activities/Services	Person/Agency Involved	Date of Completion/Achieved Outcome

<p>1. John will complete personal information on simple forms and job applications using the computer independently @ 90% as measured by work samples.</p>	<p>1a. Provide instruction in completing personal information on simple forms/applications using a computer 1b. Complete name, address, age, DOB, phone #, education, references, emergency contact, etc. 1c. Practice completing personal information on simple forms/applications using a computer 1d. Reinforce and encourage appropriate skills in completing forms/application</p>	<p>1a, 1d. Mr/Mrs. Doe, SET 1b, 1c. John</p>	
---	---	--	--

Community Participation (Goals based on knowledge and demonstration of skills needed to participate in the community (e.g., tax forms, voter registration, building permits, social interactions, consumer activities, accessing and using various transportation modes.)

Transition IEP Goal(s)	Transition Activities/Services	Person/Agency Involved	Date of Completion/ Achieved Outcome
<p>1. John will purchase items in the community once a month using money management skills using verbal prompts @ 70%.</p>	<p>1a. Provide instruction in money management skills 1b. Provide opportunities to shop in a variety of stores 1c. Practice paying for items using the dollar more method 1d. Pay to next dollar shopping in the community 1e. Wait for change 1f. Count returned change 1g. Wait for receipt</p>	<p>1a, 1b. Mr/Mrs. Doe, SET 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 1g. John</p>	

Adult Living Skills & Post School Options(Goals based on skills for self-determination, interpersonal interactions, communication, health/fitness and the knowledge needed to successfully participate in Adult Lifestyles and other Post School Activities (e.g. skills needed to manage a household, maintain a budget and other responsibilities of an adult.)

Transition IEP Goal(s)	Transition Activities/Services	Person/Agency Involved	Date of Completion/ Achieved Outcome
<p>1. John will demonstrate self-advocacy skills by taking an active role in planning and participating in her next IEP meeting as measured by the completion of the activities.</p>	<p>1a. Develop a list of committee members to invite to her next IEP meeting 1b. Practice introductions of IEP committee members before February 2015 1c. Introduce IEP committee members at next IEP meeting</p>	<p>1a. John, Mr/ Mrs. Doe, SET 1b. John, SET 1c. John</p>	

Related Services (Goals based on Related Services that may be required now to help a child benefit from regular and special education and transition services (e.g., speech/language, occupational therapy, counseling, vocational rehabilitation training or the planning for related services that the individual may need access to as an adult.)

Transition IEP Goal(s)	Transition Activities/Services	Person/Agency Involved	Date of Completion/Achieved Outcome
<p>1. John will complete the steps to apply for a Medicaid Waiver from Region 3 DBHDD office for adult services as measured by the completion of the activities.</p>	<p>1a. Provide application packet to family 1b. Complete application packet and return Liaison 1c. Process and submit application to Region 3 office 1d. Schedule and complete intake screening with Region Representative</p>	<p>1a. Transition Liaison, SET 1b. John, Mr/Mrs. Doe, SET 1c. Transition Liaison, 1d. Region 3 Rep. John, Mr/Mrs. Doe</p>	

Daily Living Skills (Goals based on adaptive behaviors related to personal care and well-being to decrease dependence on others.)

Transition IEP Goal(s)	Transition Activities/Services	Person/Agency Involved	Date of Completion/Achieved Outcome
<p>1. John will prepare a simple meal with verbal assistance once a week as measured by the completion of the activities.</p>	<p>1a. Provide instruction in meal preparation 1b. Follow directions to prepare meal items 1c. Use a checklist for meal preparation 1d. Clean up area used 1e. Provide opportunities to prepare a meal 1f. Reinforce and encourage food preparation skills</p>	<p>1a, 1 e, 1 f. Mr/Mrs. Doe, SET 1b, 1 c. John, Mr/Mrs. Doe, SET 1d. John</p>	

TRANSFER OF RIGHTS (required by age 17): John was informed on 3/10/2014 of his rights, if any, will transfer at age 18.

RIGHTS WERE TRANSFERRED (required by age 18): John was informed on 3/6/2016 of his rights.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1. Should I keep a file on my child and what should it include?

Yes. It is very important to keep a file on your child. It will be needed for future planning. This file should include the following:

- A) School records, especially the most recent IEP, TSP, and most current test results
- B) Original Social Security card or number
- C) The parents' social security numbers
- D) Child's birth certificate – Original or Certified Copy
- E) Medical records or other clinical information
(If reports are not available, list the names and addresses of doctors, hospitals and clinics that have provided care.)
- F) The names and addresses of social workers and administrators of residential facilities that have provided assistance.
- G) Guardianship orders
- H) A copy of any will in which the child is mentioned

- I) Bank books, insurance policies, and other papers that show any resources
- J) Pay stubs, tax returns, and other papers that show any income of the child
- K) Papers showing admission to a residential facility at any time
- L) Parents' income tax W-2 statements to show coverage under Social Security
- M) Information about the parents' income and resources if the child is a minor (under age 18)
- N) Information about a spouse's income and resources if the child is married
- O) A marriage certificate of the parents if the child is a step-child
- P) Veteran's C number on discharge papers of the parent
- Q) The latest tax bill or assessment notice on any real estate the child owns other than his or her home
- R) Motor vehicle registration if the child owns a car
- S) Information about the child's eligibility for SSI and Medicaid or Social Security/Medicare
- T) Information about the child's eligibility for a Medicaid Waiver
- U) Copy of your "Letter of Intent"

2. What skills can I help my child learn to make them successful in a job situation?

Since each child is different, ask your child's teacher and/or vocational instructor for input on what would be most helpful. Prior to community training, regular household chores will increase responsibility. An allowance is the important first step in money management. Make sure your child is aware of appropriate dress and hygiene for job success. Help your child become as independent as possible in self-help skills (choosing clothes, hygiene, doing laundry, etc.)

3. What are the steps for transition from school to work?

Refer to the Transition Planning Time-Line in this manual.

4. How do I apply for SSI for my child and at what age?

When your child reaches age 18, call the Social Security Administration (SSA) at 1-800-772-1213 and set up an appointment to apply for benefits.

Ask them how much time you will need for your appointment. At the same time ask them to send you any written information about SSI benefits and Medicaid so that you can familiarize yourself with the system prior to your appointment. You can also obtain information at: www.socialsecurity.gov

•

You may be able to apply for SSI benefits before your child reaches age 18. Prior to age 18, SSA will look at your income. Depending upon your level of income, your child may qualify for SSI benefits.

5. Can my child have a savings account and still receive SSI benefits?

In order to receive SSI benefits, an individual must have less than \$2,000.00 in their name in checking, savings, investments, etc. An individual can be working and continue to be determined to be disabled as long as earnings are below what is called substantial gainful activity (\$1,070 a month in 2014). It is best to have no money in your child's name. A fund for burial up to \$1500 does not count against the resource limit.

6. How much money might my child receive from SSI before going to work?

In 2018, the maximum SSI payment is \$750 per month for an individual. Not everyone gets the maximum. Individuals who receive "in-kind" support will receive 1/3 less in SSI per month. In-kind support is free food, clothing or shelter, usually provided by the parent.

7. How much can an SSI recipient earn without losing benefits?

If your child works and makes less than \$85 each **month**, SSI will usually not change. Once earnings go over \$85 per month, SSI will deduct \$1.00 for every \$2.00 earned. As the money earned goes up, SSI will go down; **however, the amount of earnings plus the remaining SSI benefit will always be more than the original SSI check.** If there is no other income, money or support (this means your child is getting the maximum SSI award of \$721), an individual earning less than \$1,527 per month will still get some SSI cash benefit. If your child is getting **less** than \$721 the maximum they can earn before losing the cash benefit will be less.

There are work incentives that allow some income to be disregarded. For example, earnings used to pay for special transportation to and from work and the cost of special equipment that helps the individual at work will not be counted as income. The **Benefits Navigator Program** (404-350-7589 or 404-350-7598) can help you figure out the work incentives.

A special benefit called the **SSI Student Earned Income Exclusion** allows a person under age 22 who is still a student in school to exclude up to \$1,820 (in 2018) per month in earned income, with a yearly maximum of \$7,350 (for 2018). This means that these earnings will not be counted against them and reduce their check. This allows for summer jobs or small part-time paid work experiences during the school year.

8. What is Benefits Navigator?

Benefits Navigator is a free service funded by Social Security Administration. They provide information to adults and teenagers ages 14 – 65 with any type of disability who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or both and who are interested in pursuing work goals.

9. What type of information do they provide?

Benefits Navigator provides information on how social security benefits and/or state benefits change when someone begins working, work incentives such as the PASS, the Trial Work Period and Impairment Related Work Expenses, and other programs and services that can help create successful employment.

10. How do I contact them?

Benefits Navigator can be reached by calling their number: 404-350-7589 or 404-350-7598.

11. I have received a “Ticket to Work” in the mail from Social Security. What is this?

The Ticket to Work and Self Sufficiency Program (called “the Ticket”) is a new part of the Social Security program designed to educate people with disabilities about the possibilities of getting help to return to work despite their disabilities and to encourage them to do so. However, the services to help people return to work that the “Ticket” program refers to have been available for 90 years under the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Other agencies, called Employment Networks, have been recruited to offer some of the same services, so that individuals can have a choice in determining from whom they would like to receive their vocational services. You can call Maximus, the Ticket Program Manager, at 1-866-968-7842 (TTY 1866-833-2967), for more information about Employment Networks in Georgia. This information is also included in the paperwork that is sent with the Ticket. You can also visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work.

The primary benefit to your child for participating in the Ticket to Work Program is that once the Ticket is “assigned” to an employment network:

1. Your child’s Social Security case will not be medically reviewed for at least five years in order to determine if his/her disability has improved so much that he/she is no longer considered “disabled” under the Social Security rules. The individual has to meet “timely progress” requirements to qualify for this protection.
2. If you are dissatisfied with services from your Employment Network, you can contact Maximus at 1-866-968-7842 (TTY 1-866-833-2967) and be referred for assistance and advocacy in addressing your concerns to choose a new employment network.

12. Will my child lose Medicaid benefits by going to work?

In general, Medicaid coverage will continue even after your SSI payment stops because of earnings, up to a certain level. In 2017, a person could earn up to \$30,797 and still qualify to get Medicaid. Medicaid may continue for SSI recipients who are blind or disabled and earn over the SSI limits, if they cannot afford similar medical care and depend on Medicaid in order to work.

13. Who should be contacted if my child is having problems on the job or loses the job?

Contact your child's Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor or Employment Network contact, or the Supported Employment Program contact person. It is best to talk to these people **before** your child loses the job. In many cases, additional job coaching can be used to correct problems on the job in order for your child to keep the present job.

14. Does my son need to register with the Selective Service System?

Yes, virtually **all** male U.S. citizens and male immigrants residing in the U.S. and its territories must register within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Registration information cards are available from any post office or you can register online at www.sss.gov.

RIGHTS, GUARDIANSHIP, AND ADVOCACY

1. I heard that when my child turns 18, they are considered their own legal guardian. Is that true?

Yes, the age of majority in Georgia is 18 years old. Because of this, at 18, the child will have all rights transferred to themselves from their parents/guardians. At the age of 17 the student and their parents should be informed of this transfer and consent and a statement of the knowledge of this transfer will be included in the student's IEP. The rights will automatically be transferred on the student's 18th birthday. According to the state, individuals age 18 and over are legally presumed to be competent to make his/her own medical, financial, and educational decisions. Parents can file for guardianship at the county courthouse (www.gaprobate.org/guardianship.php).

2. What are Guardianship and the Alternatives in Georgia?

A guardianship is a legal relationship wherein a court appoints a person (a guardian) to make certain decisions for another person (a ward) proven to need such assistance. The decision-making power removed from a person should be as limited as possible.

There are a variety of possible legally-approved guardianships if the student is considered to be unable to make their own decisions. A guardianship can be created on an emergency basis, and it can be temporary (limited in duration) or permanent. Guardianships can be limited in scope, removing as few rights as necessary.

Guardianships can be of the person or they can be of the property. For a guardian of the person, the individual needs a guardian to decide personal issues such as where to live, consent for medical treatment, etc. A guardian of the estate, called a conservator, usually has power just over the person's money or property, not the individual's personal matters. This type of guardianship is to protect the person's property and use it for their care, support, education and other areas of general welfare. The most restrictive guardianship is full guardianship. This includes guardianship over the person's entire personal and property decision making without any limits on the powers of the guardian.

Limited guardianship is another type where a person is encouraged to keep as much control as possible over his or her own life. In this case, the guardian has authority only in specifically defined matters.

Temporary guardianship is where a protective order is issued. Under the protective order, the court can give another person, a public guardian, or corporate guardian, the legal authority to handle a specific situation. Once the situation is resolved, the guardianship ends.

It is essential that any guardianship action be specific as to what is needed. **The court should remove as few rights as possible. All of the rights under each type of guardianship are removed if the court says nothing about limits.**

There are several other ways besides a guardianship to act on behalf of someone whose decision-making ability is seriously interrupted and whose well-being is in jeopardy. Durable power of attorney for property, durable power of attorney for healthcare, durable power of attorney for advocacy, living will/healthcare directive, a trust, joint property ownership, joint bank account, state programs, and representative payee ship are alternatives. Nevertheless, there are times that the best or only type of substituted decision-making for a person is by means of a guardianship.

Families should begin this process around the student's 17th birthday, especially if full guardianship is desired. For more information, please refer to Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc. in the Legal Services section of this transition manual and to the "**A Family Handbook on Future Planning**" provided at the initial transition meeting. ****You may also go to www.gcdd.org website and look for the document "Thinking about**

Guardianship?” More information along with the form to petition for guardianship can be found at: www.gaprobate.org/guardianship.php

4. What is a Georgia Identification card? Why do I need one? How do I obtain one for my child?

A Georgia identification card contains the same personal information, photo, signature and special protection against alteration and fraud as a driver’s license. Any person that is old enough to sign their name, or make a mark indicating their legal signature can apply to the Department of Driver Services for an identification card. The cost is \$32.00 for 8 years.

Applicants must furnish proof of their residence in Georgia and must provide a valid Georgia residence address. The following items are acceptable: utility bill with valid Georgia residence address issued within the last 60 days, bank statement with valid Georgia residence address issued within the last 60 days, current valid rental contracts and/or receipts for rent payment with valid Georgia residence address made within the last 60 days, employer verification and non-expired Georgia license, permit, or identification card issued to parent, guardian, or spouse.

First time applicants for an identification card must show some acceptable form of personal identification that includes full name, month, day and year of birth. The following items are acceptable but **must be Original or a Certified Copy**: original state issued birth certificate (hospital birth certificates are not acceptable), certified copy of birth certificate (issued from Vital Statistics with affixed seal), certificate of birth registration, certified copy of court records (adoption, name changes or sex changes), certified naturalization records, immigration ID card or valid passport.

Anyone applying for a GA ID card must provide a social security number at the time of issuance. It is not necessary to have your original social security card. However, penalties will occur if an incorrect social security number is provided.

U.S. citizens must furnish proof of citizenship. Non-U.S. citizens must present proper INS documentation. Documents presented must be either

in English or translated into English by a translator approved by the Department of Drivers Services.

Locations of six Driver's License Services Offices are as follows: 8040 Rockbridge Road in Lithonia; 2206 Eastview Parkway in Conyers; 8610 Roswell Road, Suite 710 in Sandy Springs; 2211 Beaver Ruin Road in Norcross; 2801 Candler Road in Decatur; and 310 Hurricane Shoals in Lawrenceville. The driver's license facilities are open Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 AM – 6:30 PM and Saturday from 7:30 AM - 12 Noon.

Locations nearest you can be obtained from the DDS website, www.dds.ga.gov. Under the first listing (Department of Driver Services) click location and enter your zip code.

5. What is advocacy?

Advocacy is the process of actively speaking out, writing in favor of, supporting, and/or acting on behalf of oneself, another person, or a cause. Advocacy is any action to assure the best possible services for an intervention in the service system on behalf of an individual or group.

6. How do I advocate for my child?

You advocate by informing your legislator of the needs of your child with a developmental disability. Urge your legislator to fund home and community-based services, which help people with disabilities to get out of institutions and stay out of institutions. To locate your legislator, go to www.vote-smart.org or call your local voter registration office. For more information regarding advocating for your child's needs, contact Georgia's Unlock the Waiting Lists! Campaign.

7. How do I contact them?

Call 1-888-275-4233 or visit their web site at:
www.unlockthewaitinglists.com

8. What is Georgia's Unlock the Waiting Lists! Campaign?

The campaign is a targeted effort by a coalition of Georgia disability organizations to educate the public and change public policy. The mission is to reduce and/or eliminate waiting lists for thousands of people with disabilities, the frail elderly, and their families who need home and community-based services.

9. What are the waiting lists?

Georgians with significant disabilities need essential services to remain with their families and in their communities. These services have not been adequately funded; therefore, individuals with disabilities have been placed on waiting lists with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) to obtain services when funding becomes available.

SSI

AND

MEDICAID

INFORMATION

SSI AND MEDICAID

SSI is a needs based program. You must meet both the disability criteria and financial eligibility criteria to receive SSI. Financial criteria mean you cannot have more than \$2000 in cash, checking, savings, etc. You can have \$1500 in a burial fund and a Life Insurance policy with a cash value of not more than \$1500. You may own a house and a vehicle. If you are under age 18, parents' income is considered. If you are under age 18 and fail to meet the financial eligibility but you do meet the disability criteria, you will not receive SSI but you may be able to receive Medicaid. (Refer to the Deeming Waiver information section). If you are age 18 or over, parents' income is not considered.

Application for SSI is made through the Social Security Administration. The Social Security office serving most of DeKalb County is located at 4365 Shackelford Road, Norcross, GA 30093. This is off of the Beaver Ruin or Indian Trail Exits of I-85 in Gwinnett County.

The Social Security office serving DeKalb County Zip Codes of 30032, 30034, 30049, 30316, 30317, and Ellenwood is located at 2853 Candler Road Suite 8 (South DeKalb Mini Mall) Decatur, Georgia 30034.

The Social Security Website is: **www.socialsecurity.gov**

The Social Security Administration wants to assist callers through the following toll free numbers:

1-800-772-1213 or TTY 1-800-325-0778

Generally the best days/times to call are: Wednesday - Friday before 9 a.m. and after 4 p.m. but this varies somewhat. Listen to the recorded message and request to apply for SSI and Medicaid. An agent will come on the line. You will be asked to state the following:

Your name

Your address
Your telephone number
Child's name
Child's date of birth
Child's social security number
Parents' social security number
Parents' estimated income
Child's disability and date it began

If your child is over 18 years old, they will ask you:

How much money your child has in the bank (must have less than \$2,000 in his/her name)

If your child is under age 18, they will ask you:

How much money you have in the bank and information about your home such as mortgage, rent, cost of food and utilities.

What will happen?

You will be given either a telephone appointment or an appointment at the closest Social Security Office. For DeKalb County residents, it will be 4365 Shackelford Road, Norcross, GA 30093 or 1816 Candler Rd. (South DeKalb Mini-Mall) Decatur, Georgia 30037. When making an appointment, ask how much time you should allow for this meeting and possible additional waiting time.

It is best to schedule an appointment at your local Social Security Office. Take your child with you for the appointment. Take all the papers they told you to bring. Also, bring with you the name of your child's Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, if he/she has one and give it to them.

It will take approximately 120 days before your child receives the first SSI check and Medicaid card. Sometimes a child might get temporary SSI benefits for up to six months until the final decision is made.

If, for some reason, your child is denied benefits, the denial letter will include instructions for filing an appeal. Follow them and file the appeal!

After contacting Social Security, you may want to contact the **DeKalb Department of Family and Children Services** at **404-370-5000** to see if any additional benefits may be available until SSI begins.

The **Georgia Health Partnership** will answer specific as well as general questions that you or the Medicaid recipient may have. Their number is **1- 866-211-0950**.

What is SSDI?

SSDI is Social Security Disability Insurance.

The SSDI program pays benefits to adults who have a disability that began before they became 22 years old. This SSDI benefit is a “child’s” benefit because it is paid on a parent’s Social Security earnings record.

For a disabled adult to become entitled to this “child” benefit, one of his or her parents:

- Must be receiving Social Security retirement or disability benefits; or
- Must have died and have worked long enough under Social Security

These benefits also are payable to an adult who received dependents benefits on a parent’s Social Security earnings record prior to age 18, if he or she is disabled at age 18. SSDI disabled adult “child” benefits continue as long as the individual remains disabled. Your child does not need to have worked to get these benefits.

THE DEEMING WAIVER

In some special situations, children under the age of 18 who do not qualify for SSI may qualify for a deeming waiver. What is a “Deeming Waiver”?

The Deeming Waiver is a way for parents to get Medicaid for their child with a disability when their income is too high to qualify for SSI. This federal waiver takes the family income out of the picture and looks at the income/assets of the child.

Who should apply for the Deeming Waiver?

Families whose income is too high to receive SSI can apply. Even if a child has private insurance coverage, parents can apply for this waiver. Most private insurance policies have service limitations, out of pocket expenses, and lifetime caps. In cases where private insurance exists, the Deeming Waiver will be beneficial as secondary insurance to cover out of pocket expenses and will be helpful to have before a lifetime cap is met. As secondary coverage, Medicaid will pay for 20% of covered expenses that primary insurance does not pay. Also, many insurance companies do not pay for the physical, occupational, and speech therapies that may be covered by Medicaid.

What are the Deeming Waiver Eligibility Criteria?

In order to apply for the Deeming Waiver the child must meet the following guidelines:

- Child must be under 18 years of age.
- Child must meet federal criteria for disability.
- Child must be **ineligible** for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) due to income and/or assets of the parents.
- Child requires a level of care provided in a hospital, skilled-nursing facility or intermediate-care facility (including an intermediate-care facility for the mentally retarded).
- Child can appropriately be cared for at home

- The estimated cost of caring for the child outside of the institution will not exceed the estimated cost of treating the child within the institution.

How can I apply for a Deeming Waiver?

1. Applications for the TEFRA/Katie Beckett Program should be filed with the Centralized Katie Beckett Medicaid Team at the following address:

Right From the Start Medicaid Project Centralized TEFRA/Katie Beckett Medicaid Team

5815 Live Oak Parkway
Suite D-2
Norcross, GA 30093-1700
678-248-7449 (phone)
678-248-7459 (fax)

You may also apply online at www.compass.ga.gov. You will need to apply under health coverage for aging, blind, and disabled. Applications must be submitted in the child's name. Applications may be picked up at the office as well.

The first step in the process is to determine ineligibility for SSI. Most of the time, the county DFCS office can make this determination, but occasionally this is not possible. If they cannot, they will refer you to the Social Security office to apply for SSI for your child. The Social Security office may be able to send you an informal denial based on the income information that you give them, which will keep you from having to complete the entire application. **Be sure to tell them that you need a statement of denial in writing to submit with the Deeming Waiver application.**

2. You will need to gather information and fill out forms in order to document your child's disability. The DFCS worker will tell you about this information, give you the appropriate forms, and tell you where you can get assistance in completing the documents.

These documents include:

- Social History: a detailed family history

- Psychological Evaluation: for children with intellectual disabilities or developmental delay diagnosis. This must be completed by a Psychologist (PhD)
 - Plan of Care: service plan that states the child's strengths, needs and recommendations
 - DMA- 6 Form: physician's recommendation for nursing home placement. Although the parent can fill out the form, the doctor must sign it. **This form is very important.** Be sure to ask the DFCS worker to mark the areas that require the signature of the doctor. The form should be taken to the doctor that knows your child best. **Do not have the doctor date the form when it is signed because it is only good for 30 days from the time it is dated.** It should be dated at the time all of the paperwork is completed and the application is ready to be submitted.
3. When all paperwork is complete, the DFCS worker will submit the completed packet to the Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF) for approval.
- * Once a child is approved for the Deeming Waiver, a review of the child's continued eligibility must be completed annually.

MEDICAID WAIVERS (NOW AND COMP WAIVERS)

Does my child need a Medicaid Waiver?

Yes. This is the funding source for your child to receive home and community-based services.

I have heard a lot about Medicaid Waivers. What is a Medicaid Waiver?

A Medicaid Waiver is money that may be used to pay for services for a person who has an intellectual and/or developmental disability. These services can take place in the person's home or in the community. Medicaid Waiver Services can support both children and adults.

Medicaid usually pays for doctor's appointments, hospital expenses, medicine, therapy, and some supplies and equipment. The waiver allows for Medicaid dollars to be used to pay for additional services. The Medicaid Waiver dollars are part state and part federal money.

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) administers a Medicaid Home and Community Based (HCBS) waiver program called NOW and COMP Waivers.

What is the NOW Waiver (New Options Waiver)?

The NOW Waiver (New Options Waiver) provides supports to people with developmental disabilities who live in their own home or with family members and require services costing less than \$25,000 a year. It provides supports to people who need less intensive services who do not need 24 hour care.

What is the COMP Waiver (Comprehensive Supports Waiver)?

The COMP Waiver (Comprehensive Supports Waiver) provides supports to people who need a full range of intensive in-home or out-of-home services with costs of over \$25,000 a year. The Waiver is also used for people who are transitioning out of institutions into the community.

What services are provided by the waivers?

Some of the services under the NOW and COMP waivers include: Community Access, Community Living Support, Community Residential Alternative, Natural Support Training, Individual Goods and Services, Environmental Accessibility Adaptations, Respite, Specialized Medical Supplies and Equipment, and Supported Employment. Refer to the

publication “**Constructing a Good Life Through Understanding the NOW and COMP Waivers**” for more details. This publication is available on the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities website: www.gcdd.org. A copy may also be obtained from your Transition Liaison.

Are there services that are waiver specific?

Yes. The NOW and COMP Waivers each include specific services that are *only* available in that waiver. Natural Support Training and Individual Goods and Services are available *only* in the NOW Waiver. Community Residential Alternative Services are available *only* in the COMP Waiver.

Who is eligible for these Waivers?

The target group for the waiver program is individuals who have intellectual disabilities and/or developmental disabilities. Individuals with developmental disabilities such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or neurological impairments must have severe impairments to be eligible for the waiver. The waiver can serve both children and adults.

Individuals must be Medicaid eligible to obtain a Medicaid Waiver. If you receive SSI, you automatically have Medicaid. If you receive Medicare and not Medicaid, it is possible to make you Medicaid eligible through a “Medical Assistance Only (MAO)” process. Talk to the Region Three Intake and Evaluation Team to begin this process.

How do I apply for a Medicaid Waiver for my child?

Application for the NOW and COMP waivers is made through the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) regional offices. Call the Region Three DBHDD Office at 770-414-3052 to obtain an application or ask your child’s Transition Liaison to assist you with the application.

What will happen after I apply?

1. The Intake and Evaluation Team (I&E) will complete a screening to see if you are eligible for services. If you are eligible, they will place your name on either a long-term or a short-term planning list.
2. If you are placed on the short-term list, you will be assigned a Planning List Administrator (PLA). The PLA will check with you and your family

periodically to see if there are any changes in your situation and will also help you look for other supports.

3. If you are placed on the long-term list, you will receive a letter stating that placement. You will be contacted once a year to see if you wish to remain on the planning list. **Call the Region Three office six months prior to graduating or aging out and request to have your name moved to the short-term planning list.**

4. When funding becomes available, the regional office staff will send a letter stating that you have been approved for a Medicaid Waiver. (You must be on the short-term list to be considered for a waiver.) The PLA will assist you in completing all of the steps in the Waiver process. This process may vary some from region to region.

5. The PLA will complete the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) which will be used in determining the amount of funding that you will receive. **Be sure that the SIS thoroughly describes your needs.** The PLA and the provider you have chosen will assist you and your family in completing the Individual Service Plan (ISP) based on needs identified in the intake assessments.

6. In Region Three, the PLA will give you and your family information about approved providers. You and your family will choose a provider with help from the PLA. Some services may be self-directed. After a provider is chosen, the I&E Team will come to your home to complete other required assessments and Medicaid documents. **Be sure that the assessments thoroughly describe your needs.**

7. After all steps in the process are completed and services begin, you will be assigned a Support Coordinator and will no longer work with the PLA.

What is the difference between the short-term planning list and the longterm planning list?

The short-term planning list is designed for people needing waiver services immediately or in the near future (within approximately six months). The long-term planning list is designed for people needing waiver services at some point in the future.

Will I keep my Waiver if I move?

You can move around Georgia and your Medicaid Waiver will go with you. If you move out of state, it does not transfer with you. Once you receive a Medicaid Waiver, it remains yours for as long as you continue to meet the eligibility requirements and still need services.

What is the organizational structure of the Waiver programs?

The NOW and COMP waivers are administered by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). There are six regional offices responsible for intake and evaluation, preauthorization of services, utilization management, crisis resolution, and quality management. Individuals access the NOW or COMP waivers through these regional offices.

DeKalb County is in Region Three. The Region Three office is located at 100 Crescent Centre Parkway, Suite 900, Tucker, Georgia 30084. The phone number is (770) 414-3052.

How do I obtain additional information about the Waiver programs?

Questions and answers and information about the NOW and COMP waivers are posted on the following website: www.dbhdd.georgia.gov

ADVOCACY SERVICES

Autism Society of America

Greater Georgia Chapter

P.O. Box 3707

Suwanee, GA 30024

770-904-4474

(FAX) 770-904-4476

www.asaga.com

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with autism and autism spectrum disorders, their families and professionals who work with them

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Parent support groups and meetings; conferences and workshops; public awareness/education; advocacy; newsletters; literature available in Spanish; resource guide on line in Spanish; and phone help-line for information and referral

FEE: Membership dues, general information is free

Bobby Dodd Institute

(Formerly) AADD—All About Developmental Disabilities 404-881-9777

125 Clairmont Ave, Suite 300

Decatur, GA 30030

(FAX) 404-881-0094

www.aadd.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: 3 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Information and referral services, family support services, disbursement of information through a newsletter, public policy and advocacy, community engagement, crisis intervention training for first responders, directory of services, supported employment, and provides service coordination through the Medicaid Waiver program

FEE: Varies—fee based, state funding, partial scholarships available

Childkind

3107 Clairmont Road NE

Atlanta, GA 30329

404-248-1980

www.childkind.org

POPULATION SERVED: Children with complex medical and/or developmental disabilities

AGES: 0-21

SERVICES OFFERED: Family Placement for children in state custody or those at risk of institutionalization, Transition Support Services, and Family Support Services. Connects parents to community and neighborhood resources. Provides Foster Homes and Host Homes for ages 0-21. Offers

community trainings (Disability Awareness 101) on resources, system navigation, and access to Medicaid Waivers FEE: Medicaid Waiver and private pay

Citizen Advocacy of Atlanta & DeKalb 404-523-8849
376 Oakdale Road NE www.citizenadvocacyatlantadekalb.org
Atlanta, GA 30307

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with Developmental Disabilities who are at risk of social exclusion, abuse or neglect

AGES: any age

SERVICES OFFERED: Provide protection and advocacy by initiating and supporting one-to-one citizen advocacy relationships FEE: None

DisAbility Link 404-687-8890
1901 Montreal Road, Suite 102 470-395-2254
Tucker, GA 30084 www.disabilitylink.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all types of disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Serves 13 counties in Georgia, and is a center for independent living issues. Their core services are advocacy, teaching of independent living skills, peer support groups and mentoring, and information and referral.

FEE: None

Disability Resource Group 770-451-2340
4164 Admiral Drive www.cpfamilynetwork.org
Chamblee, GA 30341

POPULATION SERVED: Anyone with a disability in Georgia, their family, friends, and advocates. Also help public and private sector organizations understand and include people with disabilities

AGES: Rights and resources for people with disabilities of all ages, especially people over 21. Children K-12 when the issue is not IDEA-related

SERVICES OFFERED: Answer questions about disability rights, help people look at options, consultation and workshops about disability issues FEE: Free workshops--Consultation for individuals with disabilities is free

Syndrome Association of Atlanta 404-320-3233
4355 J Cobb Pkwy #213 www.dsaatl.org
Atlanta, GA 30339

POPULATION SERVED: Parents and families of children with Down syndrome
AGES: All ages
SERVICES OFFERED: The Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta is a non-profit organization dedicated to support, early intervention, education, awareness and advocacy to families of children with Down syndrome. **FEE:** \$25 per year per household or lifetime payment of \$250 per household. Parents of a newborn receive the first year's membership free. Full or partial scholarships are available upon request for anyone with a financial hardship.

Families of Children Under Stress (FOCUS)

3825 Presidential Parkway, Suite 103

Atlanta, GA 30340

POPULATION SERVED: All developmental disabilities

AGES: Birth - 29

SERVICES OFFERED: Offers emotional, informational and physical support to families of children with disabilities or ongoing medical needs through a variety of programs. **FEE:** Varies

770-234-9111

(FAX) 770-234-9131

www.focus-ga.org

Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc.

One West Court Square, Suite 625

Decatur, GA 30030

POPULATION SERVED: All disabilities

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Protects and advocates for persons who have a disability who live in the state of Georgia. **FEE:** None

404-885-1234

1-800-537-2329

www.thegao.org

(FAX) 404-378-0031

Georgia Council

For the Hearing Impaired, Inc.

4151 Memorial Drive, Suite 103B

Decatur, GA 30032

TTY/Voice 404-292-5312

TTY/Voice 1-800-541-0710

(FAX) 404-299-3642

www.gachi.org

POPULATION SERVED: All individuals who are hearing impaired, hard of hearing, and deaf persons

AGES: 18 and over

SERVICES OFFERED: Advocacy, information and referral. Community education. GED/ABE preparatory classes

FEE: Membership open to the public. \$20.00 membership fee for supporter club

Georgia Learning Resources System

678-676-2400

1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

www.metroeastglrs.org

POPULATION SERVED: Parents and/or professionals who work with individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: Adults

SERVICES OFFERED: Maintains a library of videos, books, publications, instructional kits and adapted toys for check-out and loan. Provides workshops, in-services and serves as an informational and referral service.

Publishes a summer recreation guide annually.

FEE: Small charge for materials made in production center

Georgia Parent Support Network

404-758-4500

1381 Metropolitan Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30310

1-800-832-8645

www.gpsn.org POPULATION

SERVED: Individuals who have an intellectual disability or mental illness; emotionally disturbed children, adolescents and their families, individuals with substance abuse

AGES: Birth to 18 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Advocacy, advice, respite services, support and information. A quarterly newsletter is free to parents upon request. A special treatment program for sex offenders using supports in the community.

Therapeutic foster care

FEE: None

**Georgia Council on Developmental
Disabilities**

404-657-2126

2 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 26-246

1-888-275-4233

(FAX) 404-657-2132

Atlanta, GA 30303

www.gcdd.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides information on best practices in its quarterly *Making A Difference* magazine. To assist families with accessing supports during and after school, the Council has established local groups of parent leadership called Navigator Teams. Parent groups may contact the Council's Director of Individual and Family Support for information on Navigator Teams or to request training on waiver services. The Council contributes to the Special Education Funding Formula Study and facilitates the Statewide Transition Steering Committee. The Council's policy agenda includes exploring alternative pathways to a general diploma. Also provides legislative updates through newsletters, information on Disability Day at the Capitol and technical assistance as requested

FEE: None

Parents Educating Parents & Professionals (PEPP, Inc.) 770-577-7771

8355 Cherokee Blvd.

(FAX) 770-577-7774

Douglasville, GA 30134

www.peppinc.org

POPULATION SERVED: All Georgia children who have a developmental disability

AGES: Birth to 26 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Assists parents and professionals in matters with respect to government regulations, provisions, and allotments under IDEA. Also provides training to parents in the form of meetings, workshops, support groups and individual assistance

FEE: Free for Douglas, Hall, and Paulding Counties. Other counties served under a sliding scale fee

3070 Presidential Parkway, Suite 130
Atlanta, GA 30340

1-800-229-2038
FAX 770-458-4091
www.p2pga.org

POPULATION SERVED: Families of children with disabilities

AGES: Parents of children ages 0 to 26 & families with children transitioning out of an institution.

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides support and information to parents of children with disabilities. One of the most meaningful sources of support is networking with other parents who have experienced parenting a child with a disability.

FEE: None, services are free

**Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries
Social Security (PABSS)**

One West Court Square, Suite 625
Decatur, GA 30030

404-885-1234 of
1-800-537-2329
www.thegao.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or both

AGES: 14 - 65

SERVICES OFFERED: Assists with reviewing and advocating for the individual with a disability regarding the work plan developed with Vocational Rehabilitation or any employment network. Assists with litigation, discrimination issues, wage & hour issues, accessibility issues and accommodation issues

FEE: None. It is a free service funded by the Social Security Administration.

Region Three DBHDD Office

3073 Panthersville Road, Building 10
Decatur, GA 30034

404-244-5050 & 404-244-5056

(FAX) 404-244-5179

dbhdd.georgia.gov

POPULATION SERVED: Clayton, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton and Rockdale residents with mental health, developmental disabilities and addictive diseases issues

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: DBHDD provides treatment and support services to people with mental illnesses and addictive diseases, and support to people with intellectual disabilities and related developmental disabilities. DBHDD serves people of all ages with the most severe and likely to be long-term conditions, including consumers with forensic issues. Services are provided across the state through contracts with 25 community service boards, boards of health and various private providers, and through state-operated regional hospitals. Does not provide direct services

FEE: None

The Arc of Georgia

P O Box 91051
Atlanta, GA 30064

470-222-6088

ww.ga.thearc.org

e-mail:sramirez@thearc.org

(FAX) 1-844-228-0521

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Advocacy and education for all disabilities; referrals to other resources

FEE: None for information. Membership fee for those who want to join

Unlock the Waiting List s!

2 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 26-246
Atlanta, GA 30303

1-888-275-4233

(FAX) 404-657-2132

www.unlockthewaitinglists.com

POPULATION SERVED: Developmental disabilities and aging

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: A campaign targeted by a coalition of Georgia Disability and Aging organizations to educate the public and change public

policy. Their mission is to reduce and/or eliminate waiting lists for thousands of people with disabilities, the frail elderly and their families who need home and community-based services.

FEE: None

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL ALTERNATIVE SERVICES

Aldersgate Homes, Inc.

4105 Briarcliff Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30345

404-327-9491

(FAX) 404-327-9097

www.aldersgatehomes.com

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Aldersgate Homes, Inc. oversees two apartments, four group homes, and one condo serving 17 individuals. Residential services, advocacy and counseling are offered. Aldersgate contracts with Community Service Boards (CSBs) and private service providers for the individual services those residents need. **Note:** Since staff does not live in the apartments of the Aldersgate residences, consumers must be fairly high functioning and competent in meeting their own daily needs. The consumers are monitored regarding meeting their daily needs. Group homes are staffed 24 hours a day by the CSBs. Aldersgate Homes also has a recreational ministry for persons with developmental disabilities. Collinswood is a 27 acre recreational retreat facility providing day camping and/or an overnight stay on Lake Oconee in Morgan County. FEE: Contact agency regarding any fees

Annandale Village

3500 Annandale Lane
Suwanee, GA 30024

770-945-8381

(FAX) 770-945-8693

www.annandale.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities or traumatic brain injuries

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Residential community on 55 acres. Day programs also offered. Individuals live in apartments. All levels of supervision offered. Comprehensive programs include daily living skills, Respite Care, vocational and recreational opportunities.

FEE: Private/non-profit, Depends on services needed

Butler-Bowden Personal Care Home

770-498-6381

694 Leighton Way

Stone Mountain, GA 30088

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services,
Community Access Services, and Prevocational Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

Chris 180

404-486-9034

1017 Fayetteville Road

(FAX) 404-564-4719

Atlanta, GA 30316

www.chriskids.org

POPULATION SERVED: Metro Atlanta; abused/neglected children and adolescents

AGES: Group homes- ages 6-17 years; independent living- ages 17-21 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Residential therapeutic group homes and residential independent living program, individual and family counseling

FEE: Varies; some insurance companies will cover the cost

Circles of Support, Inc.

770-987-7355

P. O. Box 373499

Decatur, GA 30037

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities or physical disabilities

AGES: 22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Support Services for individuals in their home or assisted living arrangement in their foster home

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

Creative Community Services

4487 Park Drive, Suite A

Norcross, GA 30093

POPULATION SERVED: Any child or adult with an intellectual disability or developmental disability that requires special support and assistance

AGES: Children 3 years of age through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Foster Care Placement Agency. Locating suitable housing, providing Community Living Support Services, providing supervision and assistance as needed for transportation, one on one life skills training, ongoing support for participants and their families. Job coaching and social programs can be provided on an hourly or per fee basis. The Successful Transitions through Empowerment and Planning (S.T.E.P.) program provides individualized care, supervision, and treatment to older adolescents based on their individual needs. The overall focus of the program is to work with youth who are approaching adulthood to prepare them to live independently and responsibly in the community.

FEE: Medicaid Waiver

770-469-6226

(FAX) 678-608-3817

www.ccsgeorgia.org

DeKalb Community Service Board:

Residential Service

Multiple Locations

440 Winn Way (main office)

Decatur, GA 30030

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities who are DeKalb County residents. Referral through Region Three DBHDD AGES:

22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Support Services and Community Residential Alternative Services with 24-hour staff

FEE: SSI, SSDI, other client income, Medicaid Waiver

404-508-6413

www.dekcsb.org

Destiny's Child, Inc. **404-696-4400**
3915 Cascade Road, Suite 260 **(FAX) 404-696-4002**
Atlanta, GA 30331 **www.destinyschildinc.com** POPULATION
SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities. Also elderly (55+)
with developmental, emotional and psychological disorders
AGES: 21 through Adulthood
SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Support Services, Community
Access Services, and private home care
FEE: Medicaid Waiver

Developmental Disabilities Ministries, Inc. **770-623-4899**
6320 Amherst Court **(FAX) 770-903-4991**
Norcross, GA 30092 **www.ddmga.org**
POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities
AGES: 18 through Adulthood
SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services (group
homes)
FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

DPCH, LLC **770-987-8301**
4818 Old National Highway **(FAX) 404-761-2644**
College Park, GA 30337 **www.demburepch.com**
5305 Snapfinger Woods Drive
Decatur, Ga. 300335
POPULATION SERVED: Adults with developmental disabilities
AGES: 18 years through adulthood
SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services,
Community Access Services, and Supported Employment
FEE: Medicaid Waiver

EnAble
(Formerly) Georgia Community Supports and Solutions **404-634-4222**
1945 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 220 **(FAX) 404-634-1324**
Atlanta, GA 30329 **www.gacommunity.org**
POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: 3 years through adulthood
SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Support Services, Community Residential Alternative Services, Community Access Services, and Supported Employment
FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

A Helping Hand

770-465-6858

439 Watson Bay

Stone Mountain, GA 30087

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with an intellectual disability

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services, Community Access Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

Just People

770-441-1188

1412 Oakbrook Drive

(FAX) 770-441-7506

Norcross, GA 30093

www.justpeople.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with a developmental disability, mental health or traumatic brain injury

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Support Services, Community Access Services, Prevocational Services, Supported Employment Services, and case management support. They do not provide any group homes. FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

Jewish Family & Career Services

770-677-9300

Tools for Independence

770-677-9326

Zimmerman Horowitz Independent Living Program

4549 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road

www.yourtoolsforliving.org

Dunwoody, GA 30338

POPULATION SERVED: Primarily adults with developmental disabilities; also provides Community Living Supports (CLS) to children who live at home

AGES: Community Access Individual and Community Living Supports 18 years through adulthood, CLS ages 3 through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Supports provided in individual's home, as well as full supports to individuals who rent or own homes together,

also provides Community Residential Alternative supports in two homes in Austell
FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

KES, Inc.

6615 Tribble Street
Lithonia, GA 30058

770-484-2112
(FAX) 770-484-2119
www.kesinc.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: age 17 through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services, Community Living Support Services, Community Access Services, Prevocational Services, natural supports, summer camp, and Supported Employment Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

Lutheran Services

230 Peachtree St., Suite 1100
30303

404-875-0201
www.lsga.org Atlanta, GA

POPULATION SERVED: Primarily serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and medically fragile

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: The FACES Programs: Programs designed to keep adults, adolescents, and children with disabilities in their communities through host homes and community living services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, DFCS, Juvenile Justice or Dual Custody, private pay

MENTOR, Inc.

2302 Park Lake Drive N.E, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30345

404-728-1567 ext. 6080
www.thementornetwork.com

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: All

SERVICES: Therapeutic foster care, Community Living Support Services, in-home supports, supervised independent living program FEE: Medicaid Waiver, M.A.T.C.H. funding, alternative funding

Owl's Retreat

404-288-4782

4727 North Royal Atlanta Drive

Tucker, GA 30084

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and some mental disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Residential care, transportation to/from medical appointments, total care of activities of daily living, planned activities of choice, medication, doctor's visits, prescriptions

FEE: Medicaid Waiver

Precious Living, Inc.

770-465-2505

448 Registry Bluff

Stone Mountain, GA 30087

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services, Community Access Services, and Prevocational Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

RES-CARE of Georgia

770-908-2481

2296 Henderson Mill Road, Suite 203

www.rescare.com

Atlanta, GA 30345

POPULATION SERVED: Offers services for people with developmental disabilities and other disabilities including intellectual disabilities, mental illness and acquired brain injuries

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Res-Care of Georgia is one of the largest providers of residential services in the country. It provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities through the Medicaid Waiver and persons with physical disabilities through the Independent Care Waiver Program. ResCare of Georgia offers residential and home/community-based Community Access Services, Prevocational Services to persons with developmental disabilities. Through the Independent Care Waiver Program, Res-Care provides staffing support to persons with physical disabilities in their own homes.

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, Independent Care Waiver, and private pay

Southern Resources Consultants, INC.

678-781-5204

3 Dunwoody Park, Suite 103
Atlanta, GA 30338

www.srccares.com

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with an intellectual disabilities and physical disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Support Services and Community Access Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private

United Cerebral Palsy of Georgia

770-676-2000

3300 NE Expressway Bldg. 9

1-888-827-9455 Atlanta, GA 30341

(FAX) 770-455-8040

www.ucpga.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all disabilities, not just those with cerebral palsy

AGES: 17 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides a full array of services and supports, which benefit people with developmental disabilities and their families. Programs and services include after school care, Community Access Services, Prevocational Services, and Community Living Support Services. Referrals through Region Three DBHDD

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

LEGAL SERVICES

The Atlanta Legal Aid Society
246 Sycamore Street, Suite 120
Decatur, GA 30030

404-377-0701
www.atlantalegalaid.org
www.georgialegalaid.org

Provides: Assistance in domestic or civil matters only. Offers representation, legal advice and referrals for assistance with legal problems related to government benefits (AFDC, food stamps, SSI, etc.). Also included: consumer issues, landlord-tenant issues, children issues and school issues. Helps low income groups.

DeKalb Bar Association
Lawyer Referral Services
755 Commerce Drive
Decatur, GA 3003

404-373-2580
www.dekalbbar.org
e-mail:execdir@dekalbbar.org

Provides: Lawyer referral services. \$40 for a 30 minute consultation. Cash or money order only

DeKalb County Probate Court
556 North McDonough Street
Room 1100 Courthouse Annex
Decatur, GA 30030

404-371-2601
Option 3
404-371-2892

Provides: Information on the legal process to obtain guardianship

DeKalb Volunteer Lawyer Foundation **404-373-0865**

315 W Ponce de Leon Ave, Suite 561 **Mon/Tues/Wed 9:00AM -12:00PM**
Decatur, GA 30030 **www.dekalbprobono.org**

Provides: Legal services for those who cannot pay for a private attorney if they meet income requirements. If you wish to be screened for potential eligibility, please call between the hours of 9 AM – noon on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday.

Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc. **404-885-1234**

150 E. Ponce de Leon Ave, Suite 430 **(FAX) 404-378-0031**
Decatur, GA 30030 **1-800-537-2329**
www.thegao.org

E-mail: info@thegao.org

Provides: Protection and advocacy for oppressed and vulnerable individuals in Georgia who are labeled as disabled or mentally ill.

The Georgia Community Trust **770-431-7070**

3995 South Cobb Drive **(FAX) 770-431-7072** Smyrna, GA 30080
e-mail: rmfink@mindspring.com

www.georgiacommunitytrust.com

Provides: The Georgia Community Trust was established to assist families in their planning to provide financial assistance to a family member with a disability. Individuals receiving SSI and Medicaid are limited as to the amount of income they may receive and the amount of assets they may own. Assets transferred to the Trust and earmarked for the intended beneficiary are not considered assets of the beneficiary for the purposes of SSI and Medicaid.

PRIVATE LAWYERS

Personal Legal Plans, Inc. **770-391-0090**

Dennis McGarry, President **www.plpservices.com**
100 Ashford Center North, Suite 170 **www.our-will.com**
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Provides: Estate planning, incompetency, trusts, durable power of attorney and healthcare power of attorney

Kim C. Martin 770-455-0535
Nadler and Biernath LLC FAX 770-457-1827
4360 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd Suite 500 www.nadlerbiernath.com
Atlanta, GA 30341
Provides: Estate planning, trusts, and wills for individuals with special needs

Janet E. Grayson 770-922-9898
P. O. Box 390654 e-mail: jgrayson@mindspring.com
Snellville, GA 30039
Provides: Guardianship, estate planning

Ruthann P. Lacey, PC 770-939-4616
3541-E Habersham at Northlake (FAX) 770-939-1758 Tucker,
GA 30084 www.elderlaw-lacey.com e-mail:
rlacey@elderlaw-lacey.com
Provides: Expertise concentrating in Elder and Special Needs Law, including wills and trusts, special needs trusts, and guardianships

Laurin M. McSwain 404-262-2000
Lefkoff, Duncan, Grimes, Miller & McSwain (FAX) 404-262-2897
11 Piedmont Center, Suite 806
3520 Piedmont Road NE, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30305
Provides: Estate planning, wills, trusts and guardianship issues

James B. Outman 404-317-3044
PO Box 942075 (FAX) 404-585-3094
Atlanta, GA 31141-2075 e-mail: jim@outmanlaw.com
Provides: Estate planning, special needs trust planning, and guardianship issues

Kristyne L. Seidenberg 404-290-0305
www.seidenberglaw.com
Provides: Estate planning, will and trusts for families of individuals with special needs

G. William Thackston, Jr. 404-806-7684
6100 Lake Forest Drive, Suite 104 e-mail: gwt@gwtpcatty.com
Sandy Springs, GA 30328-3835 (Fax) 404-806-7685

Provides: Wills, trusts, powers of attorney

Gary D. Zweifel

404-870-9111

The Zweifel Law Firm

(FAX) 404-870-9039

400 Colony Square, Suite 200

www.lawyers.com/zweifel

1201 Peachtree Street NE

Atlanta, GA 30361-6203

Provides: Legal services including wills, trusts, guardianship, probate, and other estate planning

MEDICAL/DENTAL SERVICES

DeKalb County Board of Health/Central

404294-3762

440 Winn Way

www.dekalbhealth.net

Decatur, GA 30030

SERVICES OFFERED: HIV, TB, Refugee services, Family planning, and Immunizations

Child Health Immunization

404-508-7771

AGES: Birth to 21 years old

SERVICES OFFERED: Immunizations; health screenings only; dental, hearing and vision screenings; No check-ups. FEE: Accepts Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids

ADULT SERVICES (Central Health)

404-294-3762

SERVICES OFFERED: OB/GYN clinic; WIC services

FEE: Accepts Medicaid

Child Health Services/BABIES CAN'T WAIT

404-508-7981

AGES: Birth to 3 years old

POPULATION SERVED: Infant and toddlers with significant developmental delays

SERVICES OFFERED: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, and Special instruction in a natural environment (home or daycare)

FEES: Evaluation is free, based on sliding scale, accepts Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids, Private Insurance

Dentistry for the Developmentally Disabled (DDD) Foundation, Inc. **404-942-0086**
www.dddfoundation.org

52 Executive Park South, Suite 5203
Atlanta, GA 30329

POPULATION SERVED: Must have a physical or mental disability

AGES: 4 years old through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Non-profit organization that is committed to offering accessible, comprehensive dental treatment to patients having developmental disabilities in the metropolitan Atlanta area FEE:

Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids, private insurance accepted

Dr. Gregory Doneff **770-396-1188**

200 Ashford Center North, Suite 330 **www.ashfordcentersmiles.com**
Dunwoody, GA 30338

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts special needs patients

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Dental

FEE: Accepts private insurance, no Medicaid, no PeachCare

Eaton Pediatric Dentistry **770-934-3506**

Dr. Jonathan Eaton **(FAX) 770-493-8844**

3744-A Lavista Road **www.dreaton.com**
Decatur, GA 30033

POPULATION SERVED: Metro area children

AGES: 3 years through high school

SERVICES OFFERED: Pediatric dentistry; general routine dental care; no orthodontics. Dentist does not use general anesthesia (uses Nitrous Oxide)

FEE: Depends on services needed; no Medicaid.

The Emory Clinic **404-778-5000**

1365 Clifton Road, NE **www.emoryhealthcare.org**
Atlanta, GA 30322 **Physician/service referral: 404-778-7777**

POPULATION SERVED: All

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Primary and specialty care for all ages

FEE: Depends on type of service needed. Medicaid/Medicare accepted

Eye Consultants of Atlanta
3225 Cumberland Blvd, Suite 900
Atlanta, GA 30339

404-351-2220
www.eyec consultants.net

POPULATION SERVED: All metro area/Georgia and other states
AGES: All
SERVICES OFFERED: Full comprehensive eye care
FEE: Depends on services needed. Medicaid/Medicare accepted

Friends of Disabled Adults & Children (FODAC)
4900 Lewis Road

770-491-9014
www.fodac.org

Stone Mountain, GA 30083
POPULATION SERVED: People with disabilities
AGES: All
SERVICES OFFERED: Friends of Disabled Adults & Children repairs and refurbishes used medical equipment and donates equipment to people who need it. These items such as crutches, canes, walkers, wheelchairs (manual and power) and hospital beds are available free of charge to anyone who needs it. Repairs are also made to individuals own wheelchairs. FODAC has two new programs. Program Remount installs wheelchair lifts into vans. Ramps for Champs builds wheelchair ramps with donated labor.
FEE: FODAC – mainly donations, Program Remount – small program fee, Ramps for Champs – none

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation
5582 Peachtree Road
Chamblee, GA 30341

404-325-3630
(FAX) 404-636-5549
www.Lionslighthouse.org

POPULATION SERVED: Georgia residents only. Must be a legal Georgia resident for at least 1 year. Must be denied by PeachCare or Medicaid or have already received their one pair of glasses allowed for the year
AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Help impoverished Georgia residents obtain eyeglasses, hearing aids, and eye surgery
FEE: Small fee

Gottlieb Vision Group

404-296-6000

5462 Memorial Drive www.gottlieb/home.mindspring.com/homepg.htm
Suite 101

Stone Mountain, GA 30083

POPULATION SERVED: All, including individuals who are multihandicapped

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Comprehensive vision services including vision therapy for vision-related learning problems. Vision rehabilitation for those with limited sight, also treats strabismus, glaucoma, etc.

FEE: Depends on type of evaluation needed, Medicaid/Medicare accepted

Grant Park Family Health Center, Inc. 404-627-4259

1340 Boulevard

(FAX) 404-624-5795

Atlanta, GA 30315

POPULATION SERVED: No restrictions

AGES: Teenagers and Adults

SERVICES OFFERED: High quality health care provided by volunteer physicians and other health professionals. OB/GYN services available. Doctors available Monday through Thursday (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and on Friday (8:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.). Call about dental services. No pediatrician on staff

FEE: Sliding scale

Greater Atlanta Family Healthcare, LLC

404-298-9333

3700 Market Street Bldg. C

FAX) 404-298-9931

Clarkston, GA 30021

POPULATION SERVED: All

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Immunizations; physical exams (health screenings)

FEE: Accepts Medicaid, Medicare, Georgia PeachCare

Georgia Periodontics

770-939-4840

3648 Chamblee Tucker Road, Suite B

770-623-4843

Atlanta, GA 30341

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts special needs patients

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Periodontal dentistry

FEE: Accepts private insurance, no Medicaid, no PeachCare

LoveNCare Healthcare Services

770-360-5683

4562 Lawrenceville Hwy

FAX: 1-888-849-7371

Suite # 201-210

www.lovencarehealthcare.com

Lilburn, Ga. 30047

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with Disabilities.

AGES: All ages depending on the services needed

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Supports, Community Access (Group/Individual for individuals that have transitioned out of high school)

Specialized Medical Supplies, Specialized Medical Equipment, Supported Employment, Respite Care (In-Home)GAPP Program, Georgia Pediatric Program (GAPP)

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, Private Pay

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies

770-451-5501

Coalition of Georgia, Inc.

1-800-300-9003

2300 Henderson Mill Road

www.hmhbga.org

Atlanta, GA 30345

POPULATION SERVED: Low income and Medicaid recipients, families in need of low-cost, sliding scale fee services

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Local phone number and statewide toll-free referral line to assist families in obtaining needed health care services, including identification of resources with both public and private providers. Referral for WIC. Lactation consultation. Assists children with special health care needs to find comprehensive care and coordinated services. English and

Spanish speaking operators

FEE: Free resource

Marcus Autism Center

404-785-9400

1920 Briarcliff Road

www.marcus.org

Atlanta, GA 30329

(FAX) 404-785-9315

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability and their families. Some disability areas require a physician referral.

AGES: Birth - 17 years old

SERVICES OFFERED: The Marcus Autism Center offers children comprehensive care to provide diagnosis, treatment and care management for a complete range of mild to severe disabilities including: developmental delays, learning disabilities, high-risk infants, severe behavior management, genetic syndromes, pediatric feeding disorders, cerebral palsy, domestic and international adoption evaluation, autism/pervasive developmental disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and foster care assessment. FEE:

Depends on services provided, commercial insurance, self-pay, Medicaid and PeachCare accepted, no HMO plans accepted

Ben Massell Dental Clinic

404-881-1858

700 14th Street

www.benmasselldentalclinic.org

Atlanta, GA 30318

Volunteer dentists

POPULATION SERVED: All low income persons in metro Atlanta area

AGES: Adults age 18 and up for routine dental care. School-age children ages 6 – 15 for orthodontics only

SERVICES OFFERED: Dental/non-emergencies only. No walk-ins. As of Jan 2017-No dentures or partials for new patients.

FEE: \$2 to register; \$2 per visit; \$5 denture registration; \$75 startup fee for braces. Orthodontic work for braces is on a next available basis.

Registration- via phone based lottery

Dr. John Muse

404-378-2331

755 Commerce Drive, Suite A

Decatur, GA 30030

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts some special needs patients. Consults based on needs and treatment

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Oral surgery

FEE: Services must be paid for on the day of service, will file for dental insurance to reimburse the patient

Oral Surgery Associates & Dental Implant Centers **770-981-9400**

5243 Snapfinger Woods Drive, Suite 106

Decatur, GA 30035

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts special needs patients

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Oral Surgery

FEE: Medicare, Medicaid, most private insurance plans

O'Shea and O'Shea Cosmetic and Family Dentistry **404-373-7818**

755 Commerce Drive, Suite 520

Decatur, GA 30030

POPULATION SERVED: Accept special needs patients

AGES: 3 – senior adult

SERVICES OFFERED: Dental services

FEE: Fees must be paid on the day of service, no Medicaid, no PeachCare (not a plan participant)

PeachCare for Kids **404-463-8369**

Georgia Department of Community Health

1-877-427-3224

2 Peachtree Street, NW

www.peachcare.org

Atlanta, GA 30303

POPULATION SERVED: PeachCare is a comprehensive health care program for uninsured children through the age of 18. To be eligible, children cannot qualify for Medicaid and must live in households with income at or below 247% of the Federal poverty level. Must be a US citizen or fall within an eligible legal immigrant category. AGES: Birth – 18 (eligible until 19th birthday)

SERVICES OFFERED: Preventative care insurance, check-ups, immunizations, sick care insurance, specialist care insurance, dental care insurance, vision care insurance, hospitalization insurance, emergency room insurance, mental health care insurance, prescription medicine, choice of over 4,000 GA Better Health Care doctors

FEE: children 0 – 5 free, children 6 – 18 \$10.00 per month, \$20.00 maximum per month for children in the same family

Dr. Wesley Powell (Dentistry for Children and Teens) 770-934-5900

2244 Henderson Mill Road
Atlanta, GA 30345

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts patients with special needs

AGES: 3 – 18 years old

SERVICES OFFERED: Pediatric dentistry

FEE: Accepts private insurance, no Medicaid, no PeachCare, no HMO plans accepted

Dr. Dai Minh Le Nguyen 404-294-4012

1183 South Hairston Road, Suite B
Stone Mountain, GA 30088

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts patients with special needs

AGES: 4 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Dental services

FEE: Accepts private insurance, Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids, accepts most insurance

Veal Dental Care 770-395-1155

1867 Independence Square, Suite 104
Dunwoody, GA 30338

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts patients with special needs

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Dental services

FEE: Accepts private insurance, does not accept Medicaid or PeachCare

Wilkins Family Dentistry 404-292-2900

5468 Memorial Drive, Suite A
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

POPULATION SERVED: Accepts patients with special needs

AGES: 3 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Dental services

FEE: Accepts private insurance, accepts Medicaid or PeachCare

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS

CHRIS 180

1017 Fayetteville Rd SE
Atlanta, GA 30316

404-4869034

(Fax) 404-486-9053

www.chris180.org

POPULATION SERVED: Metro Atlanta; abused/neglected children and adolescents **AGES:** 6 – 24 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Residential therapeutic group homes and residential independent living program, individual and family counseling, in-home crisis services, and behavioral aide to work on different treatment issues **FEE:**

Varies, some insurance companies will provide for the cost, Medicaid

DeKalb Community Service Board
www.dekcsb.org

404-294-3834 DD Services

Developmental Evaluation Clinic

440 Winn Way

Decatur, GA 30030

POPULATION SERVED: DeKalb County residents with severe and sustained disabilities that result in serious impairments in basic life functioning AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Diagnostics, psychological services to include behavior support, individual counseling, short term crisis intervention, psychiatric assessment and care

FEE: Sliding scale, Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance

DeKalb Community Service Board
Mental Health Services

Central Access 404-892-4646
www.dekcsb.org

POPULATION SERVED: DeKalb County residents with severe and sustained disabilities that result in serious impairments in basic life functioning. Referrals through Region Three DBHDD

AGES: 4 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Outpatient mental health services; limited day treatment; limited group homes; individual, group and family counseling; case management; crisis intervention; jail services

FEE: Sliding scale, Medicaid, Medicare, PeachCare, private insurance

LOCATIONS: Call the Central Access Number (404-892-4646) to reach an individual location.

Clifton Springs Mental Health
3110 Clifton Springs Road
Decatur, GA 30034

DeKalb Regional Crisis Center
450 Winn Way
Decatur, GA 30030

Jail Services
3630 Camp Circle
Decatur, GA 30032

Kirkwood Mental Health
23 Warren Street SE
Atlanta, GA 30317

North DeKalb Mental Health
3807 Clairmont Road
Chamblee, GA 30341

Winn Way Mental Health
445 Winn Way
Decatur, GA 30030
Limited services for hearing impaired
Mental Health programs through the courts

Emory University Psychological Center

404-727-7451

Emory University

36 Eagle Row

Atlanta, GA 30322

POPULATION SERVED: All in metro Atlanta area

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Psychological/special education assessments; therapy and counseling; educational/intellectual testing; individual, group and family counseling. Some services depend on the severity of the disability.

FEE: Sliding scale (does not accept any insurance)

Georgia Parent Support Network

1381 Metropolitan Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30310

1-844-278-6945

404-758-4500

(FAX) 404-758-6833

Single point of entry to the Mental Health System

www.gpsn.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have an intellectual disability or mental illness; emotionally disturbed children, adolescents and their families, individuals with substance abuse

AGES: Birth to 26 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Upon appropriate referral: Advocacy, advice, respite services, parent support and information and therapeutic foster care. A free quarterly newsletter is available upon request.

FEE: No fee to parents

Hillside Hospital

690 Courtenay Drive
Atlanta, GA 30306

404-875-4551

(FAX) 404-875-1394

www.hside.org

POPULATION SERVED: Residents of Georgia including individuals who have a moderate intellectual disability

AGES: 7 – 21 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Residential psychiatric treatment; individual and group counseling; diagnostic/evaluation services; educational and vocational program; family and social skills counseling

FEE: Call to inquire

The Link Counseling Center, Inc.

348 Mount Vernon Highway NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328

404-256-9797

www.thelink.org

POPULATION SERVED: Metro Atlanta

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Counseling/psychotherapy; information and referral; community education and support groups; professional training and consultation; suicide prevention and after-care; family counseling

FEE: Sliding scale (No insurance accepted)

Odyssey Family Counseling Center

1919 John Wesley Avenue
College Park, GA 30337

404-762-9190

(FAX) 404-762-9101

www.odysseycounseling.org

POPULATION SERVED: All

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Adult/adolescent substance abuse treatment; substance abuse prevention and education; family therapy and marriage counseling; child abuse/sexual abuse/incest counseling; stress management, school problems

FEE: Sliding scale, private insurance

RECREATIONAL/LEISURE SERVICES

Best Buddies Headquarters

100 Southeast Second St.
Suite 2200

Miami, FL 33131

Local: Jessica Yakubowicz

305-374-2233

(FAX) 305-789-5577

www.bestbuddies.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have an intellectual disability. It is desired that the individuals possess appropriate social skills and the ability to communicate verbally. Independence in ambulation is highly desired.

With assistance from family members, it is open to those individuals who use a wheelchair for mobility. AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: The facilitation of mutual friendships among individuals with intellectual disabilities in middle/high schools with college students, corporate and civic communities. Best Buddies is an international, non-profit organization headquartered Florida. The Best Buddies School chapters in Georgia are Agnes Scott College, Emory University, Georgia College and State University, and Georgia Southern University.

FEE: None

DeKalb County Parks & Recreation Dept.

Special Population Section

1340 McConnell Drive
Decatur, GA 30033

404-679-1349

(FAX) 404-679-5901

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a physical and/or intellectual disability

AGES: 13 years through adulthood with the majority of the programs geared for teens and adults

SERVICES OFFERED: Young Adult Social Club, summer camps, softball, bowling, volleyball and basketball. Superstrickers Bowling League, DeKalb-Softball teams, field trips and preparation for Special Olympics. Call to receive quarterly brochures with updated schedules of events.

FEE: Minimal fees for some programs

Great Prospects

770-314-4243

1425 Market Blvd., Suite 330-135

404-374-3634

Roswell, GA 30076

www.greatprospectsinc.org

POPULATION: Individuals who have a mild or moderate intellectual disability

AGES: Adolescent to young adult

SERVICES OFFERED:

Pre-Academy- Minimum age 18- Transition from high school- Opportunity to try out the Academy to determine whether it is a good fit
Career Connections Academy- Minimum age 22- a post-secondary educational option that focuses on Social Skills training, exploration of workplace options, community service and planning for an independent future
Connections Academy –Summer and School Breaks for students in high school.

Social Connections- once a month socials and dances

FEE: Call to inquire about fees

Happy Club Metropolitan Atlanta YMCA

Cowart Family/Ashford Dunwoody YMCA -

3692 Ashford Dunwoody Rd. Atlanta, Ga. 30319

404-610-4008

Chapter Coordinator: Julia Versteegh -
dunwoodyhappyclub@gmail.com

Decatur-DeKalb YMCA -

404-377-9622

1100 Clairemont Ave. Decatur, Ga. 30305

Chapter Coordinator: Jennifer Durham
decaturhappyclub@gmail.com

South DeKalb Family YMCA 2565

678-418-3504

Snapfinger Rd. Decatur, Ga. 30034 Chapter

Coordinator:
southdekalbhappyclub@gmail.com

Wade Walker Park Family YMCA

678-781-9622

5605 Rockbridge Rd. Stone Mountain, Ga. 30088

Chapter Coordinator: Tracey Benson

POPULATION SERVED: Teens and adults with developmental disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides opportunities to continue to develop socialization and community skills. Provides enjoyable, beneficial, and challenging activities. Brings people with developmental disabilities into the larger society under conditions where they are accepted, respected and able to participate in the community

FEE: \$ 40 program membership per year and minimal fees for events

Blonder Family Department for Developmental

678-812-4092

Disabilities at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta

5342 Tilly Mill Road

blonder@atlantajcc.org

Dunwoody, GA 30338

www.atlantajcc.org/blonder

The Blonder Family department for Special Needs creates a place for individuals of all backgrounds and abilities to socialize, learn, grow and deepen their connections to one another and the community.

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: 5 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Adult Programs: range from team and individual sports with the SOAR Program, exciting day and overnight trips, social and cultural events like dances, movie nights, museum trips, and holiday celebrations. Educational programs to learn and practice important life skills.

Ruth B. Jackson Transition Program: young adults with Autism get to develop independence and friendships, while contributing to their community in a safe and supportive environment. Transition participants might volunteer at a local organization, meet up to plan and make a meal, work out together, go to the movies or out to eat.

Jerry's Habima Theatre Cultural Life Experiences Georgia's only theatrical company whose cast features actors with developmental disabilities, performs a full-scale musical production every year. Performers are a unified cast made up of individuals with and without disabilities. Classes are periodically offered on improve, singing and basics of acting and auditioning. Inclusion Program: children in preschool through high school are able to participate in the same programs as their typical peers. Inclusion offerings cover a wide variety of activities, including dance, gymnastics, tennis, sports, after-school programs, and summer day camp.

FEE: Vary according to the program offered. All programs are non-sectarian.

The Reece Center for Handicapped Horsemanship

678-423-1734

Wade Wheeler

www.reececenter.org

8280 Wilkerson Mill Road

Palmetto, GA 30268

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a physical and/or mental disability

AGES: 6 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Recreational riding program. Saturday only program. Family oriented

FEE: A maintenance fee is required. The price varies from year to year. The purchase of a helmet is necessary after the first quarter.

S.A.S.S.Y.

**South DeKalb Association
For Super Special Youth**

5301 Snapfinger Park Dr.
Decatur, GA 30035

404-542-8395

(FAX) 770-938-3977

www.sassyspecialpeople.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: School age and older

SERVICES OFFERED: SASSY works in collaboration with the DeKalb County Parks and Recreation Special Populations Division. Opportunities offered include social clubs, fund raising opportunities, and a variety of sport activities. Overall, SASSY provides a broad array of supports to individuals with special needs and their parents including recreation, social and life skills, community awareness, and inclusion opportunities. Visit website above

FEE: \$45.00 annual membership

Sensations Therafun

1704 Chantilly Dr.
Atlanta, Ga. 30324

404-634-3500

sensationstherafun@gmail.com

<http://www.sensationstherafun.com/>

AGES: All ages will find plenty of fun and rewarding activities at Sensations.

SERVICES OFFERED: It is designed especially for sensory recreation. It is great for kids who have Autism, are on the Autism Spectrum, have Sensory Processing Disorders, ADHD, Down's Syndrome, Asperger's Syndrome and all children who need sensory recreation. To kids, we are a giant playground, and as they play, are getting part of their 'sensory diet'.

FEE: Varies depending on activity/ membership- Insurance: We accept payments from AADD, GCSS, and Accumen.

Special K's

Special Olympics Georgia

Debbie Currere, Management Team Chair

142 Teal Court

Roswell, GA 30076

770-722-6250

debbiecurre@gmail.com

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: 8 years and up

SERVICES OFFERED: Special Olympics sports training in North Fulton.

Training is conducted seasonally and includes bowling, power lifting, basketball, track, aquatics, tennis, golf, bocce, long distance walking,

Master's Bowling, etc.

FEE: None

Special Olympics Masters

770-414-9390x1109

6046 Financial Drive

1-800-866-4400

Norcross, GA 30071

Phillip.Braley@SpecialOlympicsGA.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: 22 years and up

SERVICES OFFERED: Training is conducted seasonally and includes alpine skiing, aquatics, athletics, badminton, basketball, bowling, cycling power lifting, track, tennis, golf, bocce, long distance walking, flag football, roller skating, softball, etc.

FEE: Call to inquire about fees

Special Pops Tennis

770-998-7826

<http://specialpopstennis.org>

Location: Programs offered throughout Metro Atlanta

Population Served: Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

Ages: Programs geared for individuals 8 years old and up

Services Offered: Tennis lessons for recreational or competitive play experiences, new friendships are encouraged, Healthy food choices are discussed, No prior tennis playing experience required, Tennis equipment is made available

VSA Arts of Georgia

404-221-1270

415 Plasters Ave.

www.vsaartsga.org

Atlanta, GA 30324

POPULATION SERVED: All disabilities

AGES: Pre-k through adult

SERVICES OFFERED: VSA Arts of Georgia provides access to the arts for people with disabilities and families with low income. We are a statewide resource working with artists and organizations to fulfill our vision of an inclusive community that encourages everyone to enjoy and participate in the arts.

FEE: Most services free

SUMMER PROGRAMS:

Information is available on summer recreation programs through the
Georgia Learning Resources System (GLRS) **678-676-2400**
1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard **www.metroeastglrs.org**
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

The GLRS Summer Camp and Respite online Directory is updated approximately every two years and is available online at:

www.metroeastglrs.org (under the resources tab)

FEE: None

Numerous summer camp opportunities are listed on the
American Camp Association **765-342-8456**
ACA Southeastern **1-800-428-2267**
463 Johnny Mercer Blvd, Suite B-7 #286 **(FAX) 1-704-288-4402**
Savannah, GA 31410 **www.acacamps.org/southeastern**
The find a camp options allows you to select camps that specialize in special populations

RESPITE CARE SERVICES

Childcare Resource & Referral of Metro Atlanta 404-479-4233
“Quality Care for Children” (FAX) 404-479-4166
2751 Buford Highway, Suite 500 www.allgakids.org
Atlanta, GA 30324

POPULATION SERVED: Children in need of childcare or after school care

AGES: 0-18 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Parent, counselor, & telephone referral service.

Assistance is provided to families of children with special needs and assistance with inclusion.

FEE: None

Developmental Disabilities Ministries, Inc. 770-623-4899
6320 Amherst Court, Suite 100 (FAX) 770-903-4991 Norcross, GA
30092 www.ddmga.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: 18 through Adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Respite, Community Residential Alternative Service, Community Living Support

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

Friend of the Family 770-725-2748
1 Huntington Rd, Suite 702 www.afriend.com
Athens, GA 30606

POPULATION SERVED: All families

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Occasionally, temporary childcare and eldercare.

Also offers long-term live-in/live-out childcare and elder care

FEE: All fees apply to members. There is a \$150 membership fee plus daily referral fee. The daily referral fee ranges between \$15-30. A negotiable caregiver rate ranges between \$11-15/hr. Emergency sick care is available for a slightly higher fee. For same day care, there is a \$30 fee. Please call for additional information.

**Georgia Council on Developmental
Disabilities**

2 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 26-246
Atlanta, GA 30303

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Respite resource directories and quarterly respite newsletters available upon request

FEE: None

404-657-2126
(FAX) 404-657-2132
(TDD) 404-657-2133
www.gcdd.org

**Jewish Family & Career Services
Respite Care Program**

4549 Chamblee Dunwoody Road
Atlanta, GA 30338

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: 3 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Respite coordinated with approved providers for inhome or host family opportunities

FEE: Medicaid Waiver only

770-677-9326
www.jfcsatl.org

**Metropolitan Atlanta Respite Cooperative
Lead agency:**

Georgia Community Supports & Solutions
1945 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 220

Atlanta, GA 30329

POPULATION SERVED: Anyone with a documented developmental disability

AGES: 3 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: In home, host family, group home, and facilitybased group home respite care through a cooperative of 4 agencies

FEE: Sliding fee scale

404-634-4222
(FAX) 404-634-1324
www.gacommunity.org

Robert Chadwick Respite Program: 770-942-1131
Douglas County Retardation Association (FAX) 770-920-6701
www.douglascountyretardation.org

Location: 6497 E. Strickland Street
Douglasville, GA 30134
Business Address: P. O. Box 1318
Douglasville, GA 30134
POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with a developmental disability AGES:
All
SERVICES OFFERED: Weekend respite services for the metro area
FEE: Sliding scale; reservations needed

Right In The Community 770-427-8401
1830 Water Place, Suite 120 (FAX) 770-427-8402
Atlanta, GA 30339 www.rightinthecommunity.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability;
must have a developmental disability with a diagnosis of an intellectual
disability
AGES: 6 years and older
SERVICES OFFERED: Provides weekend respite care. Through MARC will
provide weekend respite or referral to independent respite care providers, also
has a respite care home and 22 group homes. Provides referrals for day
programs and summer camps, advocacy, and assistance with Medicaid
Waiver applications
FEE: Sliding scale, grant money, Medicaid Waiver

Shepherd Pathways Respite Care 404-248-1667
1942 Clairmont Road www.shepherd.org
Decatur, GA 30033

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with a brain injury or other
neurological conditions
AGES: 18 years through adulthood
SERVICES OFFERED: Respite care from one to 14 days. The setting
provides a private or semi-private room in a safe and secure community living
environment in a 24,000 square-foot facility in Decatur, Georgia. This facility
is home to Shepherd Pathways, a post-acute residential brain injury program.
FEE: Varies according to the level of care that is required. The cost is
determined during the completion of the admission screening.

SUPPORT SERVICES

This list of resources has been selected with your primary needs in mind. It is in no way intended to be complete. Rather, it is a tool to get you started in your search.

The following agencies are sources of information or referral services. If you need a service and do not know where to go, call one of the following and ask them to assist you.

American Foundation for the Blind **404-525-2303**
100 Peachtree Street, Suite 2145 **www.afb.org**
Atlanta, GA 30303
POPULATION SERVED: Any individual who is blind or visually impaired and for professionals who work with these people and their families
AGES: All
SERVICES OFFERED: Information and free referral services for blind and visually impaired individuals and their families, publications including guides for consumers and professionals are available for individuals to use on site. Publications are available for purchase from the American Foundation for the Blind in New York.
FEE: None

The ARC of Georgia **470-222-6088**
P O Box 91051 **FAX) 1-844-228-0521**
Atlanta, GA 30064 **www.ga.thearc.org**
e-mail:sramirez@thearc.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental and/or intellectual disability

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Has local networks within some counties as well as a national organization. Resource for information on all disorders. Provides advocacy and education. Sponsors public information programs and gives referrals

FEE: None for information. Membership fees to join: \$20.00 for a family, \$15.00 for an individual, or \$5.00 for a self-advocate

Autism Resource Center at Emory University **404-727-8350**

1551 Shoup Court
Decatur, GA 30030

(FAX) 404-727-3969

POPULATION SERVED: Persons with autism spectrum disorders

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides family support, treatment, diagnostic and medication evaluations, school consultations and professional training.

Provides resources for families throughout the state of Georgia. Provides a preschool program for children with autism ages 18 months through 5 years

FEE: Charge based on service required

Benefits Navigator

1-866-772-2726

Shepherd Center

404-350-7589

2020 Peachtree Road NW
1465

404-350-7598 Atlanta, GA 30309-

(TTY) 404-367-1347

www.benefitsnavigator.com

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or both, and who are interested in pursuing work goals

AGES: 14- 65

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides information on how becoming employed affects social security benefits and/or state benefits, work incentives such as the PASS, the Trial Work Period and Impairment-Related Work Expenses, and other programs and services that can help individuals with disabilities create a plan for successful employment. Provides individual counseling sessions along with information to groups, organizations, and agencies that provide services to people with disabilities

FEE: None. It is a free service funded by the Social Security Administration.

Bobby Dodd Institute

(Formerly) AADD—All About Developmental Disabilities 404-881-9777

125 Clairmont Avenue, Suite 300
Decatur, GA 30030

www.aadd.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: 3 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides information and referral services, disbursement of information through an online newsletter, directory of services, supported employment, and family support services

FEE: None

**Center for Assistive Technology &
Environmental Assess (CATEA)**

Georgia Institute of Technology
512 Means Street, Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30318

404-894-4960
1-800-726-9119
www.catea.gatech.edu

POPULATION SERVED: All individuals who have a disability AGES:
All

SERVICES OFFERED: Serves as an information clearing-house for
statewide service providers as well as assistive products and devices

FEE: Charge based on service required

Center for the Visually Impaired

739 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, GA 30308

404-875-9011
www.cviga.org

POPULATION SERVED: Blind and visually impaired

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Information and referral, rehabilitation training in the
center and community, vocational evaluation, work adjustment and job
placement, low vision clinic, program for pre-school and school-aged
children, education and counseling for diabetics, support groups. Audio
described videos are loaned free of charge.

FEE: Sliding scale

**The Center for Financial Independence
and Innovation**

315 W Ponce deLeon, Suite 600
Decatur, GA 30030

404-541-9005
(FAX) 1-888-724-2287
http://thecfii.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all types of disabilities

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Georgia's only Alternative Financing Program that
provides low-interest loans through participating credit unions to enable
Georgians with disabilities access to affordable financing for Assistive
Technology and Home and Vehicle Modifications.

FEE: None

Childkind

404-248-1980

3107 Clairmont Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

www.childkind.org

POPULATION SERVED: Children with complex medical and/or developmental disabilities

AGES: 0-21

SERVICES OFFERED: Family Placement for children in state custody or those at risk of institutionalization, Supportive Care Coordination, and Family Support Services. Connects parents to community and neighborhood resources. Provides Foster Homes and Host Homes for ages 0-21. Offers community trainings (Disability Awareness 101) on resources, system navigation, and access to Medicaid Waivers. FEE: Medicaid Waiver and grant funded programming

DeKalb County Schools Parent Mentor Program

678-676-1897

East DeKalb Campus

(FAX) 678-676-1888

5839 Memorial Drive

Stone Mountain, GA 30083

POPULATION SERVED: Children with disabilities who attend DeKalb County schools

AGES: 3-21

SERVICES OFFERED: Assists families in locating information and resources, provides workshops for families of children who receive special education services regarding special education and transition issues, support to the professionals who serve these children, and provides confidential support for parental questions.

FEE: None

DisAbility Link

404-687-8890

1901 Montreal Road, Suite 102

470-395-2254

Tucker, GA 30084

www.disabilitylink.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all types of disabilities

AGES: 16 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Serves 13 counties in Georgia, and is a center for Disability Rights and independent living issues. Their core services are advocacy, teaching of independent living skills, peer support groups, mentoring, information and referral, and employment services.

FEE: None

Disability Resource Group

4164 Admiral Drive
Chamblee, GA 30341

770-451-2340

www.gaada.info

www.disabilityresource.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all types of disabilities in Georgia

AGES: All ages

SERVICES OFFERED: Answer questions about disability rights, help people look at options, consultation and workshops about disability issues FEE:

Sliding fee for workshops, consultation for individuals with disabilities is free

Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta

4355 J Cobb Pkwy #213
Atlanta, GA 30339

404-320-3233

www.dsaatl.org

POPULATION SERVED: Parents and families of children with Down syndrome AGES: All ages

SERVICES OFFERED: The Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta is a non-profit organization dedicated to support, early intervention, education, awareness and advocacy to families of children with Down syndrome. FEE: \$25 per year per household or lifetime payment of \$250 per household. Parents of a newborn receive the first year's membership free. Full or partial scholarships are available upon request for anyone with a financial hardship.

Families of Children Under Stress (FOCUS)

3825 Presidential Pkwy, Suite 103
Atlanta, GA 30340

770-234-9111

(FAX) 770-234-9131

www.focus-ga.org

POPULATION SERVED: All developmental disabilities

AGES: Birth – age 29

SERVICES OFFERED: Offers support and information to parents through support groups, workshops, and hospital visits. Another service is Community Respite care for children.

FEE: Varies. Membership fee is \$15.00 but can be waived

Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc.
One West Court Square, Suite 625

404-885-1234
1-800-537-2329

Decatur, GA 30030

(FAX) 404-378-0031

www.thegao.org

POPULATION SERVED: All disabilities

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Protects and advocates for individuals who have a disability

FEE: No

Georgia Council

For the Hearing Impaired, Inc.

4151 Memorial Drive, Suite 103B

Decatur, GA 30032

TTY/Voice 404-292-5312

TTY/Voice 1-800-541-0710

(FAX) 404-299-3642

www.gachi.org

POPULATION SERVED: All individuals who have a hearing deficit AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Advocacy, information and referral. Community education. GED/ABE preparatory classes

FEE: Membership open to the public

Georgia Health Partnership

P.O. Box 4000

McRae, GA 31055

1-800-766-4456

POPULATION SERVED: Low income and individuals with a physical and/or developmental disability. Eligibility determined by Social Security Office or DeKalb County Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS)

AGES: There is not a minimum age for SSI/Medicaid; however, there are restrictions that will determine at what age your child becomes eligible for these benefits.

SERVICES OFFERED: Customer service for current members for any problems with Medicaid or PeachCare

FEE: None

Georgia Learning Resources System

(Metro East)

1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard

Stone Mountain, GA 30083

678-676-2400

678-676-2417

(FAX) 770-939-5731

www.metroeastglrs.org

POPULATION SERVED: Parents and/or professionals who work with individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: Adults

SERVICES OFFERED: Maintains a library of videos, books, publications, instructional kits and adapted toys for check-out and loan. Provides workshops and in-services and serves as an information and referral service.

A summer recreation guide is available online at:

www.aadd.org/files/advocacy/education.html. Click on AADD listing. FEE: Small charge for materials made in Production Center (cash only)

Georgia Parent Support Network

1381 Metropolitan Parkway

Atlanta, GA 30310

Single point of entry to the Mental Health System

POPULATION SERVED: Children and youth who have an intellectual disability or mental illness; emotionally disturbed children, adolescents and their families, children and youth with substance abuse

AGES: Birth to 25 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Upon appropriate referral: Advocacy, advice, respite services, parent support and information and therapeutic foster care. A free quarterly newsletter is available upon request.

FEE: No fee to parents

1-800-832-8645

404-758-4500

(FAX) 404-77758-6833

www.gpsn.org

**Georgia Telecommunications Equipment
& Distribution Program**

4151 Memorial Drive, Suite 103B

Decatur, GA 30032

POPULATION SERVED: Deaf, hearing impaired, speech impaired, and deafblind consumers in the state of Georgia

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides free telephone equipment to deaf, hearing impaired and speech impaired consumers in the state of Georgia. If the consumer qualifies for the program and is a Georgia resident, the equipment is free on a loaner program. Must call for an application

FEE: None

404-292-5312

1-800-541-0710

(FAX) 404-299-3642

www.gachi.org

**Georgia Council on Developmental
Disabilities**

404-657-2126

(FAX) 404-657-2132

2 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 26-246
GA 30303

www.gcdd.org Atlanta,

1-888-ASK-GCDD

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Respite resource directories and quarterly respite newsletters available upon request. Offers supports in areas of residential, vocational, accessibility and advocacy

FEE: None

Marcus Autism Center

404-785-9400

1920 Briarcliff Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

(FAX) 404-785-9416

www.marcus.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals who have a developmental disability and their families. Some disability areas require a physician referral.

AGES: Birth – 17 years

SERVICES OFFERED: The Marcus Autism Center offers children comprehensive care to provide diagnosis, treatment and care management for a complete range of mild to severe disabilities including: developmental delays, learning disabilities, high-risk infants, severe behavior management, genetic syndromes, pediatric feeding disorders, cerebral palsy, domestic and international adoption evaluation, autism/pervasive developmental disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and foster care assessment.

FEE: Depends on services provided, commercial insurance, self-pay, Medicaid and PeachCare accepted, no HMO

Parent to Parent of Georgia, Inc.

770-451-5484

3070 Presidential Parkway, Suite 130
Atlanta, GA 30340

1-800-229-2038

www.p2pga.org

POPULATION SERVED: All disabilities including rare disorders and chronic or terminal illness

AGES: Parents of children ages 0 – 26

SERVICES OFFERED: Matches parents with trained support parents. Has developed a comprehensive information system, which includes up-to-date information on disabilities including rare disorders and community resources and provides over 5000 community resources for parents in Georgia. Can be accessed by phone or on their web site

FEE: None

Parents Educating Parents & Professionals (PEPP, Inc.)

770-577-7771

8355 Cherokee Blvd, Suite 100

(FAX) 770-557-7774

Douglasville, GA 30134

www.peppinc.org

POPULATION SERVED: All Georgia children who have a developmental disability

AGES: 3 years to 24 years

SERVICES OFFERED: Assists parents and professionals in matters with respect to government regulations, provisions, and allotments under IDEA. Also provides training to parents in the form of meetings, workshops, support groups and individual assistance

FEE: Case by Case/Regional fees

Plan of Georgia, Inc.

404-634-0094

270 CARPENTER Drive, Suite 200-F

(FAX) 404-634-5255

Atlanta, GA 30328

info@planofgeorgia.org

POPULATION SERVED: People with mental and physical disabilities, including mental illness, intellectual disabilities, brain injury, autism and at-risk elderly in the metropolitan Atlanta area AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Assist families in developing long term care plans. Help families identify resources needed for long term care. Provide individualized case management and can act as the representative payee if needed

FEE: Private pay only. \$75 per hour plus travel time and mileage (½ hour minimum), no Medicaid or Medicare

Touch the Future

info@touchthefuture.us

Re-Boot & ATRC

770-934-8432

(The Assistive Technology Resource Center)

www.touchthefuture.us

1456 McLendon Drive, Suite A

Decatur, GA 30033

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all types of disabilities

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: Reboot is a computer recycling program that repairs and rebuilds donated equipment and distributes them to individuals with disabilities. Training is included. ATRC Project provides AT (assistive technology) solutions, which includes information, advocacy, assessment and training. This is a demonstration site with individual training focused on learning independence skills and which includes work programs.

FEE: Varies. Some programs are free, others cost, depends on the service

Region Three DBHDD Office

404-244-5050

3073 Panthersville Road, Building 10

404-244-5056

Decatur, GA 30034

(FAX) 404-244-5179

dbhdd.georgia.gov

POPULATION SERVED: Clayton, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton and Rockdale residents with mental health, developmental disabilities and addictive diseases issues

AGES: All

SERVICES OFFERED: DBHDD provides treatment and support services to people with mental illnesses and addictive diseases, and support to people with intellectual disabilities and related developmental disabilities. DBHDD serves people of all ages with the most severe and likely to be long-term conditions, including consumers with forensic issues. Services are provided across the state through contracts with 25 community service boards, boards of health and various private providers, and through state-operated regional hospitals. The office does not provide direct services.

FEE: None

Social Security Administration

4365 Shackelford Road
Norcross, GA 30093

1-800-772-1213

www.socialsecurity.gov **POPULATION**

SERVED: Individuals who have a physical or intellectual disability

AGES: There is not a minimum age for SSI (Supplemental Security Income); however, there are restrictions that will determine at what age your child becomes eligible for these benefits.

SERVICES OFFERED: A child with a disability may be eligible for a monthly income as well as Medicaid. Refer to the SSI and Medicaid section of this manual. **FEE:** None

United Way of Greater Atlanta

100 Edgewood Avenue NE
Atlanta, GA 30303

404-527-7200

404-614-1000

www.unitedwayatlanta.org

POPULATION SERVED: Residents in Butts, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding and Rockdale counties
AGES: All ages

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides comprehensive information and referral in a range of areas. Directs callers to appropriate resources needed. Can dial 2-1-1 to access an operator. Service is available 24 hours a day.

FEE: None

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

**METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID
TRANSIT AUTHORITY (MARTA)**

404-848-4711

404-848-5000

www.itsmarta.com

MARTA provides accessible public transportation through bus and rail service to residents and visitors in Fulton and DeKalb counties and the City of Atlanta regardless of age or disability.

Reduced Fare Breeze Cards

404-848-5112

Lindbergh Marta Headquarters

www.itsmarta.com/reducedfare.aspx

Five Points Station

Reduced-fare Breeze cards are available free for individuals with disabilities with proper proof of the disability. These reduced-fare Breeze cards allow individuals to ride for \$1 per trip at all hours of bus and rail service. Reduced-fare Breeze cards may be obtained at the Five Points Station or Lindbergh Marta Headquarters (located across the street from the Lindberg Station). Office hours are 9a.m.-12a.m. and 2p.m.-4p.m. Monday-Friday. The office is closed from 12 noon-2p.m.

MARTA Mobility

404-848-5000

MARTA Mobility is designed to accommodate the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities who cannot use, or get to the fixed route (bus and rail) system. This service is comparable to the level of accessible service provided to individuals without disabilities who use the fixed route system. In order to determine eligibility, MARTA must have an application for service on file. You must request that a MARTA Mobility application be sent to you.

Alterman/JETS Transportation Services

770-677-9300

4549 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd
30338

(FAX) 770-677-9400 Atlanta, GA

info@jfcs-atlanta.org

www.YourToolsForLiving.org

POPULATION: Older adults and adults with disabilities

AGE: 18 and older

PROVIDES: Transportation for older adults and adults with disabilities to and from work, medical appointments, and social and recreational outings. JETS serves parts of Fulton, DeKalb, and Cobb Counties.

FEE: Please contact JETS dispatchers at 770-677-9339 for fee structure

Care-Go

Daniel Moore

541 10th St NW Suite 495
Atlanta, GA 30318

Provides: Special drivers to fit your needs. On-demand transportation services.

678-428-8425

Daniel@care-go-atl.com

www.care-go-atl.com

South East Transportation

Southeastrans, Inc.
4751 Best Road, Suite 140
Atlanta, GA 30337

404-209-4000

678-510-4600

www.southeastrans.com

PROVIDES: South East Transportation is the primary agency to call for transportation assistance for Medicaid recipients. Service is provided for doctor and therapy appointments, prescriptions and other medical-related services. A provider will be assigned or you may make a request.

OTHER TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- carpool with co-workers or friends
- church members
- retired people
- refer to yellow pages for additional sources under Transportation: Personal, wheelchairs, and Special Needs Transportation, Taxicabs, Lyft, Uber □ search the web for special needs transportation

VOCATIONAL SERVICES

COMMUNITY ACCESS SERVICES and PREVOCATIONAL SERVICES

(Formerly known as DAY SUPPORT/DAY HABILITATION SERVICES)

What are Community Access (Day Support) Services?

Community Access Services (Day Support Services) are designed to assist the participant in acquiring, retaining, or improving self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills required for active participation and independent functioning outside the participant's home or family home. It can take place during the day, the evening or the weekend.

What are Prevocational Services? Prevocational Services prepare a participant for paid or unpaid employment and include teaching such concepts as compliance, attendance, task completion, problem solving, social interaction skills and safety.

What is Specialized Employment?

Specialized employment is the employment of significantly disabled persons in either facility or community settings with intensive and ongoing support. The individuals may be paid at less than minimum wage. Specialized employment requires a minimum of 10 hours of employment per week within the facility or in the community.

Art of Living

770-733-1274

4892 North Royal Atlanta Drive

www.artoflivingga.com Tucker, GA 30084

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities, multiple disabilities and challenging behavior

AGES: 20 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community residential Alternative (CRA), Community Living Support, Community Access Services, Supported Employment, and Respite are available for individuals living in homes or other residential arrangements. **FEE:** Medicaid Waiver

**DeKalb Community Service Board (DCSB)
CHOICE Program**

**770-484-2948
www.dekcsb.org**

2277 S. Stone Mountain Lithonia Rd.
Lithonia, GA 30058

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities who are DeKalb County residents. Referrals through Region 3 DBHDD

AGES: 22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Access Services and Prevocational Services are provided to increase community inclusion for adults with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities. Prevocational Services, training and support includes volunteer experiences in the community, based upon the preference and choice of the individual. Program hours are Monday through Friday, 6 hours a day. Also provide Community Access Individual Services (CAI). FEE: Medicaid Waiver

**DeKalb Community Service Board (DCSB)
DeKalb Enterprises**

**770-270-2710
www.dekcsb.org**

1569 Stoneridge Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities who are DeKalb County residents. Referrals through Region Three DBHDD

AGES: 22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Sheltered employment contract work with transition to community-based employment and supported employment. Program hours are Monday through Friday, 6 hours a day.

FEE: Medicaid Waiver

**DeKalb Community Service Board (DCSB)
Service Center**

**404-231-9363
www.dekcsb.org**

2660 Osborne Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30319

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities who are DeKalb County residents. Referral through Region Three DBHDD

AGES: 22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Access Services and Prevocational Services are provided. Support services include specialized therapies, behavior management, nursing, case coordination, and assistance with transportation and activity programs for older adults. Program hours are Monday through Friday, 6 hours a day.

FEE: Medicaid Waiver

DPCH, LLC

770-987-8301

5305 Snapfinger Woods Drive
Decatur, GA 30035

www.demburepch.com

POPULATION SERVED: Adults with developmental disabilities

AGES: 21 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Day program that includes Community Access Services.

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

Foundation of Exceptional Achievers

770-986-4881

2305 West Park Place Blvd.
Stone Mountain, GA 30087

(FAX) 770-986-4882

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities, autism, cerebral palsy, schizophrenia, mental illness, mental health, dual diagnosis, and physical disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Personal and social adjustment, Community Access Services, Prevocational Services, and Supported Employment are provided.

FEE: Vocational Rehabilitation, Medicaid Waiver, and private pay with Sliding Scale fees

The Frazer Center

1815 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE
Atlanta, GA 30307

404-377-3836

(FAX) 404-373-0058

www.thefraziercenter.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all types of disabilities

AGES: 22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Individual Service Plan (ISP), Community Access Services (Group and Individual), Prevocational Service, Work Evaluations, and Supported Employment

FEE: Medicaid Waiver or Private Pay. Supported Employment may initially be funded by Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency.

Great Prospects

142 Teal Court
Roswell, GA 30076

770-722-6250

404-374-3634

www.greatprospectsinc.org

POPULATION: Individuals who have a mild or moderate intellectual disability

AGES: Adolescent to young adult

SERVICES OFFERED:

Club Connect- after school programming

Career Connections Academy- a post-secondary educational option that focuses on Career Exploration (work readiness) and Self-Exploration (self-advocacy)

Camp Connect- 10 weeks of themed based summer day camp

Social Connections- once a month socials and dances

FEE: Call to inquire about fees

Jewish Family & Career Services

Tools for Independence WORKS

4549 Chamblee Dunwoody Road
Atlanta, GA 30330

770-677-9450

770-677-9300

www.yourtoolsforliving.org

POPULATION SERVED: Adults with developmental disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Day program that includes community activities, volunteerism, and structured curriculum; prevocational program that includes volunteer and work experience in community-based environments, vocational evaluation, supported employment, and disability awareness consultation

FEE: Medicaid Waiver. May initially be funded by Georgia Vocational

Rehabilitation Agency. Charges a fee for extended support

KES, Inc.

770-484-2112

6615 Tribble Street

<http://www.kesinc.org>

Lithonia, GA 30058

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: 14 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services, Community Living Support Services, Community Access Services, natural supports, summer camp, and Supported Employment Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

LoveNCare Healthcare Services

770-360-5683

4562 Lawrenceville Hwy

FAX: 1-888-849-7371

Suite # 201-210

www.lovincarehealthcare.com

Lilburn, Ga. 30047

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with Disabilities.

AGES: All ages depending on the services needed

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Living Supports, Community Access (Group/Individual for individuals that have transitioned out of high school) Specialized Medical Supplies, Specialized Medical Equipment, Supported Employment, Respite Care (In-Home)GAPP Program, Georgia Pediatric Program (GAPP)

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, Private Pay

Pathways Career Services

770-756-9582

9571 South Main Street

(FAX) 404-767-0281

Jonesboro, GA 30236

POPULATION SERVED: Adults with developmental disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Supported Employment/Job Coaching, Community Access Services and Prevocational Services, Vocational Evaluations, Work Adjustment, Work Evaluation, Career Orientation and Job sampling

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay, Ticket to Work Program

The Smart Place

Adult and Children Services

1916 Glenfare Rd

Decatur, GA 30035

770-469-4418

(FAX) 770-469-4438

www.thesmartplace.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities **AGES:**

Day Program: 18 years through adulthood; Summer and extended program: 12 and up

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Access Services and Prevocational Services are designed to provide choices & opportunities for success in a positive atmosphere by offering life skills instruction, behavior management, Individual Service Plan support, & community integration. Transportation provided.

Training for direct care staff & family members is available. Full summer programs for ages 12 to 21. An extended children's program

(3 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.)

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

United Cerebral Palsy of Georgia

3300 NE Expressway Bldg. 9

GA 30341

770-676-2000

1-888-827-9455 Atlanta,

(FAX) 770-455-8040

www.ucpga.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all disabilities, not just those with cerebral palsy

AGES: 17 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides a full array of services and supports, which benefit people with developmental disabilities and their families. Programs and services include after school care, Community Access Services, Prevocational Services, and Community Living Support Services. Referrals through Region Three DBHDD

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

WOW In-Sync, Inc.

2137 Flintstone Drive, Suite E
Tucker, GA 30084

770-939-1100**(FAX) 770-939-1714****www.wowinsync.org**

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities, including intellectual disabilities, autism

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Prevocational Services, Supported Employment, and Community Access Services. Programs of WOW In-Sync include Simply Biz, Ultimate Access, and Mister Migs.

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, Grant-In-Aid, Vocational Rehabilitation and private pay

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**What is Supported Employment?**

Supported employment is a state and federally funded program designed to enable individuals with disabilities to work. They are integrated with non-disabled workers in the work place and earn at least minimum wage. The individual works in a job best suited to his/her strengths and begins with intensive job coaching which decreases as the job tasks are mastered. A Job Coach provides ongoing support a minimum of twice a month for as long as the person has the job.

Individual Placements

Traditional Supported Employment provides for one individual to be placed in a job in a community business or industry. A Job Coach or Employment Training Specialist provides intensive training in job skills and work related behaviors. When employer's standards are met, onsite support is faded, but must continue a minimum of twice a month. Communication with the employee and the employer is ongoing.

Enclave

An enclave consists of a small group of individuals with disabilities working within a local business. These individuals require more support, which is provided by a Job Coach who works for either the supported employment organization or the host company. The coach remains on site with individuals throughout their employment.

Another Chance Customized Service, Inc.

678-518-1823

2412 Park Central Blvd

<http://www.anotherchancecsi.org>

Decatur, GA 30035

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Ticket to Work Program, Supported Employment, Work Adjustment, Job Readiness, Vocational Evaluation, Competitive Employment, Job Coaching, Basic Computer Training, Personal Supports, Personal Social Adjustment Training, Medical Supplies, Home Health, Transportation

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, Ticket to Work Program, private pay

Briggs and Associates

770-993-4559

2300 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite 103 #366

(FAX) 770-552-7051

Roswell, GA 30076

<http://www.briggsassociates.org>

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with an intellectual, physical, and/or emotional disability

AGES: Adults

SERVICES OFFERED: Supported employment program matches individuals to jobs with ongoing support

FEE: Medicaid Waiver. May initially be funded by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. Those with qualifying mental health impairment may be funded by Briggs and Associates but will need to be determined eligible upon completion of application process.

Bobby Dodd Institute

2120 Marietta Blvd NW

Atlanta, GA 30318-2122

(Formerly) AADD—All About Developmental Disabilities

125 Clairemont Ave, Suite 300

Decatur, GA 30030

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with disabilities

AGES: 16 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: A vocational rehabilitation program including vocational and work evaluations, training, job placement, community-based work assessments, and supported employment with extended follow-up services.

Training programs offered include office essentials, tech shop, food services, janitorial training, and building trades.

FEE: May initially be funded by Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

678-365-0071

(FAX) 678-365-0098

www.bobbydodd.org

404-881-9777

(FAX) 404-881-0094

http://aadd.org

DeKalb Community Service Board (DCSB)

Supported Employment Services

(DeKalb Enterprises)

2277 South Stone Mountain-Lithonia Road

Lithonia, GA 30058

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities and intellectual disabilities who are DeKalb County residents. Referrals through Region Three DBHDD Board

AGES: 22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Sheltered employment contract work with transition to community-based employment and supported employment. Program hours are Monday through Friday, 6 hours/day.

FEE: Medicaid Waiver

770-270-2710

www.dekcsb.org

Foundation of Exceptional Achievers

2305 West Park Place Blvd.

Stone Mountain, GA 30087

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities, autism, cerebral palsy, schizophrenia, mental illness, mental health, dual diagnosis, and physical disabilities

AGES: 18 - 60

770-986-4881

(FAX) 770-986-4882

http://www.feawork.com

SERVICES OFFERED: Prevocational Services, Community Access Services and Transportation

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay with Sliding Scale

The Frazer Center

404-377-3836

1815 Ponce de Leon Avenue (FAX) **404-373-0058** Atlanta, GA 30307

www.thefrazercenter.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with all types of disabilities.

AGES: 22 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Supported Employment (Group and Individual), Vocational Rehabilitation Work Evaluation (facility and Pre-school), Individual Service Plan (ISP), Community Access Services (Group and Individual), and Prevocational Services

Fee: Medicaid Waiver, private pay. Supported Employment may initially be funded by Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

770-414-2602

Tucker VR Office – Serves North DeKalb

FAX: 770-414-2674 5238

Royal Woods Parkway
30084

https://gvs.georgia.gov Tucker, GA

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual, physical, mental and/or emotional disabilities

AGES: 16 years through adulthood. Parental consent required if under age 18

SERVICES OFFERED: Range of Services offered are based on the eligibility and vocational goal of the client. Services offered are individualized to client's needs preferences, interests, and choice. Service can include Community Work Adjustment Training, Personal Social Adjustment Training, Job Placement, and Supported Employment.

FEE: Fees for services provided by Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency are determined by individual financial needs assessment. Some services are exempt from cost-sharing to include Job Placement, Supported Employment (Time Limited), Personal Social Adjustment and Community Work Adjustment Training, Job Readiness Training and Career Exploration.

Jewish Family & Career Services

770-677-9450

Tools for Independence WORKS

770-677-9300

4549 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road

http://.yourtoolsforliving.org

Atlanta, GA 30330

POPULATION SERVED: Adults with developmental disabilities

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Day program that includes community activities, volunteerism, and structured curriculum; prevocational program that includes volunteer and work experience in community-based environments, vocational evaluation, supported employment, and disability awareness consultation

FEE: Medicaid Waiver. May initially be funded by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. Charges a fee for extended support

KES, Inc.

6615 Tribble Street
Lithonia, GA 30058

770-484-2112
www.kesinc.org

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities

AGES: 14 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Residential Alternative Services, Community Living Support Services, Community Access Services, Prevocational Services, natural supports, summer camp, and Supported Employment Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, private pay

People Making Progress

2345 Fourth Street, Suite 100
Tucker, GA 30084

770-723-1848
(FAX) 770-723-0880

e-mail: pmpinc@bellsouth.net

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with a primary diagnosis of developmental disabilities (may also have additional disability).

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Community Access Services, Supported Employment and Independent Living

FEE: Medicaid Waiver and Grant Funded

Nobis Works

1480 Bells Ferry Road
Marietta, GA 30066-6014

770-427-9000
<http://www.nobisworks.org>

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with intellectual, physical, mental and/or emotional disabilities

AGES: 16 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Vocational Evaluations, Work Evaluations, Job Readiness Training, Supported Employment, Job Placement Assistance, Work Adjustment, Occupational Skills Training, Customer Service Help Desk Training, and Computer Skills Training.

FEE: May initially be funded by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. Medicaid Waiver, private pay, VA contracts

WOW In-Sync, Inc.

2137 Flintstone Drive, Suite G
Tucker, GA 30084

770-939-1100

(FAX) 770-939-1714

<http://www.wowinsync.org>

POPULATION SERVED: Individuals with developmental disabilities, specifically intellectual disabilities. Programs of WOW In-Sync include Simply Biz, Ultimate Access, and Mister Migs.

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Prevocational Services, Supported Employment, and Community Access Services

FEE: Medicaid Waiver, Grant-In-Aid, Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation, and private pay

OTHER VOCATIONAL SERVICES

Work Source DeKalb

774 Jordan Land, Building 4
Decatur, GA 30033

404-687-3400

(FAX) 404-687-3443

www.dekalbworksource.org

POPULATION SERVED: All job-seekers, regardless of county of residence

AGES: 18 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Provides a unified education, training, and employment program for job-seekers. Core services include job search assistance, job clubs and adult education & literacy programs. Training services include occupational skills training, on-the-job training, customized training, subsidized work experience, skills upgrading and retraining, entrepreneurial training and follow-up services for 12 months. Basic assessments (skill levels, interests, aptitudes, abilities, and supportive services), individual employment plans, individual counseling and in-depth career planning and case management and follow-up services for 12 months are also available. There is a youth program for ages 14-24 that provides apprenticeships, programs to assist with acquiring GED's, summer employment, and assists with certifications and degrees. **FEE:** No cost for services—it is a Federal program

Goodwill Industries of North Georgia

1295 Columbia Drive
30032

2201 Lawrenceville Hwy
Decatur, GA 30033

404-728-8600

www.goodwillng.org Decatur, GA

404-554-9600

careerconnector.org

POPULATION SERVED: Anyone with barriers to employment

AGES: 16 years through adulthood

SERVICES OFFERED: Assessment and work readiness skills training program, work adjustment program, supported employment and other supports offered

FEE: None when referred by the Georgia Department of Labor, Vocational Rehabilitation Program or other referring agencies

**POST-SECONDARY INCLUSIVE PROGRAMS IN GEORGIA
(College Options for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities)**

The purpose of providing transition services for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) on a college campus creates opportunities for academic, vocational, and social skills instruction in a community setting with college-age peers. Postsecondary education programs are a promising approach to providing transition services in an age-appropriate and inclusive setting.

Columbus State University

The GOALS Program at CSU

4225 University Ave

Teacher Education Department Columbus,
GA 31907

<https://te.columbusstate.edu/goals.php>

E-mail: goalsinfo@columbusstate.edu

Contact person: Dr. Greg Blalock

Type of school:

4-year college or university

Program Description:

706-568-5394

The GOALS Program at Columbus State University is a two-year certificate program that provides a college experience for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Typical applicants are those who received special education services for a developmental disability (i.e., intellectual disability) through most of their K-12 schooling and have graduated high school with an alternative diploma (i.e., special education diploma, certificate of attendance, etc.). Using a person-centered planning process, GOALS provides students with developmental disabilities the opportunity to set and work toward their personal post-secondary goals as a foundation for active, lifelong career and community participation. The GOALS Program at CSU represents an inclusive, universitybased program built upon the four principles of personal advocacy, career development, health education, and civic engagement. Students complete 36 credit hours of inclusive and program-specific courses, along with work-related internships that are designed to support the academic and personal leadership development of students.

Requirements: minimum of age 18 and a high school diploma or exited high school

Eligible to earn a degree or certificate: Currently it is a two year program that is pending approval for a degree or certificate.

East Georgia State College

478-289-2191

CHOICE Program

131 College Circle Swainsboro,
GA 30401

http://www.ega.edu/offices/student_affairs/choice

E-mail: trdavis@ega.edu

Contact person: Theresa R. Davis, Ed.S.--CHOICE Program Director
Type of school:

4-year college

Program Description:

East Georgia State College is a member of the University System of Georgia, gaining State College status in 2012, and offers a two-year college inclusion certificate program. The East Georgia State College inclusion program is designed for students with disabilities who desire to pursue a complete college immersion experience. The CHOICE program provides instruction in the following areas: Career Development and Employment, Academic Enrichment, Campus and Community Engagement, Self-Determination, and independent Living. The CHOICE Program staff creates a unique and customized plan for achievement using a person-centered planning approach. Student participants audit traditional courses, complete specialized CHOICE courses, and participate in job

shadowing/internship experiences on and off campus to support career exploration and development of employment skills. **The CHOICE Program for inclusive learning at East Georgia State College (EGSC) has been designated by the U. S. Department of Education as a Comprehensive Transition Program (CT).** The DOE recognizes such programs that meet specific criteria and provide postsecondary learning opportunities for students with disabilities. One benefit of the CTP designation is that **students are eligible to apply for financial aid.**

CTP was defined by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. CTPs at career schools and colleges serve students with intellectual disabilities who receive instruction in academics, career preparation, and independent living with goal of gainful employment. CTPs must advise students academically and provide welldefined programs of study. Students must spend at least half of their time in the program in activities with nondisabled students in inclusive courses and workbased training.

Requirements: minimum of age 18 and a high school diploma or exited high school

Eligible to earn a degree or certificate: Yes, students may earn a 2 year certificate

Georgia Institute of Technology

404-385-8157

EXCEL Program at Georgia Tech

Inclusive Postsecondary Academy at Georgia Tech 800 West Peachtree Street, N.W. Atlanta, GA 30308-1149

<https://www.scheller.gatech.edu/centers-initiatives/ile/excel/index.html>

E-mail: ipa@gatech.edu

Contact person: Ken Surdin

E-mail: ken.surdin@ipa.gatech.edu

Type of school:

4-year college or university

Program Description:

The Inclusive Postsecondary Academy at Georgia Tech (IPA) is a four-year, inclusive non-degree program for students with mild intellectual and developmental disabilities leading to a Certificate of Social Growth, Academic Enrichment, and Vocational Exploration. The IPA at Georgia Tech provides students with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to engage in the full college experience, including building a social network, participation in regular college classes, living independently, working in professional internships, and enjoying an

active social life with friends, and mentors. The purpose of the program is to provide the opportunity for all students to realize their intellectual and personal potential, with appropriate support for success.

Requirements: minimum of age 18 and a high school diploma or exited high school

Eligible to earn a degree or certificate: Yes, students may earn a 2 year certificate

Georgia State University

404-413-1281

IDEAL Program at Georgia State University

Center for Healthy Development

School of Public Health

Georgia State University

Center for Leadership in Disability

P.O. Box 3961

Atlanta, GA 30302-3961

<http://cps.education.gsu.edu/research/ideal/>

Email: IDEAL@gsu.edu

Type of school:

4-year college or university

Program Description:

The Inclusive

Digital Expression and Literacy (IDEAL) Program offers a two-year course of study for students with mild intellectual disabilities. The IDEAL Program includes college classes, extracurricular activities and job-focused training. The mission of IDEAL is to prepare students with intellectual disabilities with educational opportunities and job-focused training. Our goal is to provide resources and support that lead to meaningful employment, greater independence and a higher quality of life for young people with intellectual disabilities. The IDEAL Program will leverage GSU's resources in media and the arts, as well as our location in a global hub for journalism, music, art and design. The Program will be novel in its

focus on digital/media literacy, technology use and communication skills.

Requirements: minimum of age 18 and a high school diploma or exited high school

Eligible to earn a degree or certificate: Yes, students may earn a 2 year certificate

Kennesaw State University

470-578-2283

Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth

520 Parliament Garden Way

Kennesaw, GA 30144-5591

<http://wellstarcollege.kennesaw.edu/academy/index.php>

E-mail: academyadmissions@kennesaw.edu

Contact person: Katherine Rigsby

E-mail: kripsby1@kennesaw.edu

Phone: 470-578-2283

Type of school:

4-year college or university

Program Description:

Kennesaw offers 2 certificate programs, each two years in length, that are designed to provide an inclusive post-secondary opportunity to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Students can receive one certificate from the Academic, Social, Career, Enrichment (ASCE) program and one advanced certificate from the Leadership and Career Development (LCD) program. The Academy is a Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP) but our students are not eligible for any sorts of financial aid or Pell grants. Students are able to pay through private pay or scholarships.

Requirements: minimum of age 17 and a high school diploma or exited high school or hold a completion credential from an inclusive postsecondary program

Eligible to earn a degree or certificate: Yes, students may earn a 2 year certificate

University of Georgia

706-542-9401

Destination Dawgs: Inclusive Post-Secondary Education at UGA

850 College Station Rd

Institute on Human Development and Disability

Athens, GA 30606

<http://www.fcs.uga.edu/i HDD/destination-dawgs>

E-mail: DestinationDawgs@uga.edu

Contact person: Carol Britton Laws

Type of school: 4-year college or university

Program Description: Destination Dawgs is the University of Georgia's Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Program which will launch in January 2017! This nondegree Certificate program will support students with intellectual disabilities who are transitioning to adulthood an opportunity to prepare for a career and independent living over the course of 5 spring/fall semesters. Students will audit UGA courses, gain valuable job skills, and build a social network based on individualized plans supported by peer mentors. Applications are due in the middle of May each year. Select students will be invited to participate in a Summer Leadership Program from as a pre-requisite to program admittance. Students must be over 18 years old, have a documented disability, and have a desire to gain skills for self-determination, independent living, and career development at the University of Georgia. Students who are under partial or limited guardianship will be considered.

Requirements: minimum of age 18 and a high school diploma or exited high school

Eligible to earn a degree or certificate: Currently it is a three year program that is pending approval for a degree or certificate.

Albany Technical College

229-430-2854

LEAP Program at Albany Technical College

229-430-0919

1704 S. Slappey Blvd.

Albany, Ga. 31701

<http://www.albanytech.edu/index.php>

Contact Person: Regina Watts, Special Needs/Disability Services Coordinator,
rwatts@albanytech.edu

Virginia Chatmon: vchatmon@albanytech.edu.

Type of school: 2 year technical college

Program Description: The Leveraging Education for Advancement Program (LEAP) at Albany Technical College (ATC) is for highly motivated students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Student programming is based on the strengths and needs of the individual student identified through the development of a Person-Centered Plan. LEAP students can earn a Business Office Assistant certificate. All courses are taught by ATC faculty who are dedicated to teaching and preparing all students. Courses are offered on the Albany Tech campus where LEAP students have the opportunity to take courses alongside other college students. Graduates earning the Business Office Assistant certificate are prepared to perform a variety of duties in any office clerical occupation that requires knowledge of office systems and procedures. Along with taking credit classes, students have the opportunity to participate in career development workshops, social community integration, job shadowing, and internships. In addition to gaining new skills and training, each student is matched with a trained mentor to help build the college campus experience and meet academic requirements. LEAP students can enjoy the full college experience by participating in college activities, clubs, and organizations that are available to all ATC students .

Students are eligible for financial aid: Georgia Hope Grant and scholarships; however, grants and scholarships will not cover the entire cost. We are in the

process of applying to become a Comprehensive Transition Program which will make our students eligible for Pell Grants.

Requirements: Applicants considering applying to the LEAP program should be a minimum of 18 years old, have received special education services on the secondary level, graduated with a special education diploma, or a certificate of alternative diploma. Individuals should possess basic mathematics skills, the ability to use a calculator, and a minimum of a third grade reading level. **Eligible to earn a degree or certificate:** The LEAP program is a two year program that offers a credentialed certificate. Students who complete the LEAP program earn a Business Office Assistant certificate.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

www.aadd.org	All About Developmental Disabilities
www.access-board.gov	U.S. Architectural & Transportation Compliance Board
www.bpaoga.com	Benefits Navigator Project
www.dekcsb.org	DeKalb Community Service Board
www.disabilitylink.org	Disability Link
www.disabilityresourcegroup.org	Disability Resource Group
www.gcdd.org	Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities
www.georgiacommunitytrust.com	The Georgia Community Trust
www.glr.org	Georgia Learning Resources System
www.gaipsec.weebly.com	Georgia Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium
www.gadoe.org	Georgia Transition Manual
www.lawyers.com	For overview of guardianships: Type in guardianship and conservatorship

click “search” scroll down to “Articles”
For overview of Special Needs Trust:
Type in Special Needs Trust
click “search” Scroll down to “Articles”

www.loc.gov

Library of Congress

www.dbhdd.georgia.gov

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
and Developmental Disabilities:

www.itsmarta.com

click on left side at “service”
click on “Developmental Disabilities”
MARTA Services

www.nichcy.org

National Dissemination Center for Children
with Disabilities

www.pacer.org

Parent Advocacy Coalition for
Educational Rights

www.p2pga.org

Parent to Parent of Georgia

www.schwablearning.org

A Parent’s Guide to Helping Kids with
Learning Difficulties

www.sss.gov

Selective Service System

www.specialneedsplanning.com

Special Needs Planning

www.specialolympicsga.org

Special Olympics Georgia

www.silcga.org

Statewide Independent Living Council of
Georgia

www.unlockthewaitinglists.com

Unlock the Waiting Lists!

www.vitalcheck.com

Site to order a birth certificate www.vote-

www.smart.org

Site to locate your legislator.

Type in your zip code in the column on the left.

www.gvra.ga.gov

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Services

To contact a state legislator via e-mail:

Enter that legislator's first initial, then last name

@legis.state.GA.US

Example: ncarroll@legis.state.GA.US

To access future versions of the Transition Manual, follow the directions on the DeKalb County School's website.

www.dekalbschoolsga.org

On the main page type in the search box:
Transition Manual

National Transition Resources Websites:

www.fulllifeahead.org

www.gottransition.org

www.jobaccomodationanetwork.org

www.lifeafterIEPs.org

www.ncwd-youth.info

www.ncset.org

www.nichy.org

www.pacer.org

www.thinkcollege.net

www.transitioncoalition.org

www.transitionlink.org

DeKalb County Parent Mentors for Special Education: 678-676-2105 or
678-676-2106

PHONE RECORD

Date: _____ Agency Called: _____

Phone Number: _____ Person spoken to: _____

Question:

Answer:

Comments:

Date: _____ Agency Called: _____

Phone Number: _____ Person spoken to: _____

Question:

Answer:

Comments:

PHONE RECORD

Date: _____ Agency Called: _____

Phone Number: _____ Person spoken to: _____

Question:

Answer:

Comments:

Date: _____ Agency Called: _____

Phone Number: _____ Person spoken to: _____

Question:

Answer:

Comments: