

Northwest Georgia



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Disabilities Resources 2016-2017

Northwest Georgia Counties

**Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon,
Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, and Whitfield
Counties**

*Equal Opportunity Employer/Program
Auxiliary Aids and services Available Upon Request to Individuals With Disabilities
TTY/TDD 1-800-255-0056*

Index

A

ADA Information Line, 36

Alzheimer's Association (North Georgia Regional Office), 33

B

Bartow County Schools-Department of Exceptional Education, 5

Bremen City Schools-Special Education, 22

C

Calhoun City Schools-Exceptional Student Services, 20

Cartersville City Schools-Special Programs, 5

Catoosa County Schools-Special Education Department, 8

Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services, 25/27

Chattooga County Schools-Special Education, 10

Chickamauga City Schools-Special Education, 30

D

Dade County Schools-Special Education, 12

Dalton Public Schools-Exceptional Student Services, 33

F

Fannin County Schools-Special Education, 13

Floyd County Schools-Special Education, 14

G

Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance, 5/14/25

Georgia Lupus Support Network, 6/25/33

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services, 8/15/20/28/30/34

Georgia School for the Deaf (GSD), 15

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA),
6/9/10/12/13/15/18/20/22/24/25/27/29/30/34

Gilmer County Schools-Special Education, 19

GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services),
6/9/10/12/13/16/19/21/22/24/26/27/29/31/35

Gordon County Schools-Special Education, 21

Good Shepherd Foundation, 6

H

Haralson Behavioral Health, 22

Haralson County Schools-Special Education, 22

Haralson Progressive Industries, 22

Hickory Log Vocational School, 7

L

Lookout Mountain Community Services, 9/10/12/32

M

Murray County Schools-Instructional Support Services, 24

N

NAMI Georgia (National Alliance on Mental Illness), 7/13/16

Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living,
7/11/12/13/16/17/19/21/23/24/26/28/29/32/35

Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, 17/35

O

Oakland Heights Baptist Angel Ministry, 7

P

Paulding County Schools-Exceptional Students Educational Programs, 26

Pickens County Schools-Special Education Services, 28

Polk County Schools-Exceptional Student Services, 29

Project SEARCH, Bartow County Schools, 7

R

Rome City Schools-Special Education, 17

S

Special Olympics Georgia, 8/10/11/12/14/18/19/21/23/24/27/28/29/32/35

T

Trion City Schools-Special Education, 11

W

Walker County Schools-Special Education Department, 32

West Georgia Technical College-Accessibility Services, 23

Whitfield County Schools-Exceptional Student Services, 36

Bartow

❖ Bartow County Schools-Department of Exceptional Education

- Phone: (770) 606-5800
- Website: www.bartow.k12.ga.us
 - Provides educational services for students who meet the eligibility criteria established by the Georgia Department of Education for the following areas of exceptionality:
 - ◆ Autism; Deaf/Blind; Deaf/Hard of Hearing; Emotional and Behavioral Disorders; Intellectual Disabilities; Orthopedic Impairments; Other Health Impairments; Significant Developmental Delays; Specific Learning Disabilities; Speech and Language Impairments; Traumatic Brain Injuries; Visual Impairments and Blindness
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Bartow County Schools

❖ Cartersville City Schools- Special Programs

- Susan Tolbert: Director of Special Programs (stolbert@cartersville.k12.ga.us)
- Phone: (770) 387-4728
- Website: www.cartersville.k12.ga.us
 - Ensuring that all students with disabilities have access to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), including specially designed instruction to meet a student's individual needs in an effort to prepare the student for employment and independent living
 - Instruction may be in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals, institutions, and other settings. Special services include physical education, travel training, and/or vocational education
 - Call the Department of Special Programs or your child's school lead special education teacher for more information about the Special Education Services for Cartersville City Schools

❖ Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance

- Kim Linek, MSW: Disability Specialist
- Phone: (678) 872-8004 or (678) 872-8022
- Website: www.highlands.edu/student-support-services/disability-assistance/
 - A student with a documented, qualifying disability is entitled to non-discrimination and reasonable accommodations. Student Support Services provides students access to the campus' services, programs, and activities with access being the key word

- Contact Student Support Services to find out specific accommodations that are available for students with disabilities
 - ◆ Phone: (678) 872-8004 or (678) 872-8022

❖ **Georgia Lupus Support Network-Cartersville**

- Cartersville Medical Center
- Penny Fowler: Leader: (770) 652-5556 (penny.lupus@gmail.com)
- Website: www.lupus.org/georgia
 - Support groups meet every 1st Tuesday of the month from 6:00-7:00pm
 - Call or visit the website for more information about the lupus support groups in Cartersville

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 295-6400
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)** under **Floyd County** for a full description

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- Phone: (800) 248-6701
- Email: glass@georgialibraries.org
- Website: www.georgialibraries.org/glass/atlanta
 - Providing free library service to patrons of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual or physical disability; playback machines are provided for listening to talking books
 - Provides books and magazines in audio formats, Braille, and digital downloads; loans playback machines for recorded materials; more than 70,000 titles accessible online; free delivery to your door via U.S. Postal Service
 - Serves over 100 Georgia counties, including:
 - ◆ Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, and Whitfield

❖ **Good Shepherd Foundation**

- Phone: (770) 386-0131
- Website: www.goodshepherdgeorgia.com
 - A sheltered work center for the developmentally challenged adults in the community
 - Employing adults with special needs; sheltered workshop employing mentally and physically challenged adults; supported employment to the special needs population; skills for living, personal development, and meth reduction classes on Wednesday nights at 6pm. Call for details

❖ Hickory Log Vocational School

- Phone: (770) 382-6655
- Email: hickorylog@comcast.net
 - Personal care home for men with developmental disabilities; adult literacy classes; training in daily living skills; physical education and activities

❖ NAMI Georgia- Bartow/Cartersville Support Chapter (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

- Dr. Bob Poston: (678) 986-1702 and Chris Tipton: (404) 667-6620
- Website: www.namiga.org
 - Supporting individuals and families impacted by mental illnesses, educate the general public, and advocate for better treatment, services, and opportunities for individuals in recovery
 - Promoting recovery and optimizing the quality of life for Georgians with mental illness and their families through support, education, advocacy, and research
 - Connection Peer Support Group Meetings
 - ◆ Wednesdays from 7:15-8:45pm

❖ Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living

- *See Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living under **Floyd County** for a full description*

❖ Oakland Heights Baptist Angel Ministry

- Church Phone: (770) 386-3258
- Email: info@oaklandheights.com
- Website: www.oaklandheights.com
 - Reaching out to children/adults with special needs and their families
 - Individuals with special needs, and their families, get the opportunity to attend worship services and Sunday school

❖ Project SEARCH, Bartow County Schools

- Cartersville Medical Center Phone: (770) 382-1530 Ext. 7869
- Email: kristy.mitchell@bartow.k12.ga.us
- Website: www.cartersvillemedical.com/careers/project-search.dot
 - Bartow County Schools and Cartersville Medical Center are partnering together for a comprehensive internship and employment model called Project SEARCH. The goal of this program is for students with disabilities to learn as many complex and varied skills as possible.
 - Project SEARCH is a one-year, school-to-work, on-the-job training program based at Cartersville Medical Center for students with disabilities in their last year of high school. Students work with a team including their family, special education

teacher, job coach, parent mentor, vocational rehabilitation counselor, and supportive employment provider to create an employment plan. The goal is to secure competitive employment within the community upon graduation

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Bartow County Schools/Cartersville City Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 113
- Contact: Alex Schwartz: Sports and Program Manager for Area 3 (alex.schwartz@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Catoosa

❖ **Catoosa County Schools-Special Education Department**

- Phone: (706) 965-4052
- Website: www.catoosa.k12.ga.us
 - Ensures a quality educational experience for all students by providing exemplary instructional programs in safe and positive learning environments
 - The goal is to ensure that all students with disabilities have available to them a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment that emphasizes the general curriculum as well as special education services and prepares them for employment and independent living.
 - Disabilities served include:
 - ◆ Autism; deaf/blind; deaf/hard of hearing; emotional and behavioral disorders; mild/moderate/severe and profound intellectual disorders; orthopedic impairments; other health impairments; significant development delays (ages 3-5); specific learning disabilities; speech-language impairments; traumatic brain injury; and visually impaired
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Catoosa County Schools

❖ **Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services**

- Brittany Elrod: Disability Services Coordinator
- Phone: (706) 965-1139

- Website: www.gntc.edu
 - The ADA/Disability Services Office at GNTC is committed to working with students to assist in program accessibility and academic accommodations that may be necessary and appropriate due to student’s disabilities
 - Students requesting services must provide official documentation to support the evidence of the disabling, limiting, or impairing conditions. Documentation should describe diagnosis, characteristics of the disability, as well as functional limitations for a college environment
- ❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**
 - Phone: (706) 638-5536
 - Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See *Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under **Walker County** for a full description*
- ❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**
 - See *GLASS under **Bartow County** for a full description*
- ❖ **Lookout Mountain Community Services-Fort Oglethorpe**
 - Website: www.lmcs.org
 - **Outpatient Clinic:** (706) 861-3387
 - LMCS provides a full array of mental health services to adults with a wide range of behavioral and/or psychiatric disorders. Outpatient treatment modalities include diagnostic assessments; individual, group, and family therapy; psychiatric evaluations; and medication
 - **FIRST (Families Improving Relationships and Succeeding Together):** (706) 806-1108
 - An intensive, behaviorally-oriented, short-term, in-home treatment service for families which serves children and families experiencing significant behavioral, relational, and other mental health challenges and who may be at risk of psychiatric hospitalization or out-of-home placement
 - **TREK (Therapeutic Resources and Environments for Kids), Region 1 (Northwest GA):** (423) 653-0675 or (706) 806-1108
 - Provides individualized treatment and support services in a family setting. Clinical staff and therapeutic foster parents work as a treatment team to provide a therapeutic environment designed to help the youth achieve increased emotional stability and an improved level of behavioral functioning and social interaction
 - **LM CME:** (706) 806-1260

- An organizational entity, which is funded by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, to coordinate care for youth with complex behavioral health challenges who are involved in multiple systems

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See ***Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living*** under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Catoosa County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
- Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Chattooga

❖ **Chattooga County Schools-Special Education**

- Beth Hall: Director of Special Education (bhall@chattooga.k12.ga.us)
- Phone: (706) 822-9902
- Website: www.chattooga.schoolfusion.us
 - Services include:
 - ◆ Assistive Technology; Autism; Behavior Disorder Program; Hearing Impaired Program; Intellectually Disabled Program; Northwest Georgia Educational Program; Occupational Therapy; Preschool Education; Physical Therapy; Special Transportation; Speech/Language Program; Visually Impaired Program
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Chattooga County Schools

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 295-6400
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See ***Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)*** under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See **GLASS** under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

❖ **Lookout Mountain Community Services-Summerville**

- Website: www.lmcs.org
- **Outpatient Clinic:** (706) 857-5441
 - LMCS provides a full array of mental health services to adults with a wide range of behavioral and/or psychiatric disorders. Outpatient treatment modalities include diagnostic assessments; individual, group, and family therapy; psychiatric evaluations; and medication
- **Day Program:** (706) 857-5465
 - Call to find out more information about the Day Program for the Summerville location
- **Transportation:** (706) 857-5441
 - Provides a full range of support for consumer transit needs through automated dispatching and highly qualified drivers and dispatchers

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living** under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Chattooga County Schools/Chattooga County ARC**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
- Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

❖ **Trion City Schools-Special Education**

- Linda Young (linda.young@trionschools.org)
- Phone: (706) 734-0724
- Website: www.trionschools.org
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Trion City Schools

Dade

❖ **Dade County Schools-Special Education**

- Phone: (706) 657-4361
- Website: www.dadecountyschools.org
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Dade County Schools

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 638-5536
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See *Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)* under **Walker County** for a full description

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See *GLASS* under **Bartow County** for a full description

❖ **Lookout Mountain Community Services-Trenton**

- Website: www.lmcs.org
- **Outpatient Clinic:** (706) 956-5526
 - LMCS provides a full array of mental health services to adults with a wide range of behavioral and/or psychiatric disorders. Outpatient treatment modalities include diagnostic assessments; individual, group, and family therapy; psychiatric evaluations; and medication
- **21st Century Community Learning Center:** Dade Middle School: (706) 657-4361
 - Offers a nutritional snack, academic support in all subject areas, homework help, study preparation for CRCT, enrichment activities, and technology and educational assistance for all 21st Century parents. Program hours are Monday-Friday 3:20-5:50. Free bus transportation is provided

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See *Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living* under **Floyd County** for a full description

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Dade County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
- Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)

- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Fannin

❖ **Fannin County Schools-Special Education**

- Heather Finley: Director of Student Services
- Phone: (706) 632-3771
- Website: www.fannin.k12.ga.us
 - The Special Education Program is designed to meet the specific needs of students with disabilities ages 3 to 21 and to prepare them for employment and independent living
 - Provides real and valid opportunities to learn through the use of specialized research-based instruction, supportive services, supplemental aids and supports, including ongoing training for teachers and paraprofessionals, in order to ensure that all students have an opportunity to learn and demonstrate what they know
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Fannin County Schools

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 635-1095
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See ***Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)*** under ***Gilmer County*** for a full description

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See ***GLASS*** under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

❖ **NAMI Georgia-Fannin County (National Alliance on Mental Illness)**

- Joe Davis: (770) 735-3686
- Website: www.namiga.org
 - Supporting individuals and families impacted by mental illnesses, educate the general public, and advocate for better treatment, services, and opportunities for individuals in recovery

- Promoting recovery and optimizing the quality of life for Georgians with mental illness and their families through support, education, advocacy, and research
- Serves Fannin, Gilmer, and Pickens counties

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See ***Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living*** under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Fannin County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
- Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Floyd

❖ **Floyd County Schools-Special Education**

- Dr. Trina Wood: Director of Special Education (trinawood@floydboe.net)
- Phone: (706) 234-1031 ext. 7125
- Website: www.floydboe.net
 - Provides educational and support services to students with varying disabilities between the ages 3 and 21. Services are provided within the local school system, in the community, in local day care centers, and some in-home services are also provided
 - Support services include:
 - ◆ Occupational Therapy; Physical Therapy; Communication; and Autism
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Floyd County Schools

❖ **Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance**

- Sonja Wright Smith, MA, MS: Disability Specialist
- Phone: (706) 295-6336
- Website: www.highlands.edu/student-support-services/disability-assistance/

- A student with a documented, qualifying disability is entitled to non-discrimination and reasonable accommodations. Student Support Services provides students access to the campus' services, programs, and activities with access being the key word
- Contact Student Support Services to find out specific accommodations that are available for students with disabilities

❖ **Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services**

- Sheila Parker: Disability Services Coordinator
- Phone: (706) 295-6517
- Website: www.gntc.edu
 - The ADA/Disability Services Office at GNTC is committed to working with students to assist in program accessibility and academic accommodations that may be necessary and appropriate due to student's disabilities
 - Students requesting services must provide official documentation to support the evidence of the disabling, limiting, or impairing conditions. Documentation should describe diagnosis, characteristics of the disability, as well as functional limitations for a college environment

❖ **Georgia School for the Deaf (GSD)**

- Voice Phone: (706) 777-2200
- Video Phone: (678) 710-8966
- Website: www.gsd.schoolfusion.us
 - The Georgia School for the Deaf offers high quality educational and extracurricular activities that prepare its graduates for further academic, social, and career success. This is achieved in a fully accessible American Sign Language (ASL)/English bilingual environment, which recognizes ASL users as a distinct cultural and linguistic group. This fosters positive self-acceptance and self-esteem, affording each student the ability to effectively navigate the world they encounter beyond their K-12 experience. As part of this lifelong learning philosophy, all staff and students consistently strive to improve their use of both ASL and written English

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 295-6400
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - Services include:
 - ◆ Business Enterprise Program- Provides business management opportunities for eligible and qualified people to become licensed blind vendors; must be certified as legally blind, minimum age 18, demonstrated 10th grade math

and reading levels, high school diploma or GED, successful completion of psychological and vocational evaluations, completion of criminal background check with no confirmed felonies, and TB testing with confirmed negative results

- ◆ Georgia Industries for the Blind- Provides employment opportunities to individuals who are blind in manufacturing and services
- ◆ Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation- A comprehensive rehabilitation center dedicated to service, technological advancement, program diversity, and continuing education on behalf of persons with disabilities
- ◆ Vocational Rehabilitation- provides a variety of individual services to persons with disabilities in preparation for their employment in the competitive labor market and to employers seeking to retain valuable employees with disabilities or hire qualified individuals for their workforce; services provided to job seekers include:
 - Counseling and guidance, assistive technology, job placements, vocational assessments, work adjustments, medical evaluations, and certain physical restoration services
 - Services provided to employers include: identifying a qualified pool of candidates for positions being filled, jobsite coaching, helping an employer identify the right solutions/accommodations for employee to be effective on the job through onsite job assessments, and providing technical support and training on those accommodations to ensure long-term success

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See **GLASS** under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

❖ **NAMI Georgia- Rome (National Alliance on Mental Illness)**

- Phone: (706) 506-5010
- Email: namirome@gmail.com
- Website: www.namirome.org
 - Supporting individuals and families impacted by mental illnesses, educate the general public, and advocate for better treatment, services, and opportunities for individuals in recovery
 - Promoting recovery and optimizing the quality of life for Georgians with mental illness and their families through support, education, advocacy, and research
 - Monthly Educational Meetings:
 - ◆ Meets every 4th Monday of the month from 6:00-7:30pm

- Connection Peer Support Groups:
 - ◆ Meets every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 6:00-7:30pm
- Family Support Groups:
 - ◆ Meets every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 6:00-7:30pm

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- Phone: (706) 314-0008
- Email: info@nwgacil.org
- Website: www.nwgacil.org
 - Empowering people who have disabilities so that they may determine their own future; and working towards a more user-friendly, accessible community
 - Core services include:
 - ◆ Self-advocacy
 - ◆ Independent Skills Training
 - ◆ Information and Referral
 - ◆ Peer Mentoring
 - ◆ Transitions (youth transitions, nursing facilities/other institutions transitions, diversion from nursing facilities/other institutions)
 - Classes include:
 - ◆ Job Readiness
 - ◆ Money management and budgeting
 - ◆ Specialized software and hardware
 - ◆ Braille
 - ◆ Others classes on request

❖ **Northwest Georgia Regional Commission**

- Area Agency on Aging:
- Phone: (706) 295-6485
- Counties served: Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, and Whitfield
- Website: www.nwgrc.org/services/area-agency-on-aging/
 - Alzheimer services provides out-of-home day care and in-home respite care to assist AD clients and their families
 - Alzheimer training provides education and training to professionals and caregivers
- Northwest Georgia Work Source Georgia:
- Website: www.careerdepot.org
 - Northwest Georgia Work Source Georgia can refer those with disabilities to job and educational opportunities available in the Northwest Georgia region

❖ **Rome City Schools-Special Education**

- Trevor Metzger: Director of Special Education
- Phone: (706) 236-5050
- Website: www.rcs.rome.ga.us
 - Services offered:
 - ◆ Psychological evaluations; physical therapy; occupational therapy; related vocational instruction; specialized transportation; assistive technology devices and services; audiological services; nutrition services; social work services; etc.
 - For more information about the Special Education Program for Rome City Schools, contact the child's school principal or Trevor Metzger (Director of Special Education)

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Floyd County Schools/Parks and Recreation**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 113
- Contact: Alex Schwartz: Sports and Program Manager for Area 3 (alex.schwartz@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Gilmer

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 635-1095
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - Services include:
 - ◆ Business Enterprise Program- Provides business management opportunities for eligible and qualified people to become licensed blind vendors; must be certified as legally blind, minimum age 18, demonstrated 10th grade math and reading levels, high school diploma or GED, successful completion of psychological and vocational evaluations, completion of criminal background check with no confirmed felonies, and TB testing with confirmed negative results

- ◆ Georgia Industries for the Blind- Provides employment opportunities to individuals who are blind in manufacturing and services
- ◆ Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation- A comprehensive rehabilitation center dedicated to service, technological advancement, program diversity, and continuing education on behalf of persons with disabilities
- ◆ Vocational Rehabilitation- provides a variety of individual services to persons with disabilities in preparation for their employment in the competitive labor market and to employers seeking to retain valuable employees with disabilities or hire qualified individuals for their workforce; services provided to job seekers include:
 - Counseling and guidance, assistive technology, job placements, vocational assessments, work adjustments, medical evaluations, and certain physical restoration services
 - Services provided to employers include: identifying a qualified pool of candidates for positions being filled, jobsite coaching, helping an employer identify the right solutions/accommodations for employee to be effective on the job through onsite job assessments, and providing technical support and training on those accommodations to ensure long-term success

❖ **Gilmer County Schools-Special Education**

- Kim Cagle: Assistant Superintendent/Special Education Director
- Phone: (706) 276-5000
- Website: www.gilmerschools.com
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Gilmer County Schools

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See *GLASS* under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See *Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living* under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Gilmer County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
- Contact: Alex Schwartz: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org

- Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
- Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Gordon

❖ Calhoun City Schools-Exceptional Student Services

- Robert Orfield: Special Education Director (orfieldr@calhounschoools.org)
- Phone: (706) 602-6609
- Hayley Gilreath: Director of Exceptional Student Services (gilreathh@calhounschoools.org)
- Phone: (706) 602-6610
- Website: www.calhounschoools.org
 - Ensuring that all students with disabilities have access to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). This includes specially designed instruction to meet a student’s individual needs in an effort to prepare the student for employment and independent living
 - Instruction may be in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals, institutions, and other settings. Special services include physical education, travel training, and/or vocational education
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Calhoun City Schools

❖ Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

- Sheila Parker: Disability Services Coordinator (Available by appointment)
- Phone: (706) 295-6517
- Website: www.gntc.edu
 - The ADA/Disability Services Office at GNTC is committed to working with students to assist in program accessibility and academic accommodations that may be necessary and appropriate due to student’s disabilities
 - Students requesting services must provide official documentation to support the evidence of the disabling, limiting, or impairing conditions. Documentation should describe diagnosis, characteristics of the disability, as well as functional limitations for a college environment

❖ Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

- Phone: (706) 295-6400
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)** under **Floyd County** for a full description

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See **GLASS** under **Bartow County** for a full description

❖ **Gordon County Schools-Special Education**

- Ann Cross: Director
- Phone: (706) 629-4474 ext. 8103
- Website: www.gcbe.org
 - Research based programs were designed to develop academic, social, emotional, behavioral, and independence skills for active participation in the community for students with disabilities ages 3-21
 - Disability areas served include:
 - ◆ Mild/moderate/severe or profound intellectual disability; specific learning disability; emotional/behavioral disorder; speech/language disability; visual impairment; hearing impairment; autism; orthopedic impairment; other health impairment; significant developmental delay; traumatic brain injury; and deaf/blind
 - Services are provided in a variety of settings including:
 - ◆ Regular education classes, inclusion, resource, and self-contained classrooms
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Gordon County Schools

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living** under **Floyd County** for a full description

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Gordon County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 113
- Contact: Alex Schwartz: Sports and Program Manager for Area 3 (alex.schwartz@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Haralson

❖ Bremen City Schools-Special Education

- Bill Garrett: Director (bill.garrett@bremencs.com)
- Phone: (770) 537-5508
- Website: www.bremencs.com
 - Provides special services for approximately 250 students in preschool through 12th grade with a curriculum designed to develop academic, social, emotional, behavioral, and independence skills for active participation in the community
 - Eligibility for special services:
 - ◆ Intellectual disability; specific learning disability; emotional/behavioral disorder; speech/language impairment; visual impairment; hearing impairment; autism; orthopedic impairment; other health impairment; significant developmental delay; traumatic brain injury; and deaf/blind
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Bremen City Schools

❖ Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

- Phone: (770) 443-3717
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See ***Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)*** under ***Paulding County*** for a full description

❖ GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)

- See ***GLASS*** under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

❖ Haralson Behavioral Health

- Melody Harpe: Director
- Phone: (770) 537-4836
 - Offers services to clients who have mental issues and developmentally challenged citizens.
 - Call to find out more information about Haralson Behavioral Health.

❖ Haralson County Schools-Special Education

- Dr. Gina Smeeton: Special Education Director
- Phone: (770) 574-2500 ext. 41225
- Website: www.haralson.k12.ga.us

- Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Haralson County Schools

❖ **Haralson Progressive Industries**

- Melody Harpe: Director
- Phone: (770) 537-4478
 - Haralson Behavioral Health offers work opportunities and training for developmentally challenged citizens through Haralson Progressive Industries
 - Call to find out more information about Haralson Progressive Industries.

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See ***Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living*** under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Bremen City Parks and Recreation/Haralson County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 113
- Contact: Alex Schwartz: Sports and Program Manager for Area 3 (alex.schwartz@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

❖ **West Georgia Technical College-Accessibility Services**

- Zelma Jones: Accessibility Services/Special Populations Coordinator (zelma.jones@westgatech.edu) Beth Fuller: Vocational Rehabilitation
- Phone: (770) 824-5241
- Website: www.westgatech.edu/accessability/index.htm
 - West Georgia Technical College provides equal educational opportunities to prospective and current students with special needs. Assistance is available for individuals who present with a temporary or permanent physical or psychological disability or with a learning disorder; including attention deficit disorder, acquired brain injury, or Autism.
 - For all types of disabilities, certain accommodations are provided in order to offset as much as possible the effect the disability may have on learning, class performance, and testing. These accommodations are determined and

developed on a case-by-case basis by the Accessibility Services/Special Populations Coordinator.

- Sign language interpretive services are offered via remote interpreting. Other forms of interpretive services are offered on a case-by-case basis.

Murray

❖ Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

- Phone: (706) 272-2303
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)** under **Whitfield County** for a full description

❖ GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)

- See **GLASS** under **Bartow County** for a full description

❖ Murray County Schools-Instructional Support Services

- Allison Oxford: Director
- Phone: (706) 695-4531 Ext. 6083
- Website: www.murray.k12.ga.us
 - Teachers and other staff available:
 - ◆ Vision impaired; exceptional student services; occupational therapists; physical therapists; and hearing impaired
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Murray County Schools

❖ Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living

- See **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living** under **Floyd County** for a full description

❖ Special Olympics Georgia-Murray County Schools

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
- Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Paulding

❖ Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services

- Phone: (770) 528-4545
- Website: www.chattahoocheetech.edu/disability-services/
 - DSS coordinates and provides a variety of academic and support services to students; provides accommodations and services that are individualized and appropriate for students with documented disabilities
 - Call to find out more information about the Disability Support Services for Chattahoochee Tech

❖ Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance

- Kim Linek, MSW: Disability Specialist
- Phone: (678) 946-1100
- Website: www.highlands.edu/student-support-services/disability-assistance/
 - A student with a documented, qualifying disability is entitled to non-discrimination and reasonable accommodations. Student Support Services provides students access to the campus' services, programs, and activities with access being the key word
 - Contact Student Support Services to find out specific accommodations that are available for students with disabilities

❖ Georgia Lupus Support Network-Dallas

- Bethany Christian Church
- Kim Pierro: Leader: (404) 579-2936
- Patti Pacer: Leader: (770) 845-4111 (pattipacer@gmail.com)
- Website: www.lupus.org/georgia
 - Support groups meet every 2nd Saturday of the month at 12pm
 - Call or visit the website for more information about the lupus support groups in Dallas

❖ Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

- Phone: (770) 443-3717
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - Services include:
 - ◆ Business Enterprise Program- Provides business management opportunities for eligible and qualified people to become licensed blind vendors; must be

certified as legally blind, minimum age 18, demonstrated 10th grade math and reading levels, high school diploma or GED, successful completion of psychological and vocational evaluations, completion of criminal background check with no confirmed felonies, and TB testing with confirmed negative results

- ◆ Georgia Industries for the Blind- Provides employment opportunities to individuals who are blind in manufacturing and services
- ◆ Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation- A comprehensive rehabilitation center dedicated to service, technological advancement, program diversity, and continuing education on behalf of persons with disabilities
- ◆ Vocational Rehabilitation- provides a variety of individual services to persons with disabilities in preparation for their employment in the competitive labor market and to employers seeking to retain valuable employees with disabilities or hire qualified individuals for their workforce; services provided to job seekers include:
 - Counseling and guidance, assistive technology, job placements, vocational assessments, work adjustments, medical evaluations, and certain physical restoration services
 - Services provided to employers include: identifying a qualified pool of candidates for positions being filled, jobsite coaching, helping an employer identify the right solutions/accommodations for employee to be effective on the job through onsite job assessments, and providing technical support and training on those accommodations to ensure long-term success

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See *GLASS* under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See *Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living* under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **Paulding County Schools-Exceptional Students Educational Programs**

- Phone: (770) 443-8000
- Website: www.paulding.k12.ga.us
 - Provides a free, appropriate public education, in the least restrictive environment, to each student with a disability, including:

- ◆ Individualized instruction to meet a student’s educational needs in an effort to prepare the student for post-secondary education and/or employment and independent living
- The ESEP provides services to students with:
 - ◆ Learning disabilities; emotional behavior disorders; intellectual disabilities; significant developmental delays; visual impairments; hearing impairments; orthopedic impairments; autism; speech and language impairments; and other health impairments
- Additional services include:
 - ◆ Related vocational instruction; community skills development; physical therapy; occupational therapy; and adapted physical education
- Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Paulding County Schools

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Paulding County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 113
- Contact: Alex Schwartz: Sports and Program Manager for Area 3 (alex.schwartz@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Pickens

❖ **Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services**

- Phone: (770) 528-4545
- Website: www.chattahoocheetech.edu/disability-services/
 - DDS coordinates and provides a variety of academic and support services to students; provides accommodations and services that are individualized and appropriate for students with documented disabilities
 - Call to find out more information about the Disability Support Services for Chattahoochee Tech

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 635-1095

- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See *Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)* under ***Gilmer County*** for a full description
- ❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**
 - See *GLASS* under ***Bartow County*** for a full description
- ❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**
 - See *Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living* under ***Floyd County*** for a full description
- ❖ **Pickens County Schools-Special Education Services**
 - Dr. Shelley Goodman: Director of Special Education Services (shelleygoodman@pickenscountyschools.org)
 - Phone: (706) 253-1700
 - Website: www.pickens.k12.ga.us
 - All Pickens County students with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 will have appropriate programs of instruction and related services designed to meet their individual needs
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Pickens County Schools
- ❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Pickens County Schools**
 - Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
 - Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
 - Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Polk

- ❖ **Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services**
 - Sheila Parker: Disability Services Coordinator (Available by appointment)
 - Phone: (706) 295-6517
 - Website: www.gntc.edu

- The ADA/Disability Services Office at GNTC is committed to working with students to assist in program accessibility and academic accommodations that may be necessary and appropriate due to student's disabilities
- Students requesting services must provide official documentation to support the evidence of the disabling, limiting, or impairing conditions. Documentation should describe diagnosis, characteristics of the disability, as well as functional limitations for a college environment

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (770) 443-3717
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - See *Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)* under **Paulding County** for a full description

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See *GLASS* under **Bartow County** for a full description

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See *Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living* under **Floyd County** for a full description

❖ **Polk County Schools-Exceptional Student Services**

- Julie Moilanen: Director (jmoilanen@polk.k12.ga.us)
- Phone: (770) 684-8718
- Website: www.polk.k12.ga.us
 - Provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment to all eligible students from ages 3 through their 22nd birthday.
 - Includes individualized instruction to meet the student's educational needs to prepare the student for post-secondary education and/or employment, as well as independent living. A full continuum of special education and related service options are available
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Polk County Schools

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Polk County Schools**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 113
- Contact: Alex Schwartz: Sports and Program Manager for Area 3 (alex.schwartz@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness

- Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

Walker

❖ Chickamauga City Schools-Special Education

- Stacy McDaniel: Director of Special Education and Programs (stacy.mcdaniel@glschools.org)
- Phone: (706) 382-3100 Ext. 4010
- Website: www.chickamaugacityschools.org
 - Provides a free, appropriate, public education in the least restrictive environment for all students with a disability. This includes individualized instruction to meet a student's educational needs in an effort to prepare the student for post-secondary education and/or employment and independent living
 - Disability areas served:
 - ◆ Specific learning disability; emotional/behavioral disorder; intellectual disability; significant developmental delay; visual impairment; deaf/hard of hearing; traumatic brain injury; deaf/blind; orthopedic impairment; autism spectrum disorder; speech and language impairment; and other health impairments
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Chickamauga City Schools

❖ Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

- Brittany Elrod: Disability Services Coordinator
- Phone: (706) 764-3799
- Website: www.gntc.edu
 - The ADA/Disability Services Office at GNTC is committed to working with students to assist in program accessibility and academic accommodations that may be necessary and appropriate due to student's disabilities
 - Students requesting services must provide official documentation to support the evidence of the disabling, limiting, or impairing conditions. Documentation should describe diagnosis, characteristics of the disability, as well as functional limitations for a college environment

❖ Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

- Phone: (706) 638-5536
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - Services include:
 - ◆ Business Enterprise Program- Provides business management opportunities for eligible and qualified people to become licensed blind vendors; must be certified as legally blind, minimum age 18, demonstrated 10th grade math and reading levels, high school diploma or GED, successful completion of psychological and vocational evaluations, completion of criminal background check with no confirmed felonies, and TB testing with confirmed negative results
 - ◆ Georgia Industries for the Blind- Provides employment opportunities to individuals who are blind in manufacturing and services
 - ◆ Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation- A comprehensive rehabilitation center dedicated to service, technological advancement, program diversity, and continuing education on behalf of persons with disabilities
 - ◆ Vocational Rehabilitation- provides a variety of individual services to persons with disabilities in preparation for their employment in the competitive labor market and to employers seeking to retain valuable employees with disabilities or hire qualified individuals for their workforce; services provided to job seekers include:
 - Counseling and guidance, assistive technology, job placements, vocational assessments, work adjustments, medical evaluations, and certain physical restoration services
 - Services provided to employers include: identifying a qualified pool of candidates for positions being filled, jobsite coaching, helping an employer identify the right solutions/accommodations for employee to be effective on the job through onsite job assessments, and providing technical support and training on those accommodations to ensure long-term success

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See **GLASS** under **Bartow County** for a full description

❖ **Lookout Mountain Community Services-Chickamauga**

- Website: www.lmcs.org
- **Day Program:** (706) 375-2142
 - Call to find out more information about the Day Program for the Chickamauga location
- **Residential Program:** (706) 375-2142

- Call to find out more information about the Residential Program for the Chickamauga location
 - **Transportation:** (706) 375-0804
 - Provides a full range of support for consumer transit needs through automated dispatching and highly qualified drivers and dispatchers
- ❖ **Lookout Mountain Community Services-LaFayette**
- Website: www.lmcs.org
 - Outpatient Clinic: (706) 638-5591
 - LMCS provides a full array of mental health services to adults with a wide range of behavioral and/or psychiatric disorders. Outpatient treatment modalities include diagnostic assessments; individual, group, and family therapy; psychiatric evaluations; and medication
 - Adult Recovery and Support Services: (706) 639-2108
 - Services include: Case Management; Addictive Diseases Support Services and Psychosocial Rehabilitation-Individual; Peer Support Program; and Support Employment
 - Business Office: (706) 638-5580
 - Director's Office: (706) 638-5584
- ❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**
- See ***Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living*** under ***Floyd County*** for a full description
- ❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Walker County Schools**
- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108
 - Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
 - Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community
- ❖ **Walker County Schools-Special Education Department**
- Angie Ingram: Director
 - Phone: (706) 375-9900 Ext: 102
 - Website: www.walkerschools.com

- Serves over 1,400 students with disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorders; Blind and Visually Impaired; Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Deaf/Blind; Intellectually Disabled (mild, moderate, severe, and profound); Orthopedically Impaired; Other Health Impaired; Specific Learning Disabled; Speech Language Impaired; Emotional Behavioral Disorders; Traumatic Brain Injury; and Significant Developmental Delay. Ages served range from preschool age 3 through high school age 22.
- Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Walker County Schools

Whitfield

❖ Alzheimer's Association

- Phone: (706) 275-0819 or (800) 272-3900 (24-Hour Hotline)
- Email: info@alz.org
- Website: www.alz.org/georgia
 - Offers a wide range of services designed to meet the unique needs of families caring for people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias
 - Services include:
 - ◆ Helpline information and referral; care consultation; community support groups; Caring Connection (a telephone support group); Caregiver Time Out; a respite reimbursement program; family education; professional education; MedicAlert + Safe Return; resource library; and information about clinical trials

❖ Dalton Public Schools-Exceptional Student Services

- Amy Bowers: Exceptional Student Services Director
- Phone: (706) 876-4023
- Website: www.daltonpublicschools.com
 - Exceptional Student Services ensures specially designed learning is provided to students with disabilities from ages 3 through 21. The goal is to ensure that all students with disabilities have the opportunity to participate in the general education classroom as much as possible each day to prepare each student to graduate with a diploma and transition to employment and independent living.
 - Disabilities served include:
 - ◆ Autism; deaf/blind; deaf/hard of hearing; emotional and behavioral disorders; intellectual disabilities; orthopedic impairments; other health impairments; significant developmental delays; specific learning disabilities; speech-language impairments; traumatic brain injuries; visual impairments

- Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Dalton Public Schools

❖ **Georgia Lupus Support Network-Dalton**

- Carol Goforth: Leader
- Phone: (706) 673-5528
- Website: www.lupus.org/georgia
 - Phone Support Only
 - Visit the website for more information about the lupus support networks

❖ **Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services**

- Kevan Watkins: Disabilities Services Coordinator
- Phone: (706) 272-2958
- Website: www.gntc.edu
 - The ADA/Disability Services Office at GNTC is committed to working with students to assist in program accessibility and academic accommodations that may be necessary and appropriate due to student's disabilities
 - Students requesting services must provide official documentation to support the evidence of the disabling, limiting, or impairing conditions. Documentation should describe diagnosis, characteristics of the disability, as well as functional limitations for a college environment

❖ **Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)**

- Phone: (706) 272-2303
- Website: www.gvra.georgia.gov
 - Services include:
 - ◆ Business Enterprise Program- Provides business management opportunities for eligible and qualified people to become licensed blind vendors; must be certified as legally blind, minimum age 18, demonstrated 10th grade math and reading levels, high school diploma or GED, successful completion of psychological and vocational evaluations, completion of criminal background check with no confirmed felonies, and TB testing with confirmed negative results
 - ◆ Georgia Industries for the Blind- Provides employment opportunities to individuals who are blind in manufacturing and services
 - ◆ Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation- A comprehensive rehabilitation center dedicated to service, technological advancement, program diversity, and continuing education on behalf of persons with disabilities

- ◆ Vocational Rehabilitation- provides a variety of individual services to persons with disabilities in preparation for their employment in the competitive labor market and to employers seeking to retain valuable employees with disabilities or hire qualified individuals for their workforce; services provided to job seekers include:
 - Counseling and guidance, assistive technology, job placements, vocational assessments, work adjustments, medical evaluations, and certain physical restoration services
 - Services provided to employers include: identifying a qualified pool of candidates for positions being filled, jobsite coaching, helping an employer identify the right solutions/accommodations for employee to be effective on the job through onsite job assessments, and providing technical support and training on those accommodations to ensure long-term success

❖ **GLASS (Georgia Libraries for Assisting Statewide Services)**

- See **GLASS** under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

❖ **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living**

- See **Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living** under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

❖ **Northwest Georgia Regional Commission**

- Area Agency on Aging:
- Phone: (706) 272-2300
- Counties served: Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, and Whitfield
- Website: www.nwgrc.org/services/area-agency-on-aging/
 - Alzheimer services provides out-of-home day care and in-home respite care to assist AD clients and their families
 - Alzheimer training provides education and training to professionals and caregivers
- Work Source Georgia:
- Website: www.careerdepot.org
 - Northwest Georgia Work Source Georgia can refer those with disabilities to job and educational opportunities available in the Northwest Georgia region

❖ **Special Olympics Georgia-Dalton City Schools/Whitfield County Schools/Parks and Recreation**

- Phone: (770) 414-9390 Ext. 108

- Contact: Devin Dowell: Sports and Program Manager for Area 1 (devin.dowell@specialolympicsga.org)
- Website: www.specialolympicsga.org
 - Providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness
 - Demonstrating courage, experiencing joy, and participating in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community

❖ **Whitfield County Schools-Exceptional Student Services**

- Sarah Hoskins: Director (sarah_hoskins@whitfield.k12.ga.us)
- Phone: (706) 876-3921
- Website: www.whitfield.k12.ga.us
 - Special education programs; professional learning related to exceptional students; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); Individualized Education Program (IEP's)
 - Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Whitfield County Schools

Websites and Information Lines

❖ **ADA Information Line**

- Voice Phone: (800) 514-0301
- TTY Phone: (800) 514-0383
- Website: www.ada.gov/infoline.htm
 - The Department of Justice operates a toll-free ADA information line to provide information and materials to the public about requirements of the ADA
 - ADA Specialists are available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm (Eastern Time) and on Thursday from 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm (Eastern Time). Calls are confidential.