

Resources for Children with Special Needs:



**A Handbook for Families
and Professionals**

Resources for Children with Special Needs: A Handbook for Families and Professionals

A manual to provide resources to families,
health care providers, and others who work
with children with special needs.

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Please send additional resource links or corrections to
kbell@sph.emory.edu

Current versions of this handbook and information about the
Georgia Folic Acid Task Force can be found at
<http://www.sph.emory.edu/gafolic>

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What **Are** Neural Tube Defects?

What Causes Neural Tube Defects?

What Can I Do To Reduce the Risk of NTDs?

Are Folic Acid and Folate the Same?

Can NTDs Be Found During Pregnancy?

What Is It Like To Live with an NTD?

What Are Neural Tube Defects?

Neural tube defects (NTDs) are birth defects that happen very early in pregnancy. The defects develop between the 17th and 30th day after conception (4 to 6 weeks after the first day of a woman's last menstrual period). This is often before a woman knows she is pregnant. During this time, the neural tube forms and closes. It later becomes the brain, spinal cord, and the bones surrounding the brain and spinal cord. An NTD happens when the neural tube fails to close properly.

The most common NTDs are spina bifida, anencephaly, and encephalocele.

Spina bifida occurs when the lower end of the neural tube fails to close. As a result, the spinal cord and back bones do not develop properly. Sometimes a sac of fluid pushes through an opening in the back and part of the spinal cord is found in this sac. Paralysis of the legs, loss of bowel and bladder control, hydrocephalus ("water on the brain"), and learning disabilities often happen with spina bifida.



Anencephaly is a fatal condition in which the upper end of the neural tube fails to close. The skull does not form properly, and the brain either does not develop completely or it doesn't develop at all. Babies affected by anencephaly are miscarried, stillborn, or die shortly after birth.

Encephalocele happens when a part of the upper end of the neural tube doesn't close properly, leaving a hole in the skull through which the brain protrudes. With early surgery to repair the encephalocele, these babies usually live. Some have little or no disabilities that you can see, while others are more affected.



What Causes Neural Tube Defects?

No one knows exactly what causes NTDs, but research has found that they happen early in pregnancy and that some factors are thought to be related to these birth defects. It is important for you to know that having an NTD-affected pregnancy is no one's fault. Any woman who can get pregnant can have a pregnancy affected by NTDs. About 95 percent of women with NTD-affected pregnancies have no family history of these birth defects. Although there are some actions you can take to lower your chances of having a baby with an NTD, these have been found recently and are not yet commonly known. Even parents who know about these actions and do everything possible to have a healthy baby can still have a baby with an NTD.

There are some factors that might increase your chances of having a pregnancy affected by NTDs. These include:

- A previous NTD-affected pregnancy
- Maternal insulin-dependent diabetes
- Use of anti-seizure medication
- Medically diagnosed obesity
- Exposure to high temperatures during pregnancy
- Race/ethnicity (NTDs are more common among white women than black women and more common among Hispanic women than non-Hispanic women)

Talk with your doctor or a genetic counselor about ways to reduce your chances in future pregnancies if any of those factors apply to you.

What Can I Do To Reduce the Risk of NTDs?

If all women who can get pregnant take the B vitamin folic acid daily, up to 70 percent of NTDs can be prevented. Even women who are not planning to get pregnant should take folic acid daily, because half of all pregnancies in the United States are not planned. The United States Public Health Service (USPHS) and the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine (IOM) recommend that all women capable of becoming pregnant take 400 micrograms of synthetic folic acid daily in addition to consuming food folate from a varied diet to reduce their risk of having an NTD-affected pregnancy. That is the amount of folic acid found in most over-the-counter multivitamins and in a

single serving of some breakfast cereals. Check the labels to be sure! Folic acid can be found in "enriched" cereal/grain products, such as flour, pasta, and rice. Again, check the labels to be sure.

The USPHS recommends that women who have had a previous NTD-affected pregnancy take an even higher dosage of folic acid when planning a future pregnancy. These women should talk with their doctors about increasing the dose of folic acid from 0.4 milligram (400 micrograms) to 4.0 milligrams (4,000 micrograms) daily from at least 1 month before conception through the first three months of pregnancy. The increased dose of folic acid is **10 times** the usual amount and should be obtained with a prescription from the doctor. Taking more than one multivitamin a day to increase the dose can be harmful.

Are Folic Acid and Folate the Same?

Folate and **folic acid** are different forms of the same B vitamin. **Folate** is the form that is found naturally in foods. **Folic acid** is the man-made form that is used in vitamin supplements and added to fortified foods. The body absorbs man-made (synthetic) folic acid better than natural food folate. Folate found naturally in foods has a more complex structure that must be "broken down" before it can be used, and some is lost during the process. Also, storage and temperature can affect the folate in food. Because the body can absorb and use the folic acid found in vitamin supplements and fortified foods more efficiently than food folate and because the amount of folic acid usable by the body is easier to predict with the synthetic form, the USPHS and the IOM recommend that women who can get pregnant consume the man-made form of folic acid daily to make sure they are getting the proper amount.

Can NTDs Be Found During Pregnancy?

Most NTDs can be found during pregnancy by three different tests:

-**Maternal serum alpha-fetoprotein (MSAFP) test** is a screening test that is performed on a pregnant woman's blood at approximately 14-16 weeks of pregnancy. Further testing is needed if the MSAFP is abnormal.

-**High-resolution ultrasound** might visually detect an NTD after about 18 weeks of pregnancy.

-**Amniocentesis** is a test that samples the amniotic fluid (fluid that

surrounds the baby) after 14 weeks of pregnancy.

There are risks (such as slightly increased chance of miscarriage with amniocentesis) and benefits (such as being able to prepare for any special care a baby may need after delivery) for each of these tests. Talk with your doctor or a genetic counselor about the details of each test, their risks and benefits, and other available options.

What Is It Like To Live with an NTD?

The range of disabilities in people with NTDs varies from mild (little or no apparent disability) to severe (limited movement and function). People with NTDs and their families face economic, educational, health, and emotional issues. Many babies with NTDs develop hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid in the brain. Surgery to place a shunt (a long tube that will drain the extra fluid) reduces pressure on the brain. Because hydrocephalus can be detected and treated early, mental retardation caused by excess pressure on the brain is not as common as used to be. However, children with NTDs often have learning disabilities. Frequent surgeries, paralysis of the legs, and lack of bowel and bladder control are common for people living with spina bifida. These problems may affect a person's health, self-esteem, work, play, and social interactions.

Despite those challenges, many people affected with NTDs and their families adjust to the extra demands and function well.

For more information, please see your health care provider.

Sources

-Preventing Neural Tube Birth Defects: A Prevention Model and Resource Guide. CDC, 1999.

-Answering Your Questions About Spina Bifida. Children's National Medical Center, 1995.

-Children with Spina Bifida: A Parents' Guide. Marlene Lutkenhoff, 1999.

-<http://www.ibis-birthdefects.org/start/ntdfact.htm>

-<http://www.chg.duke.edu/patients/neural.html>



Notes

What Is a Deeming Waiver, and How Do I Obtain It?

Is My Child Eligible?

How Do I Apply?

What Will I Need To Have Done?

What Are Health Insurance Options for Children?

The information in this chapter was originally presented on the Parent to Parent of Georgia Web site at <http://www.parenttoparentofga.org> and has been modified and reproduced here courtesy of Parent to Parent of Georgia.

What Is a Deeming Waiver, and How Do I Obtain It?

The Deeming Waiver is a medical waiver program for children with certain disabilities. Parents of children with disabilities often find it hard to deal with the income limit that blocks qualifying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The Deeming Waiver, previously called the Katie Beckett Waiver, gives parents a way 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. Even if a child has private insurance coverage, parents can apply for this waiver. Most private insurance policies have lifetime caps and limits on service and out-of-pocket expenses. If families have private insurance, the Deeming Waiver can provide secondary insurance to cover out-of-pocket expenses, and it is helpful to have the Deeming Waiver in place before a lifetime cap of the primary insurance is met. As secondary coverage, Medicaid will pay for 20 percent of expenses that primary insurance does not pay.

Is My Child Eligible?

To be approved for the Deeming Waiver, your child must:

- Be less than 18 years old,
- Meet Social Security Disability criteria,
- Have cost-effective home care (less than nursing home cost),
- Not qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) due to income and/or assets of the parents, and
- Be eligible for nursing home placement as established by the Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF) for Medicaid recipients. (This does not mean the child should be placed in a nursing home, simply that the child meets the nursing home requirements for care.)

How Do I Apply?

Contact your county Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Ask to speak with the Medicaid worker (general DFCS personnel may not know about the Deeming Waiver). The Medicaid worker will make an appointment to have a long and in-depth meeting with you. **Be sure to ask what you need to take with you for the appointment.** The first step is to make sure that your child is not eligible for SSI. Most of the time the county DFCS office can tell you whether or not your child meets the guidelines, but sometimes the only way to know is to apply at the Social Security Office for SSI for your child.

You will need to gather information and fill out forms about your child's disability. The DFCS worker will tell you what you need to get, give you the forms, and tell you where you can get help finishing the forms.

What Will I Need to Have Done?

To get a Deeming Waiver, you will need to have the following:

- Social History:** a detailed family history taken by DFCS personnel
- Psychological Evaluation:** for children with mental retardation or a developmental delay to be done by a psychologist (PhD)
- Plan of Care:** a plan that states the child's strengths, limits, and needs for all areas of care
- DMA-6 Form:** Doctor's recommendation for nursing home placement. Although the form can be filled out by the parent, it must be signed by the doctor. This form is very important. Be sure to ask the DFCS worker to mark the areas that need to be signed by the doctor. Please take this form to the doctor who knows your child best. You may wish to ask the doctor to either post-date it or leave the date blank when he signs the form. This is helpful, because the form is good for only 30 days. The date can be added after all the paperwork is ready as it often takes more than 30 days to compile the needed documents.

When all paperwork is done, give it to the DFCS worker. He or she will then send it to the Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF) for approval.

What Are Health Insurance Options for Children?

All Children, Middle-Income Working Families

PeachCare for Kids: This program allows working families with certain incomes to purchase low-cost health insurance for any child under 19 years of age. Children under 6 years of age are covered at no cost to the family. Starting at age 6, the costs are \$7.50 per month for one child and \$15.00 per month for two or more children. To apply for this program, call 1 (877) GA-PEACH.

Children with a Disability, Middle- or High-Income Families

Deeming Waiver: The Deeming Waiver is a medical waiver program for children with certain disabilities. This program provides Medicaid insurance to children who live in families having income that is too high to qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The Deeming Waiver Medicaid can be used as either primary insurance or, for a child already covered under a private insurance plan, as a secondary insurance. To apply for this program, contact your local Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) office.

All Children, Low-Income Families

Medicaid without SSI: Families with a certain income might qualify to receive medical insurance through Medicaid. This program is for children up to 18 years of age whether or not they have a disability. To apply, contact your local Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) office.

Children with Medicaid Who Might Be Eligible for Private Insurance

HIPP (Health Insurance Premium Payment): HIPP is a Department of Medical Assistance (DMA) program that pays for the cost of private health insurance. It is for those people with Medicaid (Medicaid, Medicaid with SSI, or Deeming Waiver) if the DMA decides it costs less to pay for private insurance instead of having Medicaid pay all the bills. It can be used for the entire family if a family insurance plan is found to cost less. To apply for this program, contact the DMA at (404) 525-3660.

Children with a Disability, Low-Income Families

Medicaid with SSI: Families with a certain income who have a child with a disability might qualify to receive monthly SSI and Medicaid insurance. To apply, contact your local Social Security Office. Call (800) 772-1213 to find the closest office.

All Children, Families with Income Too High for Medicaid and a Lot of Medical Bills

Medically Needy, Spend Down Medicaid: You may qualify for the Medically Needy program if you have a lot of medical bills, but your income is too high for "regular" Medicaid. To apply, contact your local Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) office.

To learn more about these programs, contact your nearest Parent to Parent office.

Parent to Parent

<http://www.parenttoparentofga.org>

e-mail: info@parenttoparentofga.org

Atlanta/Central Office
3805 Presidential Pkwy., Ste. 207
Atlanta, GA 30340
Phone: (770) 451-5484
Toll-free: (800) 229-2038
Fax: (770) 458-4091

Albany Office
P.O. Box 71026
141 N. Slappey Blvd.
Albany, GA 31708
Phone: (229) 438-5600
Toll-free: (800) 229-2038
Fax: (229) 436-8744

Statesboro Office
3 W. Altman St.
Statesboro, GA 30458
Phone: (912) 489-1904
Toll-free: (800) 229-2038
Fax: (912) 681-0910



Notes

How Do I Find Resources for Children with Special Needs?

Adaptive Equipment
Advocacy
Educational Materials
Family Support Services
Health Care Services
Job Assistance
Education & Child Care
Sports & Recreation
National Resources
Spanish Language Resources
Related Web Sites
Public Health Resources in Georgia
by District

The Georgia Folic Acid Task Force provides the following information for your convenience. While we feel that the organizations listed could be helpful to you and your family, we have no control over their policies and practices. The views and opinions of these organizations are not necessarily those of the Georgia Folic Acid Task Force or its member agencies.

Adaptive Equipment

Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access

Georgia Institute of Technology

490 10th St., N.W.

Atlanta, GA 30332-0156

Phone: (404) 894-4960

Toll-free: (800) 726-9119

<http://www.catea.org>

Supports people with disabilities through research, educational programs, information sharing, and design and development of devices. The goal is through the use of technology to help people with disabilities to live, learn, play, and work as fully as possible.

Georgia Project for Assistive Technology (GPAT)

528 Forest Pkwy.

Forest Park, GA 30297

Phone: (404) 362-2024

<http://www.gpat.org>

Provides services, training on devices, and resources to parents, teachers, and school system staff.

Georgia Tools for Life

Department of Labor and Rehabilitation

Toll-free: (800) 497-8665

<http://www.gatfl.org>

Helps Georgians with disabilities get the devices and services they need to live, learn, work, and play independently in communities of their choice. Also, provides information and referral services through a statewide toll-free number.

Lekotek of Georgia, Inc.

1955 Cliff Valley Way

Atlanta, GA 30329

Phone: (404) 633-3430

<http://www.lekotekga.org>

Teaches children with disabilities through the use of adapted toys and computer equipment.

Shepherd Center

2020 Peachtree Rd., N.W.

Atlanta, GA 30309

Phone: (404) 352-2020

<http://www.shepherd.org>

Provides custom wheelchairs, seats, and other devices to help people with disabilities. Staff evaluates and prescribes solutions that will have the most lasting impact on a person's safety, independence, and quality of life.

Advocacy

Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities

1440 Dutch Valley Pl., N.E., Ste. 200

Atlanta, GA 30324

Phone: (404) 881-9777

Toll-free: (800) 229-5746

<http://www.aadd.org>

Services include support for individuals and families affected by developmental disabilities in metro Atlanta. Provides job and recreation programs. Also, provides information about prevention, public policy, education and training, and the interfaith disabilities network.

Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta

3232 Cobb Pkwy., #213

Atlanta, GA 30339

Phone: (404) 320-3233

E-mail: Advocacy@down-syndrome-atlanta.org

<http://www.down-syndrome-atlanta.org>

Organization of parents, relatives, professionals, and friends of citizens with Down syndrome dedicated to reaching and assisting parents of children with Down syndrome, promoting public awareness and education, encouraging research, and keeping the public and parents informed about legislative and social policy issues related to Down syndrome.

Family Voices

Georgia Contact: Heidi Fernandez

Phone: (678) 445-4664

E-mail: hcf67@cs.com

<http://www.familyvoices.org/st/georgia.html>

Clearinghouse for information and education concerning the health care of children with special health needs.

Georgia Advocacy Office

100 Crescent Centre Pkwy., Ste. 520

Tucker, GA 30084

Phone: (404) 885-1234

Toll-free: (800) 537-2329

E-mail: info@thegao.org

<http://www.thegao.org>

Advocates for individual rights, assistive devices, and other assistance for people with developmental disabilities and mental retardation.

Georgia Arc Network

1996 Cliff Valley Way, N.E.

Atlanta, GA 30329

Phone: (404) 634-5512

Fax: (404) 634-9512

E-mail: arcga@earthlink.net

<http://www.arcga.org>

Raises awareness on legislative issues that directly affect people with developmental disabilities.

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities in Georgia

2 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 3-210

Atlanta, GA 30303-3142

Phone: (404) 657-2126

TDD: (404) 657-2133

Toll-Free Inside Georgia: (888)ASK-GCDD or (888) 275-4233

Fax: (404) 657-2132

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

State planning council in charge of public policy research, analysis, and reform, project demonstrations, education and training. May also provide service referrals and recommendations to the general public.

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia

3562 Habersham at Northlake, Bldg. J, Ste. 3

Tucker, GA 30084

Phone: (770) 451-0020

Powerline: (800) 822-2539 or (770) 451-5501

<http://www.hmhbga.org>

Advocates for better maternal and child health through education, public awareness efforts, lobbying, and sponsoring networking opportunities and forums. Powerline provides, in both English and Spanish, health information and referrals for free or low-cost healthcare.

National Mental Health Association of Georgia

100 Edgewood Ave., Ste. 502

Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: (404) 527-7175

Fax: (404) 527-7187

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

Educates, advocates, delivers services, and supports research to confront stigma, prejudice, and discrimination.

Educational Materials

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

4770 Buford Hwy., N.E., MS F-45

Atlanta, GA 30341-3724

Phone: (770) 488-7160

Toll-free: (888) 232-6789

Fax: (770) 488-7197

E-mail: flo@cdc.gov

Web site: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/folicacid>

Order form: <http://www2.cdc.gov/ncbddd/faorder>

Provides free folic acid educational materials for individuals, state and local campaigns, and health professionals.

Brain Injury Association of Georgia

1447 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 810

Atlanta, GA 30309

Phone: (404) 603-1477

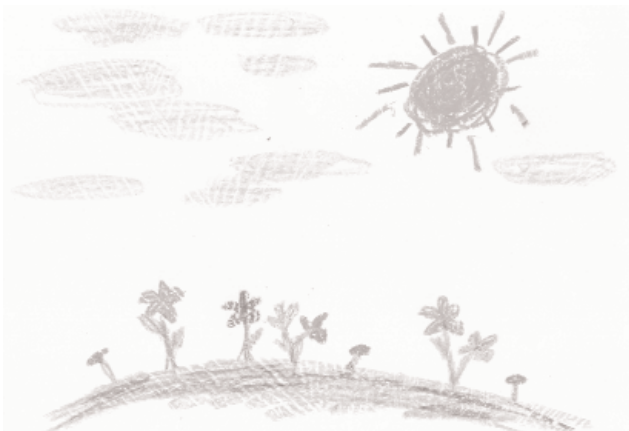
Helpline: (888) 334-2424

Fax: (404) 603-1476

E-mail: biag@braininjuryga.org

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

Provides statewide network of support groups, brain injury information and resources, toll-free helpline, and conferences, workshops, and camps.



Family and Consumer Science Extension

University of Georgia

Hoke Smith Annex

Athens, GA 30602

Phone: (706) 542-7566

<http://www.fcs.uga.edu/extension/index.html>

Assists with plans for folic acid education, referrals, and resources for prepregnancy or prenatal care. Conducts folic acid promotion activities.

Georgia Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled

1150 Murphy Ave., S.W.

Atlanta, GA 30310

Phone: (404) 756-4619

Provides information and educational materials about disabilities to individuals, families and professionals .

March of Dimes, Georgia Chapter

1776 Peachtree St., Ste. 100

Atlanta, GA 30309

Phone: (404) 350-9800

E-mail: ga619@marchofdimes.com

<http://www.marchofdimesga.com>

Offers educational material on topics relating to healthy pregnancy and preventing birth defects. Offers workshops for health care professionals on these topics.

Spina Bifida Association of Georgia, Inc

3355 Northeast Expressway, Ste. 207

Atlanta, GA 30336

Phone: (770) 454-7600

www.spinabifidaofgeorgia.org

E-mail: sbag@mindspring.com

Provides education about spina bifida and promotes activities that allow people born with spina bifida to live, learn, work, and play to the fullest.

Family Support Services

Cobb County Spina Bifida Support Group

Parent Contact: Sharon O'Grady

1409 Hampton Glen Dr.

Marietta, GA 30064

Phone: (770) 795-8121

E-mail: sharonogrady@bellsouth.net

Support group for parents of children with spina bifida.

FOCUS (Families of Children Under Stress)

3050 Presidential Dr., Ste. 114

Atlanta, GA 30340

Phone: (770) 234-9111

Fax: (770) 234-9131

E-mail: focus-ga@mindspring.com

<http://www.focus-ga.org>

Provides information and emotional and physical support to parents of children with disabilities or with ongoing medical needs.

Georgia Parent Support Network

1381 Metropolitan Pkwy., S.W.

Atlanta, GA 30310

Phone: (404) 758-4500

E-mail: gpsn@mindspring.com

http://www.unitedwayatl.org/211_Database/helpbook/UWMA1036AA.html

Provides support, telephone information and referrals, advocacy training, group assistance, and links for families of emotionally disturbed children.

Parent to Parent of Georgia, Inc.

3805 Presidential Pkwy., Ste. 207

Atlanta, GA 30340

Phone: (770) 451-5484

Toll-free: (800) 229-2038

<http://www.parenttoparentofgeorgia.org>

Provides information and support groups for parents of children with disabilities.

Health Care Services

Counseling

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Addictive Diseases

Georgia Department of Human Resources
2 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 22-224
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 657-2252

<http://www2.state.ga.us/departments/dhr/mhmrsa>

Plans, coordinates, and contracts services and evaluations for all publicly supported hospitals and community programs. Provides treatment and support services, screens people for admission, and provides follow-up when discharged.

Genetics

The providers listed below offer genetic diagnostic evaluations, testing, and counseling of children and families.

Emory Genetics Laboratory

2711 Irvin Way
Decatur, GA 30030
Phone: (404) 297-1500
Toll-free: (800) 366-1502

Emory Children's Center

2040 Ridgewood Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30322
Phone: (404) 727-3512
Toll-free: (800) 727-1499

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite

1001 Johnson Ferry Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30342
Phone: (404) 250-2672

Division of Medical Genetics

Department of Pediatrics
Medical College of Georgia
Augusta, GA 30912
Phone: (706) 721-2809

Medicaid/Insurance

Right from the Start Medicaid Project

2 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 21-413

Atlanta, GA 30303-3142

Toll-free: (800) 809-7276

<http://www.rsm.dhr.state.ga.us/>

Provides medical assistance to pregnant women and children. Services also include postpartum home visits and substance abuse day treatment for pregnant women. Eligibility is based on family size and income. Income limits are higher than those of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Medically Needy programs.

PeachCare for Kids Program

P.O. Box 2583

Atlanta, GA 30301-2583

Toll-free: (877) GA-PEACH or (877) 427-3224

Provides health care to children through the 18 years of age and is for working, self-supporting Georgia families who cannot afford private insurance and are not eligible for Medicaid.

Pediatric Palliative Care and Hospice

Hospice Atlanta, Visiting Nurse Health Systems

Pediatric Hospice and Palliative Care Program

1244 Park Vista Dr.

Atlanta, GA 30319

Phone: (404) 869-3081

Provides prenatal and postnatal palliative care and hospice services in North Georgia.

Public Health

Babies Can't Wait

Programs for Children with Special Health Care Needs
Division of Public Health, Department of Human Resources
2 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 11-206
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 657-2726
Toll-free: (888) 651-8224

<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/bcw/>

Connects infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities from birth up to their third birthday to needed services in their area, regardless of parent's income.

Children 1st

Division of Public Health, Department of Human Resources
2 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 11-287
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 463-6431

<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/childrenfirst>

Identifies and screens children from birth to age 5 who have medical and social issues that may place them at risk for poor health or development. Offers link for families to public health and community programs and services.

Children's Medical Services

Programs for Children with Special Health Care Needs
Division of Public Health, Department of Human Resources
2 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 11-215
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 657-2726
Toll-free: (888) 651-8224

<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/cms/>

Assures that eligible children with chronic health conditions who are residents of the state of Georgia receive specialty medical care. Provides services for children from birth to 21 years of age.

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention

2 Peachtree St., N.W., Ste. 11-274

Atlanta, GA 30303-3142

Phone: (404) 463-2192

<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/unhs/>

A system in Georgia linking hospitals, primary health providers, and public health agencies to ensure that all newborns are screened for hearing loss and referred for treatment, if needed. The coordinators can be found in Babies Can't Wait Offices listed in Georgia Department of Human Resources Public Health Resources beginning on page 40 of this booklet or on the Web site listed above.

Rehabilitation

Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation

6135 Roosevelt Hwy.

P.O. Box 1000

Warm Springs, GA 31830

Phone: (706) 655-5000

<http://www.rooseveltrehab.org>

Offers outpatient rehabilitation and medical services, water therapy, and therapeutic recreation (including camps and athletics). Helps prepare clients for jobs and provides special devices. Provides continuing education.

Spina Bifida Clinic

Medical College of Georgia Children's Medical Center

1446 Harper St.

Augusta, GA 30912

Phone: (706) 721-0982

http://cmc.mcg.edu/surg_services/rehab_medicine.htm

Offers orthopedic, rehabilitation medicine, urology, and neurosurgery services for children with spina bifida.

Spina Bifida Program at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

1001 Johnson Ferry Rd.

Atlanta, GA 30342

Phone: (404) 250-2149

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

Offers short-term stay that includes 6-8 hours/day of therapy and assistance, 7 days/week for 2 weeks.

Other

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation

1775 Clairmont Rd.

Decatur, GA 30033

Phone: (404) 325-3630

Toll-free: (800) 718-7483

Fax: (404) 636-5549

<http://galions.org/lighthouse>

Provides vision and hearing care, including eye exams, eyeglasses, eye surgeries, low vision aids, artificial eyes, and hearing aids for Georgians in financial need.

Marcus Institute

1920 Briarcliff Rd.

Atlanta, GA 30329

Phone: (404) 419-4000

<http://www.marcus.org>

Offers diagnosis, psychological testing, community referrals, parent education, family and individual counseling, and medication and behavior management to individuals affected by a developmental disability.

PreCare for Babies

Phone: (770) 451-5501

Toll-free: (877) 470-0453

Prenatal education program for low income pregnant women who are uninsured, underinsured, or Medicaid eligible. Provides referrals and resources to help pregnant women in the Atlanta and Columbus metropolitan areas to take the steps to have safer, healthier pregnancies.

Job Assistance

Georgia Department of Labor Rehabilitation Services

2 Peachtree St., N.W., 35th Floor

Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: (404) 657-3000

<http://www.vocrehabga.org>

Provides opportunities for work and personal independence for Georgians with disabilities.

Client Assistance Program

2 Peachtree Street, NW

23rd Floor, Suite 307

Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: (404) 373-2040

Toll-free: (800) 822-9727

<http://www.vocrehabga.org/lev3j.html>

Helps people who have disabilities to train for jobs they can do.

Education & Child Care

Easter Seals Georgia Headquarters

5600 Roswell Road NE

Prado North, Suite 100

Atlanta, GA 30342

Phone: (404) 943-1070

E-mail: info@ga-no.easter-seals.org

<http://www.ga-no.easter-seals.org>

Provides infant, toddler, and preschool programs, including Head Start and the Georgia Pre-K Program.

Georgia Department of Education Division of Exceptional Students

1870 Twin Towers East

Atlanta, GA 30334

Phone: (404) 656-3963

<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us>

Helps local school systems provide special education and related services for children with disabilities.

Georgia Learning Resources Systems (GLRS)

2415-C N. Druid Hills Rd., N.E.

Atlanta, GA 30329

Phone: (404) 657-9958

Toll-free: (800) 282-7552

<http://www.glrns.org>

Provides support for parents, teachers, and administrators. Maintains library of materials. Arranges regional workshops and provides special education information to teachers and the general public.

Learning Disabilities Association of Georgia State Office

Learning Disabled Adults of Georgia

130 W. Wieuca Rd., Ste. 202

Atlanta, GA 30342

Phone: (404) 303-7774

<http://www.ldag.org>

Provides resources and support for persons with learning disabilities and/or attention deficit and hyperactivity disorders (ADHD) in the areas of education, jobs, self-advocacy training, systems change, and improved conditions.

Office of State Coordinator of Vocational Education for Students with Disabilities

1752 Twin Towers East

Atlanta, GA 30334

Phone: (404) 657-8324

Parents Educating Parents & Professionals, Inc.

6613 E. Church St.

Douglasville, GA 30134

Phone: (770) 577-7771

Toll-free: (800) 322-7065

<http://www.peppac.org>

Helps families get needed education services for their children with disabilities, works to improve education results for all children, helps resolve conflict between families and schools, connects children with disabilities to local resources that meet their needs.

Sports & Recreation

American Association of Adapted Sports Programs

945 N. Indian Creek Rd.

Clarkston, GA 30021

P.O. Box 538

Pine Lake, GA 30072

Phone: (404) 294-0070

Fax: (404) 294-5758

E-mail: aaasp@bellsouth.net

<http://www.aaasp.org>

Organizes adapted, competitive sports programs for youth with physical disabilities by working with schools, parks and recreation, YMCA/YWCAs, hospitals, parents, and other agencies and groups.

BlazeSports

1775 The Exchange, Ste. 540

Atlanta, GA 30339

Phone: (770)-850-8199

Fax: (770) 850-8179

E-mail: blazesports@blazesport.com

<http://www.blazesports.com>

Provides year-round sports programs for people with disabilities, including sports camps, clinics, competitions, and workshops.

Shepherd's Program About Real Experiences (SPARX) Spina Bifida Camp
Shepherd Spinal Center
2020 Peachtree Rd., N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30309
Phone: (404) 350-7366
<http://www.shepherd.org>

Camp held every summer for 1 to 3 weeks (depending on age) that teaches children and teens with spina bifida about independence in daily living through team sports, peer support, and field trips. Activities include art, music, drama, wheelchair sports, swimming, and more.

National Resources

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
3417 Volta Pl., N.W.
Washington, DC 20007
Phone: (202) 337-5220
TTY: (202) 337-5221
Fax: (202) 337-8314
<http://www.agbell.org/>

Helps with issues of children with hearing loss and to provide ongoing support and advocacy for parents, deaf adults, and professionals.

American Society for Deaf Children
P.O. Box 3355
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Phone/TTY: (717) 334-7922
Toll-free: (800) 942-ASDC
Fax: (717) 334-8808
<http://www.deafchildren.org/>

Advocates for deaf or hard of hearing children's total participation in education, the family, and the community.

Associations of Service Providers Implementing IDEA Reforms In Education (ASPIIRE)

The Council for Exceptional Children
1110 N. Glebe Rd., Ste. 300
Arlington, VA 22201
Phone: (703) 264-9456
Toll-free: (877) 232-4332
<http://www.ideapractices.org/about/aspire.php>

Comprised of nineteen associations that work together to provide positive outcomes for students with disabilities.

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)

8181 Professional Pl., Ste. 201
Landover, MD 20785
Phone: (301) 306-7070
Toll-free: (800) 233-4050
<http://www.chadd.org>

Provides general information on ADHD. Local chapters sponsor parent and adult support groups and educational meetings. They provide a list of advocates in their area and work with local school systems to provide education to teachers about ADHD and accommodations for children with ADHD.

Families and Advocates Partnership for Education (FAPE)

Pacer Center, 8161 Normandale Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55437-1044
Phone: (612) 827-2966
Toll-free: (888) 248-0822
E-mail: fape@pacer.org
<http://www.fape.org>

Aims to inform and educate families and advocates about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 1997 and promising practices. Helps to ensure that the changes made in IDEA are understood by families and advocates and are put into practice at local and state levels.

Learning Disabilities Association of America

4156 Library Rd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15234-1349

Phone: (412) 341-1515

E-mail: info@ldaamerica.org

<http://www.ldanatl.org>

Advances the education and welfare of children and adults of normal or potentially normal intelligence who have disabilities of a perceptual, conceptual, or coordinative nature.

National Information Center for Children and Youth With Disabilities (NICHCY)

P.O. Box 1492

Washington, DC 20013

Toll-free: (800) 695-0285

<http://www.nichcy.org>

Provides information on disabilities and related issues for families, educators, and professionals.

Office of Special Education Programs

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Ave., S.W.

Washington, DC 20202

Phone: (202) 205-5507

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP>

Supports programs and projects that improve results for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities. Responsible for assisting states with implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

National Association of State Directors of Special Education

1800 Diagonal Rd., Ste. 320

Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: (703) 519-3800

<http://www.nasdse.org>

Provides services to state agencies to help improve education for individuals with disabilities.

Spina Bifida Association of America

4590 MacArthur Blvd., N.W., Ste. 250

Washington, DC 20007-4226

Phone: (202) 944-3285

Toll-free: (800) 621-3141

<http://www.sbaa.org>

Promotes the prevention of spina bifida and deals with specific needs of people with spina bifida. Provides a toll-free number for information and referral. Other services include newsletters, legislative updates, publications, professional councils, conferences and educational opportunities, and research.

Easter Seals National Office

230 W. Monroe St., Ste. 1800

Chicago, IL 60606

Phone: (312) 726-6200

Toll-free: (800) 221-6827

<http://www.easter-seals.org>

Provides medical rehabilitation, job training and employment, inclusive child care, adult day care, and camping and recreation to individuals with disabilities.

Family Voices National Office

3411 Candalaria N.E., Ste. M
Albuquerque, NM 87107
Phone: (505) 872-4774
Toll-free: (888) 835-5669
E-mail: kidshealth@familyvoices.org
<http://www.familyvoices.org>

Clearinghouse for education and information about the health care of children with special needs, with special focus on the health care system and its role in assisting people with disabilities.

National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition

121 N. Washington St., Ste. 300
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: (703) 836-6110
Fax: (703) 836-3470
E-mail: info@hmhb.org
<http://www.hmhb.org>

Raises public awareness for better health of mothers and babies through partnerships among community groups, nonprofit organizations, professional associations, businesses, and government agencies.

[Spanish Language Resources](#)

Asociación de Espina Bífida de America

Spina Bifida Association of America
4590 MacArthur Blvd. N.W., Ste. 250
Washington, DC 20007
Toll-free: (800) 621-3141

Spanish educational publications available.

Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities

1440 Dutch Valley Place, N.E., Ste. 200

Atlanta, GA 30324

Spanish toll-free: (866) 260-9470

<http://www.aadd.org>

Provides information on services in Spanish with a toll-free number. Services include support to individuals and families affected by developmental disabilities in metro Atlanta. Provides job and recreation programs. Provides information about prevention, public policy, education and training, and the interfaith disabilities network.

Catholic Social Services

680 W. Peachtree St., N.W.

Atlanta, GA 30308

Phone: (404) 881-6571

<http://www.cssatlanta.com>

Services focus on refugee resettlement, job training, counseling, immigration issues, and pregnancy, parenting, and adoption.

**Centro Nacional de Información para Niños y Jóvenes
con Discapacidades**

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities
(NICHCY)

P.O. Box 1492

Washington, DC 20013

Toll-free: (800) 695-0285

<http://www.nichcy.org/spanish.htm>

Provides referral and information in Spanish on disabilities and disability-related issues to families, educators, and other professionals for children and youth. Spanish educational publications available.

Georgia Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Powerline

3562 Habersham at Northlake

Tucker, GA 30084

Phone: (770) 451-0020

Toll-free: (800) 822-2539

<http://www.hmhbga.org>

In both English and Spanish, provides information on and referrals to free or low-cost healthcare.

Georgia Tools for Life

Division of Labor and Rehabilitation

Toll-free: (800) 497-8865

www.gatfl.org/spanbrochure.htm

Web site with information about the Tools for Life program in Spanish. Helps Georgians with disabilities get the devices and services they need to live, learn, work, and play independently in communities of their choice. Provides information and referral services through a statewide toll-free number.

Latin American Association

2750 Buford Hwy.

Atlanta, GA 30324

Phone: (404) 638-1800

<http://www.latinamericanassoc.org>

Provides housing, youth, employment, immigration, translation, and language services to the Latin community.

Linea Nacional Prenatal Hispana (National Hispanic Prenatal Hotline)

Toll-free: (800) 504-7081

Answers questions about prenatal issues, provides referrals to local prenatal services, and provides Spanish educational materials.

March of Dimes, Georgia Chapter

1776 Peachtree St., Ste. 100

Atlanta, GA 30309

Phone: (404) 350-9800

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

Offers Spanish educational materials on having a healthy pregnancy and preventing birth defects.

Medical Interpreter Network of Georgia (MING)

MING c/o GMACC

4151 Memorial Dr.

Decatur, GA 30032

Phone: (404) 296-5400, ext. 35

Provides social adjustment, case management, and cultural competency training and other services to refugees and immigrants in the greater Atlanta area. Staff speaks eleven different languages, including Somali, Serbo-Croatian, Amharic, Farsi, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Russian, Albanian, Arabic, Laotian, Korean, French, Gujarti, Hindi, German, Italian, and Spanish.

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

4770 Buford Hwy., MS F-45

Atlanta, GA 30341

National Hispanic Prenatal Hotline: (800) 504-7081

E-mail: flo@cdc.gov

Spanish Web site: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/folico>

Order form: <http://www2.cdc.gov/ncbddd/faorder>

Web site and toll-free number provide information in Spanish about the importance of folic acid in preventing neural tube defects. Free educational materials in Spanish are available on the order form Web site.

Parent to Parent of Georgia, Inc.

3805 Presidential Pkwy., Ste. 207

Atlanta, GA 30340

Phone: (770) 451-5484

Toll-free: (800) 229-2038

<http://www.parenttoparentofga.org/Spanish.htm>

Provides support and information, including parent support groups and educational materials, to parents of children with disabilities.

PeachCare for Kids Program

Toll-free: (877) GA-PEACH or (877) 427-3224

PeachCare for Kids provides health care to children through the age of 18 and is designed for working, self-supporting Georgia families who cannot afford private insurance and are not eligible for Medicaid. Has a bilingual staff available statewide and at above number.

St. Joseph's Mercy Care Services, Inc.

Satellite Office: Casa San Jose

579B Burroughs St.

Atlanta, GA 30315

Phone: (404) 627-2039

E-mail: egalvis@sjha.org

Offers prenatal classes in Spanish and other direct medical services.

Related Web Sites

Disclaimer: The following links are provided for your information only. The Georgia Folic Acid Task Force does not endorse these sites and has no control over their content. Views and opinions expressed at the sites do not necessarily represent the Georgia Folic Acid Task Force.

American Academy of Pediatrics

<http://www.aap.org>

(Search for folic acid)

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

<http://www.acog.org>

(Search for folic acid)

Arkansas

<http://www.aristotle.net/~folicacid/aboutfo.html>

Australia's Folic Acid Web Site

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/phd/folate>

Children with Spina Bifida: A Resource Page for Parents

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/~rowley/sb-kids/index.htmlx>

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/~rowley/sb-kids/wbwsb.htmlx>

Family Village

<http://www.FamilyVillage.wisc.edu/>

Florida's Council on Folic Acid

<http://www.folicacidnow.net>

Food and Drug Administration

(Folic Acid Fact Sheet)

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/wh-folic.html>

Georgia Division of Public Health

<http://health.state.ga.us/publications/healthyliving/healthyliving6.shtml>

IDEA Local Implementation by Local Administrators Partnership
<http://www.ideapractices.org>

Institute of Medicine Report
http://www.nap.edu/catalog/6015.html?onpi_newsdoc040798

Kentucky's Folic Acid Health Professional Training
<http://publichealth.state.ky.us/Folic%20Acid%20Training.htm>

MMWR
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5113.pdf>

National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN)
<http://www.nbdpn.org/>

National Center for Health Statistics
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hestats/folic/folic.htm>

New York
<http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/folic/1335.htm>

North Carolina
<http://www.getfolic.com>

Policymaker Partnership (PMP)
<http://www.nasdse.org>

Tennessee
<http://www.state.tn.us/health/MCH/FolicAcid/toc.htm>

Washington
<http://www.folicacidcouncil.org/index.htm>

Public Health Resources in Georgia by District

Georgia Department of Human Resources

District 1-1, Northwest

Includes Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson, Paulding, Polk, Walker Counties

Division of Public Health
1305 Redmond Rd., Bldg. 614
Rome, GA 30161
Phone: (706) 295-6704

Children's Medical Services
501 Broad St., Ste. 211
Rome, GA 30161
Phone: (706) 802-5311

Babies Can't Wait
501 Broad St., Ste. 211
Rome, GA 30161
Phone: (706) 802-5072

Children 1st
501 Broad St., Ste. 211
Rome, GA 30161
Phone: (706) 802-5076
Fax: (706) 802-5309

District 1-2, Dalton

Includes Cherokee, Fannin, Gilmer, Murray, Pickens, Whitfield Counties

Division of Public Health
100 W. Walnut Ave., Ste. 92
Dalton, GA 30720
Phone: (706) 272-2342

Children's Medical Services
100 W. Walnut Ave., Ste. 92
Dalton, GA 30720
Phone: (706) 272-2219
Fax: (706) 275-0244

Babies Can't Wait
100 W. Walnut Ave., Ste. 92
Dalton, GA 30720
Phone: (706) 272-2219
Toll-free: (888) 276-1558
Fax: (706) 272-2266

Children 1st
100 W. Walnut Ave., Ste. 92
Dalton, GA 30720
Phone: (706) 272-2219
Toll-free: (888) 276-1558
Fax: (706) 272-2266

District 2, Gainesville

Includes Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White Counties

Division of Public Health
Hall County Health Department
430 Prior St.
Gainesville, GA 30501
Phone: (770) 531-5600

Children's Medical Services
1856-3 Thompson Bridge Rd.
Gainesville, GA 30501-1676
Phone: (770) 535-6907
Fax: (770) 531-6341

Babies Can't Wait
1856-3 Thompson Bridge Rd.
Gainesville, GA 30501
Phone: (770) 531-4053
Toll-free: (800) 204-8731
Fax: (770) 538-2784

Children 1st
1856-3 Thompson Bridge Rd.
Gainesville, GA 30501
Phone: (770) 535-6907
Fax: (770) 538-2784

District 3-1 Cobb-Douglas

Includes Cobb, Douglas Counties

Division of Public Health
Children with Special Needs
1650 County Services Pkwy.
Marietta, GA 30008-4010
Phone: (770) 514-2357

Children's Medical Services
Rose Garden Hills Community Center
1861 Teasley Dr.
Smyrna, GA 30080
Phone: (770) 432-0112
Fax: (770) 432-1774

Babies Can't Wait
1650 County Services Pkwy.
Marietta, GA 30008-4010
Phone: (770) 514-2357
Fax: (770) 514-2803

Children 1st
1650 County Services Pkwy.
Marietta, GA 30008
Phone: (770) 514-2460
Fax: (770) 514-2742

District 3-2, Fulton
Includes Fulton County

Division of Public Health
99 Jesse Hill Jr. Dr., S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30303-3045
Phone: (404) 730-1211

Babies Can't Wait
151 Ellis St., N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 730-4027
Fax: (404) 730-4038

Children's Medical Services
99 Jesse Hill Jr. Dr., S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 730-1481
Fax: (404) 730-1497

Children 1st
151 Ellis St, N.E., Ste. 150
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: (404) 730-8770
Fax: (404) 730-8781

District 3-3, Clayton
Includes Clayton County

Division of Public Health
1380 Southlake Plaza Dr.
Morrow, GA 30260-1756
Phone: (770) 961-1330
Fax: (770) 961-8370

Babies Can't Wait
7146 Southlake Pkwy.
Morrow, GA 30260-3075
Phone: (770) 960-9961
Fax: (770) 960-9664

Children's Medical Services
1380 Southlake Plaza Dr.
Morrow, GA 30260-1756
Phone: (770) 961-1330
Fax: (770) 961-8370

Children 1st
1380 Southlake Plaza Dr.
Morrow, GA 30260-1756
Phone: (770) 961-1330
Fax: (770) 961-8370

District 3-4, East Metro

Includes Gwinnett, Rockdale, and Newton Counties

Division of Public Health
324 W. Pike St.
Lawrenceville, GA 30046-0897
Phone: (770) 963-5142

Children's Medical Services
320 W. Pike St.
Lawrenceville, GA 30046-0897
Phone: (770) 963-5142
Fax: (770) 237-5309

Babies Can't Wait
320 W. Pike St.
Lawrenceville, GA 30245
Phone: (770) 339-5064
Fax: (770)-339-5345

Children 1st
320 W. Pike St.
Lawrenceville, GA 30245
Phone: (678) 442-6894
Fax: (770) 963-1418

District 3-5, Dekalb

Includes Dekalb County

Division of Public Health
445 Winn Way
P.O. Box 987
Decatur, GA 30031-1701
Phone: (404) 294-3700

Babies Can't Wait
440 Winn Way
P.O. Box 987
Decatur, GA 30031-0987
Phone: (404) 508-7981
Fax: (404) 294-6316

Children's Medical Services
440 Winn Way
P.O. Box 987
Decatur, GA 30031-1707
(404) 508-7762
Fax: (404) 294-6316

Children 1st
30 Warren Street
Atlanta, GA 30317
Phone: (404) 370-7366
Fax: (404) 370-4643

District 4, LaGrange

Includes Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Henry, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup, Upson Counties

Division of Public Health
122 Gordon Commercial Dr., Ste. A
LaGrange, GA 30240-5740
Phone: (706) 845-4035

Babies Can't Wait
122 Gordon Commercial Dr., Ste. A
LaGrange, GA 30240
Phone: (706) 845-4035
Fax: (706) 845-4351

Children's Medical Services
122 Gordon Commercial Dr., Ste. A
LaGrange, GA 30240-5740
Phone: (706) 845-4035
Fax: (706) 845-4350

Children 1st
22 Gordon Commercial Dr., Ste. A
LaGrange, GA 30240
Phone: (706) 845-4035
Fax: (706) 845-4038

District 5-1, South Central

Includes Bleckley, Dodge, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Telfair, Treutlen, Wheeler, Wilcox Counties

Division of Public Health
2121-B Bellevue Rd.
Dublin, GA 31021-2998
Phone: (478) 275-6545

Children's Medical Services
108B Corporate Square
Dublin, GA 31021
Phone: (478) 275-5116
Toll-free: (866) 230-9497
Fax: (478) 275-5117

Babies Can't Wait
524 Academy Ave.
Dublin, GA 31021
Phone: (478) 275-6841
Toll-free: (888) 262-8305
Fax: (478) 274-7893

Children 1st
524 Academy Ave.
Dublin, GA 31021
Phone: (478) 275-6844
Fax: (478) 274-7893

District 5-2, North Central

Includes Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Putnam, Twiggs, Washington, Wilkinson Counties

Division of Public Health
811 Hemlock St.
Macon, GA 31201-2198
Phone: (478) 751-6303

Children's Medical Services
811 Hemlock St.
Macon, GA 31201-2144
Phone: (478) 751-6253
Fax: (478) 751-6429

Babies Can't Wait
2520 Riverside Dr.
Macon, GA 31204-1571
Phone: (478) 745-9200
Toll-free: (888) 449-0108
Fax: (478) 745-9040

Children 1st
811 Hemlock St.
Macon, GA 31201-2144
Phone: (478) 751-6179
Fax: (478) 751-6429

District 6, Augusta

Includes Burke, Columbia, Emanuel, Glascock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Wilkes Counties

Division of Public Health
1916 North Leg Rd.
Augusta, GA 30909-4437
Phone: (706) 667-4255

Children's Medical Services
1916 North Leg Rd.
Augusta, GA 30909-4402
Phone: (706) 667-4400/4286
Fax: (706) 667-4555

Babies Can't Wait
1916 North Leg Rd.
Augusta, GA 30909-4437
Phone: (706) 667-4279
Fax: (706) 667-4278

Children 1st
1916 North Leg Rd.
Augusta, GA 30909-4402
Phone: (706) 667-4757
Fax: (706) 667-4555

District 7, West Central

Includes Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Webster Counties

Division of Public Health
2100 Comer Ave.
P.O. Box 2299
Columbus, GA 31902-2299
Phone: (706) 321-6300

Children 1st
705 17th St., Ste. 207
Columbus, GA 31902
Phone: (706) 327-0951
Fax: (706) 327-1355

Children's Medical Services
705 17th St., Ste. 208
PO Box 2299
Columbus, GA 31904-0672
Phone: (706) 327-0574
(706) 327-1375
Fax: (706)-327-1355

Babies Can't Wait
705 17th St., Ste. 208
Columbus, GA 31902-0672
Phone: (706) 327-0189
Fax: (706) 327-1355

Children's Medical Services
604 Fleming Rd.
Cordele, GA 31015-1439
Phone: (229) 276-2343
Fax: (229) 276-2717

District 8-1, Valdosta

Includes Ben Hill, Barrien, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Tift, Turner Counties

Division of Public Health
PO Box 5147
Valdosta, GA 31603-5147
Phone: (229) 333-5290

Babies Can't Wait
2700-C North Oak St.
Valdosta, GA 31602-5904
Phone: (229) 245-6565
Toll-free: (800) 247-6538
Fax: (229) 245-6561

Children's Medical Services
2700 North Oak Street, Bldg. B
Valdosta, GA 31602-5904
Phone: (229) 245-4310
Fax: (229) 245-431

Children 1st
2700 North Oak St., Bldg. B
Valdosta, GA 31602-5904
Phone: (229) 293-6286
Toll-free: (800) 316-8044
Fax: (229) 293-6292

District 8-2, Southwest

Includes Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, Worth Counties

Division of Public Health
1109 N. Jackson St.
Albany, GA 31701-2022
Phone: (229) 430-4575

Children's Medical Services
1306 S. Slappey Blvd, Ste. B
Albany, GA 31701-2635
Phone: (229) 430-4115
Toll-free: (800) 430-4212
Fax: (229) 430-5145

Babies Can't Wait
1306 S. Slappey Blvd., Ste. M
Albany, GA 31707-2635
Phone: (229) 430-2700 or
(229) 522-3627
Fax: (229) 430-1156 or
(229) 522-3626

Children 1st
1306 S. Slappey Blvd, Suite A
Colony Square So.
Albany, GA 31701-2635
Phone: (229) 430-4212
Toll-free: (800) 430-4212
Fax: (229) 430-1379

District 9-1, Savannah

Includes Chatham, Effingham Counties

Division of Public Health
PO Box 14257
Savannah, GA 31416-1257
Phone: (912) 356-2108

Children's Medical Services
Chatham County Public Health Dept.
11706 Mercy Blvd., Bldg. 8
Savannah, GA 31419
Phone: (912) 921-7467
Fax: (912) 921-7473

Babies Can't Wait
11706 Mercy Blvd., Bldg. 8, Door B
Savannah, GA 31420-1751
Phone: (912) 921-7480
Fax: (912) 921-7490

Children 1st
11706 Mercy Blvd., Bldg. 8
Savannah, GA 31419
Phone: (912) 921-7478
Fax: (912) 927-5380

District 9-2, Southeast

Includes Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Bulloch, Candler, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Evans, Jeff Davis, Pierce, Tattnall, Toombs, Ware, Wayne Counties

Division of Public Health
1101 Church St.
Waycross, GA 31501-3525
Phone: (912) 285-6010

Children's Medical Services
Daisy Youth Center
1720 Reynolds St.
Waycross, GA 31501-1036
Phone: (912) 285-6304
Fax: (912) 287-6644

Children's Medical Services
3 W. Altman St.
Statesboro, GA 30458-5212
Phone: (912) 681-0901
Fax: (912) 681-0910

Babies Can't Wait
1718 Reynolds St.
Waycross, GA 31501-1036
Phone: (912) 284-2552
Toll-free: (800) 429-6307
Fax: (912) 287-6689

Children 1st
1718 Reynolds St, Ste. 100
Waycross, GA 31501
Phone: (912) 338-5915
Fax: (912) 338-5914

District 9-3, Coastal

Includes Bryan, Camden, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh Counties

Division of Public Health
1609 Newcastle St.
Brunswick, GA 31520
Phone: (912) 264-3907

Babies Can't Wait
1609 Newcastle St., Rm. 307
Brunswick, GA 31520-6769
Phone: (912) 264-3961
Fax: (912) 262-2315

Children's Medical Services
1609 Newcastle St.
Brunswick, GA 31520-6730
Phone: (912) 264-3907
Fax: (912) 262-2315

Children 1st
1609 Newcastle St.
Brunswick, GA 31520
Phone: (912) 264-3907
Fax: (912) 262-2315

District 10, Athens

**Includes Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson,
Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton Counties**

Division of Public Health
220 Research Dr.
Athens, GA 30605-2738
Phone: (706) 583-2870

Children's Medical Services
645 Meigs St.
Athens, GA 30601-2435
Phone: (706) 542-9653
Fax: (706) 542-9657

Babies Can't Wait
1077 Baxter St., Ste. H
Athens, GA 30606
Phone: (706) 369-6101
Fax: (706) 369-5709

Children 1st
220 Research Dr.
Athens, GA 30605
Phone: (706) 552-5651
Fax: (706) 769-3913

Updated listings can be found at:

Division of Public Health:

<http://health.state.ga.us/regional/directors.shtml>

Babies Can't Wait and
Children with Special Needs:

<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/family/pdfs/bcwcms.pdf>

Children 1st

<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/childrenfirst>

the 1990s, the number of people who have been infected with HIV has increased in almost every country in the world. In 1990, there were 1.5 million people living with HIV, but by 2000, this number had risen to 39 million (UNAIDS 2001).

There are a number of reasons why the spread of HIV has increased so rapidly. One of the main reasons is the increase in the number of people who are having sex with multiple partners. This is particularly true in sub-Saharan Africa, where the average number of sexual partners per person has increased from 1.5 in 1990 to 2.5 in 2000 (UNAIDS 2001).

Another reason for the increase in HIV is the use of unsterilized needles and syringes. This is particularly common in injecting drug users, who share needles and syringes. In 1990, there were 1.5 million injecting drug users, but by 2000, this number had risen to 15 million (UNAIDS 2001).

There are also a number of other factors that have contributed to the spread of HIV. These include the use of unsterilized medical equipment, such as scalpels and forceps, and the use of unsterilized blood and blood products. In 1990, there were 1.5 million people who had been infected with HIV through the use of unsterilized medical equipment, but by 2000, this number had risen to 15 million (UNAIDS 2001).

There are a number of ways in which the spread of HIV can be prevented. These include the use of condoms, the use of sterile needles and syringes, and the use of sterile medical equipment. In 1990, there were 1.5 million people who had been infected with HIV through the use of unsterilized medical equipment, but by 2000, this number had risen to 15 million (UNAIDS 2001).

There are also a number of ways in which the spread of HIV can be reduced. These include the use of antiretroviral drugs, which can reduce the amount of HIV in the blood, and the use of vaccines, which can prevent infection. In 1990, there were 1.5 million people who had been infected with HIV through the use of unsterilized medical equipment, but by 2000, this number had risen to 15 million (UNAIDS 2001).

There are also a number of ways in which the spread of HIV can be stopped. These include the use of antiretroviral drugs, which can reduce the amount of HIV in the blood, and the use of vaccines, which can prevent infection. In 1990, there were 1.5 million people who had been infected with HIV through the use of unsterilized medical equipment, but by 2000, this number had risen to 15 million (UNAIDS 2001).

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