

## **ADVOCACY/RESOURCE GROUPS AND PROGRAMS**

### **AADD- All About Developmental Disabilities**

Aadd.org

(404) 881-9777 → Decatur

Agency provides information and advocacy services, recreational activities, and supported employment. Apply here for family support services.

### **ACE Community Support Services**

<http://www.acecommunitysupport.com/#/splash/>

(678) 401-4596

Since 2009, ACE (Achieving Community Enrichment) has provided therapeutic counseling services to children, adolescents, adults, and families. Since then, ACE has added additional programs and services in order to better meet the needs of the residents in the surround communities of: *Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Polk, and Rockdale* counties.

### **Adult Disability Medical Home**

<https://theadmh.org>

(678) 595-4854 → Marietta

Program Director Janice Nodvin

### **Advocates for Special Education**

[Advocatesforspecialeducation.com](http://Advocatesforspecialeducation.com)

### **Autism Improvised**

(770) 354-5770

Theater and acting productions for individuals with Autism.

### **Benefits Navigator**

[Bpaoga.com/](http://Bpaoga.com/)

[Benefitsnavigator.org](http://Benefitsnavigator.org)

Contact Sally Atwell (404) 350-7589 or Curtis Rodgers (404) 764-7459

This program can help you understand Social Security benefits

### **Brain Injury Association of Georgia**

[Braininjurygeorgia.org](http://Braininjurygeorgia.org)

(404) 712-5504

This organization provides support, education, and advocacy. They have several programs including a 'peer visitor program' and Camp Program, as well as conferences and workshops.

### **Camp Joyful Soles**

[tom.mcklveen@cityofmiltonga.us](mailto:tom.mcklveen@cityofmiltonga.us)

Special needs summer camp for kids ages 13-22; accepts Avita and GCSS

**Camp Momentum**

Part of the North Atlanta Miracle League (NAML)

**Car Seat Program**

Through CHOA- Egleston

**Canine Assistants**

Canineassistants.org

(770) 664-7178

This is a non-profit group that trains and provides service dogs. They place their dogs on a most-in-need basis, and the wait can be several years.

**Center for the Visually Impaired**

Cviga.org

(404) 875-9011

This organization helps the visually impaired individuals learn how to be as independent as possible. They have programs for children and adults. Check out the BEGIN program.

**Childkind**

Childkind.org

(404) 248-1980 →Chamblee

Helps with referrals, resources, and advocacy. They often have informational seminars about resources and how to best use Medicaid to meet your child's needs. Go to their website and look under "Training" to see when they are hosting their next seminar.

**CHOA Camps**

<https://www.choa.org/camps>

Summer camps operated by CHOA available at a free or reduced cost with medical personnel and professionals on staff 24/7. They operate camps for kids 8-18 with diabetes, organ donor recipients, epilepsy, spina bifida, Autism, and more.

**CHRIS 180**

Chriskids.org

(404) 486-9034

For foster kids ages 6-17 years old who have emotional/behavioral issues stemming from trauma.

**Clayton Center Community Service Board**

112 Broad Street

Jonesboro, GA 30236-1919

(770) 478-2280

Apply here for Family Support Services

## **Department of Labor Vocational Rehabilitation**

www.vocrehabga.org

### **Debbie Dobbs**

Debbiedobb.com

Helps with applying for Katie Beckett Medicaid (for a fee).

### **DisAbility Link**

Disabilitylink.org

(404) 687-8890 → Tucker

Their core services are advocacy, teaching of independent living skills, peer support groups and mentoring, and information and referral.

### **Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta**

Dsaatl.org

(404) 320-3233

The association will direct you to the correct contact person and support groups for your area.

### **Easter Seals**

Easterseals.com

They offer a variety of services, including summer and afterschool programs, medical rehabilitation services, children's services (Babies Can't Wait, Champions for Children, Early Education), Autism/ASD Services (PLAY Project), senior services, and adult services.

### **Elaine Clark Center**

A very inclusive special needs center, they offer early intervention programs, out of school services, k-12 education, and referrals to other programs. Financial assistance is available.

### **Emory Adult Day Health**

631 Exchange Place

Lilburn, GA 30047

This day care serves individuals in the Indian community

### **Erin's Hope for Friends (E's Club)**

Alpharetta and Ackworth Locations

<http://erinshopeeforfriends.org/>

E's Club is a place where teens and young adults with HFAS (high functioning Autism spectrum) can meet regularly to have fun and develop meaningful relationships in a safe and encouraging environment.

### **Exceptional Community Services**

(770) 922-3000, Sharee Lee- program Director

This organization offers a variety of services, including a day program and accepts people on a self-pay basis. They do not currently have a website.

**First Impressions**

(770) 317-9077 Jody Wilson

jody@1impressions.org

This organization lets an individual with special needs (DD only) pick out a new outfit as part of an education experience about dressing himself or herself. Someone will help them pick out the proper size and helps them out together an outfit. \$1 per item.

**FOCUS (Families of Children Under Stress)**

\*has merged with Fragile Kids\*

focus-ga.org

(770) 234-9111

This organization offers emotional, informational, and physical support to families of children with disabilities through a variety of programs, including respite and social activities. They also have summer camps.

**FODAC (Friends of Disabled Adults and Children)**

Fodac.org

(770) 491-9014 or 1 (866) 977-1204 → Stone Mountain

This organization loans home health care and adaptive equipment to families free of charge for as long as it's needed. They also have a 'Ramps for Champs' program.

**Fragile Kids Foundation**

Fragilekids.org

(770) 951-6111 → Vinings

This nonprofit organization provides funds for the health and care of medically fragile children in their home. They will purchase equipment, supplies, and other things that will assist families with their child.

**Georgia Parent Mentor Program**

(678) 676-2105 Alexandra wright

(678) 676-2106 Demetra Williams

Madeline\_griffin@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

Support group through DeKalb Co. schools.

**Georgia Learning Resource System (Metro East)**

1701 Mountain Industrial Blvd

Stone Mountain, GA 30083

www.me.glr.org

(678) 676-2417

This is a resource library that provides information to parents and professionals about any and all aspects of special education and community resources. There is an extensive collection of library materials available for check out, as well as switch toys and other items of interest for students, parents, and professionals. They also provide an exhaustive list of summer camp programs.

\*\*Services DeKalb, Decatur, Fulton, Rockdale, Gwinnett, and Buford Co. schools\*\*

**Georgia Perimeter College**

(404) 413-7878

Offers strong support services for individuals with special needs.

**Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities**

Their website includes provider manuals and information about applying to become a provider.

**Georgia Sensory Assistance Project- Dept. of Education Psychology and Special Education (Georgia State University)**

(404) 413-8312 or 1 (800) 597-2356

For individuals who are deaf/blind ages 0-21

Ages birth to 3 yo: Carol Darrah (706) 542-2433

Ages 3-21: Martha Veto (478) 751-6083 ext. 4120

**Georgia Advocacy Group**

Thegao.org

(404) 885-1234

Protects and advocates for persons with a disability

**Georgia Legal Aid**

(404) 885-1234 or 1-800-537-2329

Choose a topic below to find resources including general information, your legal rights, the law and the courts, legal forms and more.

**Georgia Community Support Solutions (GCSS)**

Gacommunity.com

<http://www.gacommunity.org/day-programs>

(404) 634-4222 → Druid Hills

Contact Nicole Brickhouse to apply for family support funds. These funds can be used for a variety of things, such as a caregiver. Contact Arthur Blackburn to apply for respite.

**Georgia Parent Mentorship Partnership**

Parentmentors.org

Parent mentors work within the school system to build a team to support the student, parents, teachers, and other supporting staff. The mentors work as a liaison between all parties to keep the focus on helping the student have the most positive outcome.

**Georgia Parent Support Network**

Gpsn.org

(404) 758-4500

This agency provides support, education, and advocacy for children and their families with mental illness, emotional disturbances, and behavioral differences.

**Georgia Special Needs Scholarship (SB10)**

[www.doe/k12.ga.us/sb10.aspx](http://www.doe/k12.ga.us/sb10.aspx)

For information on the SB10 scholarship.

### **GCAL (Georgia Crisis Access Line)**

1 (800) 715-4225

Use this number to access the GA Crisis Response System for individual with DD. GCRS-DD provides community based crisis support as an alternative to institutional placement, emergency room care, or involvement of law enforcement. If a crisis occurs due to behavioral issues and you are unable to resolve the situation and the individual or others are at risk of harm, call GCAL. They will assess the situation and dispatch a Mobile Crisis Team if needed. The team will help resolve the immediate problem as well as the referrals for intensive in-home an out-of-home supports to resolve the crisis.

### **Gigi's Playhouse Down Syndrome Awareness Center**

Gigisatlanta.com

(404) 872-7529

A non-profit organization that provides resources, therapeutic classes, specialized tutoring, and support to families that have a child with DS. All programs and classes are free!

### **Girls Night Out**

Contact Amber Driessen

Jrdn52001@bellsouth.net

This is a group of parents of children with special needs who meet monthly to enjoy a night out and support each other.

### **The George Center for Music Therapy**

Thegeorgecenter.com

(678) 701-1203

### **Goodwill**

Goodwill offers a wide range of training classes, case management and career services all designed to help individuals find employment, improve their skill set or change career paths. Goodwill's staff seeks to place job seekers in high growth industries with the potential for career growth, living wages and benefits. Each training program is individually tailored so that each person is able to achieve their desired goals.

*\*\*Schapiro Training & Employment Program (STEP) has been a pioneer in the formation of the supported employment movement for people with psychiatric disabilities who are also economically disadvantaged, placing them in competitive employment*

### **Great Prospects**

Greatprospectsinc.org

(770) 314-4243 → Roswell

This organization was formed to address the need for meaningful options for after school care and life after graduation. They provide educational programs, social interaction, and recreational activities in a nurturing, safe, and supported environment.

**Happy Club Metro Atlanta YMCA**

<http://outhouserag.typepad.com/hc/>

[dunwoodyhappyclub@gmail.com](mailto:dunwoodyhappyclub@gmail.com)

(404) 610-4008

The Happy Club provides opportunities to continue to develop socialization and community skills. There is a \$35/year fee for membership and minimal fee for events.

**Hi Hope Center**

[Hihopcenter.org](http://Hihopcenter.org)

(770) 963-8694

The center provides a day habilitation program, sheltered workshop, community work program, recreation, and leisure for individuals with disabilities 19 yo and up. Hi Hope now has a self-pay option and you can choose “cafeteria style” from their services and the number of days each week for your family members to attend.

\*\*Individuals in school should be placed on the waiting list 5 years before graduation. \*\*

Medicaid or FFS individuals should contact Janis Hunter at (770) 963-8694 ext. 121

**Jacob’s Ladder**

SAIS-SACS accredited, SB-10 approved private school, serving students Pre-K through twelfth grade with any kind of neurological disorder - from Down syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and Brain Injury to a range of learning disabilities and genetic disorders. Located in Roswell.

**Just People, Inc.**

[Justpeople.org](http://Justpeople.org) or [contact@justpeople.org](mailto:contact@justpeople.org)

(770) 441-1188 → Norcross

This organization provides a variety of social services, job development and training, transportation, and independent living assistance to adults with developmental disabilities.

**LEAP Program (Learn Experience Adapt Prepare)**

Kristofer Fix (770) 645-2673 ext. 241

**Learning Disabilities Association of Georgia**

[Ldag.org](http://Ldag.org)

**Lekotek of Georgia**

[Lekotekga.org](http://Lekotekga.org)

(404) 633-3430 → North Druid Hills

This organization has a toy lending library and play sessions for the family.

**LIFE Program (Learning Internship for Employment)**

(770) 887-2461 ext. 202327, Susan Darlington

For Forsyth Co. schools

**Lionheart School**

<http://thelionheartschool.com/>

Special needs private school in Alpharetta. They also offer summer camps, afterschool programs, hippotherapy, and a GVRA approved vocational rehab/training program. They accept SB10 scholarships for school.

**Marcus Autism Center**

Marcus.org

(404) 419-4225

**Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta**

Atlantajcc.org

[www.atlantajcc.org/interior-pages/special-needs-home](http://www.atlantajcc.org/interior-pages/special-needs-home)

(678) 812-4000 or Sean Whiting (678) 812-3715

Young Adults & Adults, Susie Davidow (678) 812-4091

Children and Youths, Jennifer Lieb (678) 812-4094

Ruth B. Jackson transitions, Elizabeth Knapp (678) 812-4095

Awesome center that takes inclusion to a new level. They have great summer camps as well as Jerry's Habima Theater that features actors with DD.

**\*\*You don't need to be Jewish to participate\*\***

**MARC (Metropolitan Atlanta Respite Cooperative)**

Gacommunity.org

(404) 634-4222, Ioana Nicolescu (770) 427-8401

Offers in-home, host family, group home, and facility based group home respite care through a cooperative of agencies. **\*\*Sliding scale fees\*\***

**Muse for Life Music Group**

(404) 538-5541

**New Directions Adult Autism Program**

Newdirectionsforautism.org

(678) 926-3598

This program services individuals who have aged out of the school system; they accept NOW and COMP waivers. Additional resources available on their website.

**The Next Stop**

Thenextstop.org

(404) 932-3953 → Suwanee

This is an afternoon program for individuals with mild to moderate special needs from high school and above. The activities support social skills, learning, awareness, and fun interaction with peers.



**The Next Step**

(770) 875-9595, Owner/Director Andrea Hinton

thenextstepcadd@gmail.com

This is a private, for-profit adult day care and afterschool program for individuals 18 yo. and up with DD. They service up to 10 individuals at a time.

**One Good Deed**

Serves Fulton Co. seniors 60+

**Parent to Parent of GA**

p2pga.org

(770) 451-5484 or (800) 229-2038 → Dekalb County

Non-profit organization provides support and information to parents of children with special needs. The website is awesome and includes a section “Roadmap to Services” that is filled with information on a variety of subjects. Alternatively, give them a call to access a huge database of information or to get hooked up with a Navigator team in your area.

**People Making Progress**

(770) 723-1848 → Tucker

pmpinc@bellsouth.net

This agency offers supported employment, community & living support, and long term support.

**PRISM**

(765) 38 – PRISM (77476) → North Fulton County.

<http://www.prismga.org/>

Day program and community based learning for I/DD young adults 18+

\*\*waiver and private pay accepted

**Quality Care for Children**

(404) 479-4200 → Brookhaven; (770) 387-0828 → North Georgia

This is an agency that provides a telephone resource and referral service for parents looking for childcare. There is no fee for this service and they can recommend a variety of options.

**Right in the Community**

Rightinthecommunity.org

(770) 427-8401 → Cobb County

This organization is a great resource for information, support, and advocacy. They network within the disability community to help families obtain services. They have group homes and respite services. Membership is \$25/yr.

**Roosevelt Warm Springs**

(844) 367-4872

<https://gvs.georgia.gov/Roosevelt-warm-springs-0>

This is a state-operated rehabilitation center in Warm Springs, GA. You must obtain a referral from the Dept. Of Labor. They offer a wide variety of services, including high education and job training for special needs individuals.

### **SASSY Club (South Dekalb Association for Super Special Youth)**

Sassyspecialpeople.org  
(404) 542-8395

This is a social club for young adults. Although it was started by South Dekalb moms, it is open to anyone. The club currently meets each week for bowling on Monday evenings. One of the main goals of the group is to help fill the social void left when an individual ages out of school.

### **Saturday Respite at Hi Hope**

(404) 634-4222 ext. 228, Latarsha Hardy

On the third Saturday of each month, GCSS with Hi Hope Service Center provides a 6-hour respite care program for individuals 3 to adult. Contact GCSS to register.

### **Senior Care America**

Young Lee, Director  
5111 Spring St.  
Flowery Branch, GA 30542 (Hall Co.)  
Car facility with primarily Korean clients

### **Shadowbrook Baptist respite (PURE Ministries)**

pure@shadowbrookchurch.org  
Shadowbrook offers respite, 3 hours one Saturday every month.

### **Shenanigans**

Sandy Bruce (770) 354-5770  
Applied arts program and theater for Autism support.

### **Smart911**

Smart911.com  
This site allows you to create a safety profile for each member of your family. The information will be presented to a 911 operator any time an emergency call is initiated from the designated phone number. The profile allows first responders (fire and police) to know any special conditions they may encounter at your home or with family members. You can alert them if a family member has special needs and how best interact with the individual.

### **Spectrum**

Atl-spectrum.com  
(770) 904-2909 → Suwanee  
Claire Dees, Executive Director (770) 617-8775, Claire@atl-spectrum.com  
This is a Gwinnett Co. Autism support group established and run by parents. The group meets the first Thursday of every month 6:30-8pm at Stonehill Church. Childcare is available. Please call ahead.

### **Special Kneads and Treats Bakery and Café**

(678) 237-7147

A cool shop in Lawrenceville that accepts volunteer workers with special needs to work in the bakery; they also hire special needs individuals. They also have a “foster cake” program, where kids living in foster care can get a free/sponsored birthday cake. Founded by Michael Kohler and his wife on behalf of their special needs son. Michael used to be in charge of the Grayson Athletic Association SPOP Program.

### **Specs4Us**

Glasses specifically for individuals with Downs.

### **Tools for Life**

[www.gatfl.org](http://www.gatfl.org)

(404) 894-0541

Georgia’s assistive technology program, which is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work, and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

### **Toni’s Camp**

This camp is offered by the Archdiocese of Atlanta, but anyone 14+ yo. Or older can attend. It takes place the first weekend in May, Friday through Sunday. The camp staff provides 1:1 (or more) support if needed and is trained to handle aggressive behavior. → Camp Twin Lakes

### **United Cerebral Palsy Afterschool Program and Hi Hope**

(770) 822-3444, contact Trudy Cyers; or [jalexander@ucpa.org](mailto:jalexander@ucpa.org)

This program is located in Lawrenceville and provides care and supervision to intellectually disabled students after school until 6pm, on teacher workdays, and during the summer months.

### **United Way**

211online.unitedwayatlanta.org

United Way is a non-profit organization that can help you locate utility assistance, food and clothing banks, volunteer opportunities, etc.

### **View Point Health**

9077-A Taylor St Conyers, GA 30012

Contact: Annette Dennis (678) 209-2597 or (678) 209-2411 [24/7]

This is a community health center that includes mental health services. Apply here for Family Support Services, a funding source that can be used to provide needed services of supplies. Tell her you are specifically needing respite and funds to help pay for a caregiver and see if FSS covers that.

### **Vocational Rehabilitation Services**

<https://gvs.georgia.gov/vocational-rehabilitation-division>

**WOW! Inc**

<http://www.wowinsync.org/>

Non-profit provider of community and employment services for adults with developmental and learning disabilities, serves approximately 170 individuals from DeKalb, Gwinnett, Fulton, Clayton and Fayette counties in Georgia. They are currently updating their website.

## **HEALTHCARE SERVICES**

### **Behavioral Health Link**

Behavioralhealthlink.com

(800) 715-4225

This is the place to access mental health services. They have a 24/7 crisis line and mobile crisis team. Also contact them to schedule mental health care at the county's community services board.

### **Crawford Keith DDS- Crawford Orthodontics**

3850 Holcomb Bridge Rd. #230

Norcross, GA 30092

(770) 447-5311

### **Children's Dentistry of Atlanta**

### **Children's Medical Services**

Dph.georgia.gov/CMS

This program offers a variety of services including DME, medicine, and supplies.

### **Dentistry for the Developmental Disabled (DDD)**

Dddfoundation.org

(404) 942-0086 → North Druid Hills

Non-profit organization offers accessible, comprehensive dental treatment to patients having developmental disabilities in the Atlanta area.

### **Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities**

Dbhdd.georgia.gov

You will find information about the NOW/COMP waiver on this website.

### **Decatur Pediatrics**

Dr. Melinda Willingham

### **Dr. Hong Wang**

Gwinnett Medical Center

(770) 975-7232

### **Dr. Kaurunah Shaw**

Neurologist in Lawrenceville

### **EPSDT**

<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/benefits/epsdt/index.html>

The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit provides comprehensive and preventive health care services for children under age 21 who are enrolled in Medicaid. EPSDT is key to ensuring that children and adolescents receive appropriate preventive, dental, mental health, and developmental, and specialty services

**FAST (Fins Adapted Swim Team)**

Contact [brian@focus-ga.org](mailto:brian@focus-ga.org)

**PACT (Psychiatric Addictive Curative Therapies) Dr. Antin**

(404) 292-3810

**Pediatrics**

(770) 840-1966

Health services for medically complex children

**Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (HIPPP)**

<https://dch.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp>

(678) 564-1162 ext. 2131

This program helps Medicaid members maintain their private insurance by paying eligible member' insurance premiums. For information, go to Parent to Parent's website and click on "Roadmap to Services" → "Healthcare" → dropdown box on the left and click "Medicaid" → "HIPPP" Also check out the CHIPRA program that is found under the same Medicaid section.

**Social Security Administration**

[Ssa.gov](http://Ssa.gov)

(800) 772-1213

To apply for SSI, call to schedule an appointment. You can either use the number above or look on the website to find the local office near you

## **ADDITIONAL WAIVER PROGRAMS**

### **SOURCE (Service Options Using Resources in a Community Environment)**

Dch.georgia.gov/long-term-care

(404) 463-6570 or (404) 653-8365

This is a state plan that inks primary medical care with home and community based services, such as care coordination, home health, adult day care, and personal supports.

### **GAPP (Georgia Pediatric Program)**

(404) 656-6862

A Medicaid waiver program for children up to age 21 who are medically fragile with multiple diagnoses. Services include in-home nursing, medical day care, transportation, and personal care attendants.

### **CCSP (Community Care Services Program)**

(404) 657-5258 or 1 (866) 552-4464

Medicaid waiver program that services elderly people with disabilities who qualify for the level of care provided in a nursing home, who also need regular nursing care but can stay at home with community-based services. CCSP also has licensed community living programs.

### **ICWP (Independent Care Waiver Program)**

(678) 527-3619

This program offers services that help a person with physical disabilities live in their own home or in a community instead of a hospital or nursing home. The individual must be able to direct his/her own care and have severe physical impairment and/or TBI. ICWP covers certain group homes/community living homes; call for details.

### **Deeming Waiver/Katie Beckett Waiver**

<https://www.deemingwaiverhelp.com/the-steps.html>

This waiver program reduces the financial eligibility criteria for Medicaid. Families who have a disabled child with a chronic condition are eligible. The purpose of the waiver is to provide medical services for the child, while helping the family care for their child at home. You have to apply for Medicaid, be denied based on income, then immediately apply for the Deeming waiver. To apply, contact the local Medicaid office within DFCS.

## **MINISTRY PROGRAMS**

### **AGAPE**

(770) 995-9055

Tim Bailey tim.bailey@northmetro.net

This is an outreach program of the special needs ministry at North Metro Baptist Church. They meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month (except June) for two hours in the evening. The church is located in Lawrenceville. Ages 5 to adult, with high functioning intellectual/physical disabilities.

### **Developmental Disabilities Ministry**

(770) 623-4899 or (888) 340-5820

ddmga.org or email @ddmga.org

This organization has several group homes in Atlanta and throughout Georgia. Their goal is to help individuals become as independent as possible while living in a group home or apartment environment.

### **First Baptist Conyers**

Firstconyers.com

(770) 483-8700, Sirena Graves (404) 358-6253

This church provides respite services one Saturday a month. They also have a special needs ministry and an Autism Support Group and hold a special needs prom every April.

### **First Baptist Church of Snellville**

FbcSnellville.com

This church has Sunday school classes for individuals with special needs. They also have respite on the first Tuesday of every month.

### **First United Methodist Church of Lawrenceville**

Fumclv.org

This church has Sunday school classes for individuals with special needs

### **Johnson Ferry Baptist Church**

They have the Green Light class for individuals with special needs.



## **SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS**

### **Atlanta Dance Central**

(770) 992-0170

Dance class just for individuals with Down Syndrome; operated through the Foster-Schmidt Dance Academy

### **Blaze Sports**

(404) 270-2000

<http://www.blazesports.org/>

Our mission is to change the lives of children and veterans with physical disabilities through adaptive sports. They offer a variety of sport and recreation programs for kids and veterans with physical disabilities. These include spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, cerebral palsy, dwarfism, amputations, spina bifida and visual impairments, among others. All levels welcome; multiple sports programs offered.

### **Fulton Co. Parks & Recreation**

**Henry Co. Parks & Recreation** (Check out their therapeutic recreation department)

### **DeKalb Co. Parks & Recreation**

(404) 679-5917

They offer a variety of services including a Young Adult Social Club, field trips, and preparation for Special Olympics. Call to receive quarterly brochures with update schedule of events.

### **Chattooga Gymnastics**

[Chattoogagym.com](http://Chattoogagym.com)

(770) 924-2832 Gail Ratliff, office manager

Offers gymnastics and dance classes for individuals with special needs. Operates May-September; register through Cobb. Co Gymnastics.

### **City of Alpharetta**

Camp Happy Hearts

175 Roswell Street

Alpharetta GA, 30009

(678) 297-6154

[accprograms@alpharetta.ga.us](mailto:accprograms@alpharetta.ga.us)

[www.alpharetta.ga.us](http://www.alpharetta.ga.us) type in "Camp Happy Hearts" in the search box

**Other:** Day, coed, interview required

**Disabilities Served:** Developmental

**Focus:** Recreation

**Ages:** 6-12 years

### **City of Atlanta**

Camp Best Friends

675 Ponce de Leon Avenue #830

Atlanta, Georgia 30308

(404) 546-6934

[dkrobertson@atlantaga.gov](mailto:dkrobertson@atlantaga.gov) Diallo Robertson

[grmcgruder@atlantaga.gov](mailto:grmcgruder@atlantaga.gov) Gordon McGruder

The camp takes place at

Lang Carson Recreation Center

404-215-2856

[www.atlantaga.gov/government/parks/burrec\\_therapeutics.aspx](http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/parks/burrec_therapeutics.aspx)

**Disabilities Served:** Mild to moderate developmental and physical disabilities,  
**Focus:** Recreation and social skills

**Ages:** 6 – 11 years  
**Other:** Day, coed, inclusive

### **City of Roswell**

Mary Rummell, Therapeutic Recreation  
Roswell, Georgia 30075-4617  
830 Grimes Bridge Road (Facility Location)  
38 Hill Street Suite 100 (Mailing address)

**Disabilities Served:** Developmental and physical disabilities

**Focus:** Social events, art, tennis, and fitness for young adults

**Ages:** Young adults 18 years and up  
**Other:** Grimes Bridge Park is a wheelchair [mrummell@roswellgov.com](mailto:mrummell@roswellgov.com) accessible park  
[www.roswellgov.com](http://www.roswellgov.com)

go to “City Services” at the top  
go to Recreation & Parks  
go to Program Brochure

### **Clayton County Parks and Recreation**

Torieon Moses, Therapeutics  
2300 Highway 138 SE  
Jonesboro, Georgia 30236  
770-473-3952 - Torieon Moses  
770-603-4001 – Fallon Burges

**Disabilities Served:** Developmental Division delays, orthopedic disabilities

**Focus:** Recreation, leisure skills, Special Olympics, social skills

**Ages:** 6 – 21 years

[www.claytonparks.com/recreationServices/therapeutic.htm](http://www.claytonparks.com/recreationServices/therapeutic.htm)

### **Clayton Challengers**

(404) 395-2533 Contact Nancy Jackson

This groups meets for baseball in the summer and bowling in the fall. They also attend various sports activities (Braves, Hawks, Falcons) as a group.

### **Clayton County Parks & Recreation**

(770) 477-3766  
(770) 472-8042 for Rex, GA  
(678) 479-5134 for Jonesboro, GA  
(770) 603-4001 for Riverdale, GA  
Ask about their therapeutic recreation program

### **GA Gymnastics Academy**

Gwinnett Co.

### **Grayson Athletic Association Special Populations Program**

[Gaaspecialneeds.com](http://Gaaspecialneeds.com) or [spops@gaasports.org](mailto:spops@gaasports.org)

Contact Brian Fowler. This is a program for children and adults with special needs. Its’ goal is to provide the chance to engage in recreational sports in a fun and relaxed environment with the focus on abilities, rather than disabilities. All games are played at Bay Creek Park in Grayson on Friday or Saturday evenings. You do not have to live in Grayson to participate.

**Greater Atlanta Pathways (formerly Gwinnett Masters Special Olympics)**

GMSOga.org or info@GAPathways.org and info@gmstga.org

(404) 625-3988 → Suwanee

Gwinnett Masters Special Teams; This is a very active group that is creating pathways into the community via a wide variety of cultural experiences. The mission is to provide affordable sports, social, and life skills activities to individuals with intellectual, developmental, or physical disabilities, and to strengthen the community by raising awareness of these populations. Most of the activities involve individuals who are out of school.

**Iron Horse Therapeutic and Hippotherapy Programs**

www.cjironhorse.com

(678) 231-5038 → Milton/Alpharetta

**OWLS Club**

Alpharetta YMCA

Special needs exercise class

**Newton Co. Masters Special Olympics**

(770) 786-3802

**North Metro Miracle League**

Nmml.net

John McLaughlin, Executive Director (770) 777-7044 or (404) 861-8920

This organization serves athletes that are not able to participate in typical programs because of a disability. \$45 registration fee, financial aid is available.

**Rockdale Co. ASPIRE/ Therapeutic Recreation Programs**

Rockdalecounty.org

(770) 278-7249

Contact Tom McPike, therapeutic recreation director. You must live in Rockdale Co. to participate in ASPIRE.

**Southern Performing Arts Academy**

3315 Sugarloaf Pkwy, Suite 16

Lawrenceville

(678) 682-9238

Dance class for individuals with special needs.

**Special Twists Cheerleading**

Stacey VanDyke (678) 468-9471

They are based out of Suwanee but practice in Alpharetta.

**Shepherd Sports**

(404) 367-1287 Matt Edens

<https://www.shepherd.org/resources/sports>

Membership on a Shepherd Center sports team is open to athletes with any type of a physical disability, as long as the disability falls within the guidelines of the sport. Shepherd Center sponsors 11 sports teams that enable individuals with physical disabilities in the Atlanta area to participate in sports on a recreational or competitive level. Athletes compete in local and regional competitions, as well as at the national and international levels. Regular practice sessions offer expert instruction, as well as camaraderie and peer support. Shepherd Center's sports teams program raises awareness about disabilities and increases participation in disabled sports.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **Alterman/JETS Transportation Services**

[www.yourtoolsforliving.org](http://www.yourtoolsforliving.org)

(770) 677-9339

Provides transportation for older adults with disabilities to and from work, medical appointments, and social and recreational outings. JETS serves parts of Fulton, Dekalb, and Cobb counties only.

**\*\*Individual must be 60+ yo., have a disability, and live within the service area.\*\***

### **I Care Medical Transportation**

[www.icareseniors.org](http://www.icareseniors.org)

(404) 377-2273

Serves seniors in Dekalb Co.

### **MARTA Mobility**

(404) 848-5826

MARTA Mobility is designed to accommodate the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities who cannot use, or get to, the fixed route (bus or train) 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. If the individual needs a caregiver to ride with him/her, make sure you check the box about a Personal Care Assistance so someone will be allowed to accompany them (no charge!).

### **Southeastrans**

[Southeastrans.com](http://Southeastrans.com)

(404) 209-4000: Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett

(678) 510-4555: North Georgia

(888) 224-7981: Clayton, Rockdale, Newton

This is the primary agency to call for transportation assistance for Medicaid recipients. Service is provided for doctor and therapy appointments, prescription, and other medical-related services.

**\*\*must schedule at least three days in advance; up to 30 days in advance.\*\***

## **LEGAL/STATE RESOURCES**

### **Clayton County Probate Court**

121 South McDonough St., Annex Building 3  
Jonesboro, GA 30236

### **DeKalb County Probate Court**

(404) 371-2601  
Rm 1100 Courthouse Annex  
556 North McDonough St.  
Decatur, GA 30030

### **Fulton County Probate Court**

Fultoncountyga.gov/probate-court  
(404) 613-4070

Contact the Clerk of Court to request an application for guardianship of an incapacitated adult. The clerk will walk you through the entire process.

### **Fulton Co. Medicaid Services Program Selection**

84 Walton St. NW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 657-8037

### **Gwinnett County Probate Court**

(770) 822-8250  
Contact the Clerk of Court to request an application for guardianship of an incapacitated adult. The clerk will walk you through the entire process.

### **Gwinnett County Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS)**

(770) 441-8800  
2211 Beaver Run Rd., Suite 130  
Norcross, GA 30071  
Contact DFCS to apply for Medicaid

### **Rockdale County Probate Court**

(770) 278-7700  
Contact the Clerk of Court to request an application for guardianship of an incapacitated adult. The clerk will walk you through the entire process.

### **SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)**

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap>  
Go to this website to apply for food stamps; you may also apply in person at your DFCS office.