

Northwest Georgia



Connecting Talent with Opportunity
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Disabilities Resources 2024-2025

Northwest Georgia Counties

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

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

Bartow

Academy ABA

770.754.0085

intake@academyaba.com

www.academyaba.com/

Helps children with learning differences develop academic and life skills that will allow them to find the best opportunities for success throughout life. Academy ABA offers individualized programming for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy focuses on your child's unique talents, strengths and weaknesses to help them live to their full potential.

Bartow County Schools-Department of Exceptional Education

770.606.5800

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.

Briggs & Associates

Jennifer Cailor, Career Specialist

470.379.4922

<https://www.briggsassociates.org>

Providing supported and customized employment for individuals with developmental or mental health disabilities.

Cartersville City Schools- Exceptional Services

Susan Tolbert, Director of Exceptional Services

770.387.4728

stolbert@cartersvilleschools.org

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 Exceptional Services for Cartersville City Schools.

Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services

See Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services under *Paulding County* for a full description.

Georgia Highlands College- Student Disability Access

706.295.6336

disabilityaccess@highlands.edu

www.highlands.edu/student-support-services/disability-assistance/

Students registered with Disability Access who have a documented, qualifying disability (as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) are entitled to non-discrimination and reasonable accommodations.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

800.248.6701

glis@georgialibraries.org

<https://glis.georgialibraries.org/>

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

- 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

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

See Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services under *Floyd County* for full description.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

1300 Univeter Road, Canton, GA 30115

844.367.4872

www.gvra.georgia.gov

<https://referral.gvs.ga.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

Hickory Log Vocational School

770.382.6655

info@hickorylog.org

Personal care home for men with developmental disabilities; adult literacy classes; training in daily living skills; physical education and activities

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

<https://highlandrivers.org/>

<https://highlandrivers.org/about-us/locations/>

Provides comprehensive treatment, support, and recovery services for adults, youth, families and veterans affected by mental health disorders, intellectual developmental disabilities, and addictive disease. Serves a 13-county region of Northwest Georgia with ten outpatient centers, four crisis stabilization/detox units, men's and women's residential treatment programs, adolescent clubhouses and a variety of services delivered in community locations including schools and individuals' homes. Individuals and families living anywhere in our service area can receive services from Highland Rivers Behavioral Health.

North Georgia Autism Center

470.473.5920

<https://www.northgeorgiaautism.com/>

Assists in solving the critical issues involving Autism Spectrum Disorder faced by both clients and their families. Providing a broad range of therapies, services and solutions to help facilitate change and support clients.

Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living

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

Oakland Heights Baptist Thrive Ministry

770.386.3258

info@oaklandheights.com

www.oaklandheights.com

Assisting church member families that have children/adults with special needs. Individuals with special needs, and their families, get the opportunity to attend worship services and Sunday school

Project SEARCH Adult Model, Woodright Industries

Host Site: Shaw Industries, Cartersville, GA, Plants 94, CX, and 13

770.387.3730

Lmcentire@woodrightind.com

Woodright Industries and Shaw Industries Cartersville are partnering together to host Project SEARCH, a comprehensive program designed to equip individuals with disabilities with essential employability skills.

This immersive initiative combines classroom instruction with practical, on-the-job training, facilitated by experienced mentors. This model of Project SEARCH is for adults who have already completed high school and are in need of more in depth training for job placement.

Project SEARCH is a nine-month internship program aimed at achieving competitive, integrated employment outcomes. During their time in the program, participants will receive guidance from a Skills Instructor, a Skills Trainer, and various mentors. Upon completion of the program, individuals will be supported by vocational rehabilitation and supportive employment specialists to assist in securing suitable employment opportunities.

Project SEARCH, Bartow County Schools

Piedmont Cartersville Medical Center

470.490.1000

jennifer.hyde@bartow.k12.ga.us

www.bartow.k12.ga.us/page/project-search

Bartow County Schools and Piedmont Cartersville Medical Center partner 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 Piedmont 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.

Recovery Bartow, Inc.

470.315.4025

Jessica.Mitcham@RecoveryBartow.org

A diverse group of local community members whose lives have been affected by addiction, recognizing the need for a more robust and organized way to support those seeking or in recovery, as well as the friends and families negatively impacted by the substance misuse of loved ones.

Special Olympics Georgia-Bartow County Schools/Cartersville City Schools

770.414.9390, x1109

santiago.arias@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

Bridgehealth-Fort Oglethorpe, Summerville & Trenton Outpatient Clinics

www.bridgecsb.org

- Outpatient Clinic Appointment/Scheduling : 866.55BRIDGE (552.7434)
Bridge Health provides a full array of mental health services to adults and children 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.
- Recovery Services : 706.639.2108
a community-based service that assesses needs, and provides linkage and referral, along with monitoring and follow-up. Recipients of this service are those individuals who are severely and persistently mentally ill, have a high rate of psychiatric inpatient hospitalizations, have recently been incarcerated, or are chronically homeless. Services include assistance in finding safe, affordable housing, opportunities for social interaction, or other services an individual may need.
- TREK (Transitional Resources and Environments for Kids), Region 1 (Northwest GA): 833.675.8735
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
- WinGA/APEX/Step-Up Programs: 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
- IDD Family Support Program: 706.924.0025
bridgehealthfamilysupport@lmcs.org
At Family Support Services, we believe that families should stay together and individuals are best supported within a community. Our program serves individuals aged 4 years and older with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD); Cerebral Palsy; and Autism Spectrum Disorders who are not enrolled in the Comprehensive (COMP) waiver or New Options Waivers (NOW). We arrange disability services tailored to the unique needs of each individual and their family. These supports address everyday needs and are often crucial in preventing family crises.

Catoosa County Schools-Special Education Department

706.965.4052

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.

CORE, Inc.

See Core, Inc. under *Pickens County* for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

See Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services under *Floyd County* for full description.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under *Walker 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

RossWoods Adult Day Services

See RossWoods Adult Day Services under *Whitfield County* for a full description

Special Olympics Georgia (Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Murray, Paulding, Polk, Walker, & Whitfield)

conner.king@specialolympicsga.org

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

Bridgehealth Outpatient Centers

See Bridgehealth Outpatient Centers under *Catoosa County* for a full description

Chattooga County Schools-Special Education

Kelli Johnson, Director of Special Education

706.822.9902

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 Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under *Walker 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

see Special Olympics Georgia under *Catoosa County* for a full description

Trion City Schools-Special Education

Linda Young

706.734.0724

linda.young@trionschools.org

www.trionschools.org

Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Trion City Schools.

Dade

Bridgehealth Outpatient Centers

See Bridgehealth Outpatient Centers under *Catoosa County* for a full description

Dade County Schools-Special Education

Susan Reyes, Director of Special Programs/Pre-K

706.657.4361

susanreyes@dadecs.org

www.dadecountyschools.org

The Dade County Schools System believes very strongly that all children can learn. To the greatest extent possible, students with disabilities are served in the least restrictive environment along with their non-disabled peers. Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Dade County Schools.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under *Walker 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

See Special Olympics Georgia under *Catoosa County* for a full description.

Fannin

CORE, Inc.

See Core, Inc. under *Pickens County* for a full description.

Fannin County Schools-Special Education

Dr. Connie Huff, Student Services Director
706.632.3771

www.fannin.k12.ga.us

The Fannin County School System seeks to ensure that all disabled students (ages 3-21) who are in need of special education within its jurisdiction are identified, located, and evaluated, including those attending private and home schools. Final identification of students with disabilities and programming for such students occurs only after an appropriate evaluation and a determination by a Multidisciplinary Placement Team. If the “child find” process indicates that a student may require special education and supportive services in order to benefit from regular education, the student shall be referred to the Multidisciplinary Placement Team to determine the student’s eligibility for special education services. Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Fannin County Schools.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under *Gilmer County* for a full description

North Georgia Autism Foundation, Inc.

706.946.0499

www.ngafinc.org

Support for Autistic individuals and their families across northern Georgia offering essential services ranging from diagnostic support to clinical consultation and implementing innovative programs like the STEPS Program in collaboration with the University of Alabama.

Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living

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

Floyd

Academy ABA

770.754.0085

intake@academyaba.com

www.academyaba.com/

Helps children with learning differences develop academic and life skills that will allow them to find the best opportunities for success throughout life. Academy ABA offers individualized programming for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy focuses on your child's unique talents, strengths and weaknesses to help them live to their full potential.

Amber Grace

706.842.2110

www.ambergrace.com

Ongoing safe, supportive housing and engagement programs for adults with mild IDD.

Briggs & Associates

See Briggs & Associates under **Bartow County** for a full description.

Chicago Autism and Behavior Specialists (CABS)

800.844.1232

info@CABSautism.com

www.cabsautism.com

Serving families with children ages 2 through 26 working closely with families to determine individualized treatment plans that provide a path to achieving meaningful outcomes for their children—including a plan to help clients transition out of services when they're ready.

CORE, Inc.

See Core, Inc. under **Pickens County** for a full description.

Developing Independence, Growth, and Security (DIGS), Inc.

706.766.8141

<https://digsrome.org/>

DIGS, Inc. provides safe housing work & leisure opportunities for adults with developmental challenges. Provides learning-to-work options for adults to help parents and caregivers make items such as garden art, botanical handmade soaps, and greeting cards. The all-volunteer staff helps adults learn important skills for a work environment, through the safe use of tools and equipment, working as a team, social skills appropriate for a work environment, scheduling, and following directions.

Elevation House

706.413.2323

elevationhouserome@gmail.com

Offers people living with mental illness opportunities for community, friendship, skill-building and support, as well as employment, housing, and education connections.

Floyd County Schools-Special Education

Susan Baker, Director of Special Education

706.234.1031, x 3002

www.floydboe.net

Oversees the provision of services, specially designed instruction, and related services for students with disabilities age 3-22 in compliance with the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); including the identification of students with disabilities through Child Find procedures. The Special Education Department works collaboratively with teachers, school administrators, and families to develop a plan for services and supports to meet the unique needs of each student to ensure that a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) is available to all students who are eligible. These services focus on enhancing student achievement and post-secondary outcomes through the implementation of local and statewide initiatives for students, families, educators, administrators, and other stakeholders. Targeted areas for services and supports include accessible instructional materials, assistive technology, curriculum access and alignment, dropout prevention, family engagement, least restrictive environment, positive behavior supports, and transition. Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Floyd County Schools.

Floyd Training Center

706.235.5109

<https://floydtraining.org/>

The Floyd Training and Service Center is a private, non-profit corporation and a contract agency with the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. Providing services for adults, over the age of 21 with a diagnosis of developmental disabilities. Accredited by the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission (CARF) for employment services and community services. Individuals develop skills that will lead them to greater self-sufficiency in their homes and in their community.

Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance

See Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance under ***Bartow County*** for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

Brittany Elrod, Disability Services Coordinator (Available by appointment)

706.295.6517

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

www.gsdweb.org

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)

844.367.4872

www.gvs.georgia.gov

<https://referral.gvs.ga.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.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health under **Bartow County** for a full description.

Extra Special People (ESP)

770.343.7806

www.espyouandme.org

ESP exists to create transformative experiences for people with disabilities & their families, changing communities for the better. Java Joy is a work experience program under Extra Special People, a non-profit based in Watkinsville, GA that serves children's, teenagers, and adults with disabilities, their families, and the community. Java Joy is the adult employment program that seeks to change communities for the better and create transformative experiences through moments of engagement between people of all abilities. ESP and Java Joy came to Rome, Georgia in 2020 and now serves families in the Rome/Floyd community.

Living Proof Recovery

706.204.8710

jamison@livingproofrecovery.org

www.livingproofrecovery.org

Supporting the long-term recovery needs of the community by providing peer support services.

NAMI Georgia- Rome (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

706.506.5010

namiomega@gmail.com

www.namiomega.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 Meetings:* Mondays from 6:00-7:30pm

Network Day Service Center, Inc.

706.291.2580

info@ndsci.org

Provides services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to help them become more independent and self sufficient.

North Georgia Autism Center

See North Georgia Autism Center under **Bartow County** for a full description.

Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living

706.314.0008

info@nwgacil.org

www.nwgacil.org

A community-based, non-residential organization that is run by people with disabilities, dedicated to enhancing the options available to individuals with disabilities so that they may determine their own future. *Core services include:* Self-advocacy; Skills Training and Community Courses; Peer Mentoring;

Transitions (youth transitions, nursing facilities/other institutions transitions, diversion from nursing facilities/other institutions).

Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

Area Agency on Aging

800.759.2963

www.nwgrc.org/services/area-agency-on-aging/

In-Home and Out-Of-Home Respite for individuals with Alzheimer's or related dementia.

Programs designed to assist caregivers and families with Alzheimer's and related dementia.

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

Northwest Georgia Work Source Georgia

www.careerdepot.org

Northwest Georgia Work Source Georgia can refer those with disabilities to job and educational opportunities available in the Northwest Georgia region.

ResCare Community Living

706.295.3667

<https://rescarecommunityliving.com/>

Residential services to individuals with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities that are qualified for Medicaid Waiver Programs. Services are offered in Group Home, Host Home, and Community Living Support settings.

Rome City Schools-Special Education

706.236.5050

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

www.rfpra.com/programs

www.specialolympicsga.org

706.252.6427

Gilmer

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

844.367.4872

Website: www.gvs.georgia.gov

<https://referral.gvs.ga.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

Jessica Chastain, Special Education Director

706.276.5000

www.gilmerschools.com

Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Gilmer County Schools.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health 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.

ResCare Community Living

See ResCare Community Living under ***Floyd County*** for a full description.

Gordon

Briggs & Associates

See Briggs & Associates under **Bartow County** for a full description.

Calhoun City Schools-Exceptional Student Services

Hayley Gilreath, Director of Exceptional Student Services

706.602.6610

gilreathh@calhounschools.org

www.calhounschools.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.

CORE, Inc.

See Core, Inc. under **Pickens County** for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under **Bartow County** for a full description

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

See Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services under **Floyd County** for full description.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under **Floyd County** for a full description

Gordon County Schools-Special Education

Mike Evelt, Executive Director of Student Services & Title IX Coordinator for Students

706-629-7366, x 8124

mevelti@gcbe.org

www.gcbe.org

Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Gordon County Schools.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health under **Bartow County** for a full description.

The Mercy Home

1453 Nickelsville Rd. NE

Resaca, GA 30735

<https://mercyhomeformen.com/>

A recovery residence for men struggling with addiction.

North Georgia Autism Center

See North Georgia Autism Center 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

RossWoods Adult Day Services

See RossWoods Adult Day Services under **Whitfield County** for a full description

Special Olympics Georgia

See Special Olympics Georgia under **Catoosa County** for a full description

Haralson

Bremen City Schools-Special Education

Silas Brown, Director

770.537.5508

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. A continuum of services is offered for students identified as eligible under State of Georgia Regulations for special education. The Georgia State Rules include intellectual disability, specific learning disability, emotional/behavior disorder, speech/language impairment, visual impairment, hearing impairment, autism, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, significant developmental delay, traumatic brain injury, and deaf/blind as areas of eligibility for special services.

Services are provided in a variety of settings including regular education classes, inclusion, co-taught, and resource classes. Services may also be provided in hospital/homebound settings. At the high school level, work-study programs give students the opportunity to gain real-life work experience in a supervised setting. When appropriate, community-based instruction is utilized so that students may apply skills they have learned in the classroom to actual situations.

Briggs & Associates

See Briggs & Associates under **Bartow County** for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under **Bartow County** for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under **Floyd County** for a full description

Haralson County Schools-Special Education

Dr. Gina Smeeton, Special Education Director

770.574.2500, x41225

www.haralson.k12.ga.us

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

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health under **Bartow County** for a full description.

Key Foundation, Inc.

770.574.5550

debcramer@bellsouth.net

KFI's Mission is to support adults with differing abilities, help them identify and pursue their dreams and provide opportunities to become a connected member of their community. This includes advocacy and a variety of educational, social, vocational, recreational, community access, employment, and residential programs. These programs encourage self-reliance, achievement, and independence.

Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living

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

Special Olympics Georgia–Haralson County Schools

Please contact Rebecca Swafford 770.842.1012

Murray

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under **Bartow County** for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under **Gilmer County** for a full description.

Murray County Schools-Instructional Support Services

Andrea McAllister, Director of Exceptional Student Services

706.695.2252

andrea.mcallister@murray.k12.ga.us

www.murray.k12.ga.us

The Division of Instructional Support Services addresses the unique needs of a student who is eligible to receive services. Students with disabilities determined eligible for special education and related services are entitled to a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Services are provided to eligible students according to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in preschools, elementary and secondary schools, or other appropriate settings. All services are planned and provided through collaboration with all stakeholders to meet the needs of each individual student. 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

RossWoods Adult Day Services

See RossWoods Adult Day Services under *Whitfield County* for a full description

Special Olympics Georgia

See Special Olympics Georgia under *Catoosa County* for a full description.

Paulding

Briggs & Associates

See Briggs & Associates under *Bartow County* for a full description.

CORE, Inc.

See Core, Inc. under *Pickens County* for a full description.

Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services

770.528.4545

www.chattahoocheetech.edu/disability-services/

The purpose of Disability Support Services (DSS) is to assist students with disabilities be successful in their studies at Chattahoochee Tech, providing services and advocacy for students with disabilities. Once documentation is received, this office works with faculty and staff to help them meet the student's needs. There are many accommodations that our department can offer students with disabilities. These accommodations are approved of based on the specific disability & the documentation of the disability that is received by our department.

Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance

See Georgia Highlands College-Disability Support and Assistance under *Bartow County* for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under *Floyd County* for a full description

Gigi's Therapy Farm and Rescue

678.643.3685

gigi@gigisfarm.org or gigitherapyfarm@gmail.com

<https://gigisfarm.org/>

Dedicated to enriching the lives of mentally, emotionally and physically challenged children and adults offering various levels of therapy with the help of rescue animals, and help the rescue animals find their forever homes.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health under **Bartow County** for a full description.

McKenna Farms Therapy Services

770.443.9672

info@mckennafarms.org or www.mckennafarms.org

A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that provides therapy services to boys and girls ages birth-21 with special needs from throughout Northwest Georgia and metro Atlanta. The children served have a variety of diagnoses and delays in development including, but not limited to: Autism, Sensory Integration Dysfunction, Developmental Delay, genetic/chromosomal disorders, Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Down Syndrome, Traumatic Brain Injury, Stroke, Scoliosis, fine motor delay, oral/motor feeding disorders, learning and language disabilities, auditory processing, and coordination disorders.

The Never Alone Foundation

678.577.3224

support@neveralonefoundationcorp.com

www.neveralonefoundationcorp.com

Offers care to individuals and communities facing life challenges. Committed to making affordable mental health services accessible to everyone, including coaching, counseling, therapy, and ongoing support

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

770.443.8000

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.

Paulding RCO

pauldingrco@gmail.com

Paulding County Substance Abuse Collaborative.

Special Olympics Georgia

See Special Olympics Georgia under **Catoosa County** for a full description.

West Georgia Wellness Center

470.291.4174

info@westgawellnesscenter.com

<https://westgawellnesscenter.com/>

Serving clients through a variety of alcohol and drug addiction programs to sustain long-term recovery from addiction.

Pickens

Angels on Horseback. Inc.

770.893.2807

angelsonhorseback17@gmail.com

<https://angelsonhorseback.org/>

Provide therapeutic equine-assisted activities to individuals with mental, physical or emotional disabilities and to encourage growth through the benefits of horse and human relationships.

CORE, Inc.

770.356.1229

<https://corevocationaltraining-ga.org/>

Provide job skills training, work experiences, and job placement opportunities to individuals with disabilities serving Catoosa, Fannin, Gilmer, Gordon, Floyd, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, and Walker Counties.

Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services

See Chattahoochee Technical College-Disability Support Services under *Paulding County* for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under *Gilmer County* for a full description

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health 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

Michael Baker, Director of Special Education

706.253.1700

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

See Special Olympics Georgia under *Catoosa County* for a full description.

Polk

Briggs & Associates

See Briggs & Associates under *Bartow County* for a full description.

CORE, Inc.

See Core, Inc. under *Pickens County* for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

See Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services under *Floyd County* for full description.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under *Floyd County* for a full description

High-Five Society

678.675.3303

info@highfivesociety.org

www.highfivesociety.org

Supports neurodiverse individuals and their families by fostering an inclusive community, offering social events, parent support, and educational workshops to empower, promoting compassion, understanding, and growth.

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health 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

770.684.8718

jmoilanen@polk.k12.ga.us

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

See Special Olympics Georgia under *Catoosa County* for a full description.

Walker

Chickamauga City Schools-Special Education

Stacy McDaniel, Director of Special Education and Programs

706.382.3100, x 4010

stacy.mcdaniel@glschools.org

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. CCS offers a continuum of services for students identified as eligible under the State of Georgia Regulations for Special Education. Disability areas served are specific learning disability, emotional/behavior 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 impairment. Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Chickamauga City Schools.

CORE, Inc.

See Core, Inc. under *Pickens County* for a full description.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under *Bartow County* for a full description

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

See Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services under *Floyd County* for full description.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

844.367.4872

www.gvs.georgia.gov

<https://referral.gvs.ga.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.

Northwest Georgia Center for Independent Living

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

RossWoods Adult Day Services

See RossWoods Adult Day Services under *Whitfield County* for a full description

Special Olympics Georgia

See Special Olympics Georgia under *Catoosa County* for a full description

Walker County Schools-Special Education Department

Destiny Wallin, Director,
706.375.9900

DestinyWallin@walkerschools.org
www.walkerschools.com

Serves over 1,600 students with disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorders, Blind and Visually Impaired, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, 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 21.

To ensure quality services, Walker County Schools employs staff to serve our students including special education teachers, paraprofessionals, speech / language pathologists, interpreters, an assistive technology specialist, related service personnel serving occupational and physical therapy needs, school psychologists, special education nurses, and educational diagnosticians. To meet the unique needs of students with disabilities, Walker County Schools offers a variety of programs and a continuum of services including consultative, inclusion / co-teaching, and small group programs. In addition, students are served in homebound, special day schools, residential placements when necessary. For our young students, the district also goes into our local Head Start facilities to provide support for eligible students. All students in the special education program have an Individualized Education Program (IEP). The IEP determines the placement that best supports the student in accessing their educational setting. The

students work on specific academic, behavioral, and / or functional goals. Walker County Schools currently has special education services available at every school site designed to meet the unique needs of the students in that school or area. Call to find out more information about the Special Education Program for Walker County Schools.

Whitfield

Alzheimer's Association

706.275.0819 or 800.272.3900 (24-Hour Hotline)

info@alz.org

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.

Carter Hope Center

706.226.7044

info@chcenter.com

<https://chcenter.com/>

Provides a structured and safe living environment to individuals that want a long-term residential program which encourages the spiritual, physical, and emotional recovery from drug and alcohol addiction.

Cross Plains Community Partner, Inc.

706.278.8143

crossplains@crossplainscp.org

<https://crossplainscp.org>

Supports and serves men and women with developmental disabilities and their families in Northwest Georgia. Programs consist of Project Search, Community Access, Supported Employment, and Support Services.

Dalton Public Schools-Exceptional Student Services

Pam Wiles, Director

706.876.4023

www.daltonpublicschools.com

Exceptional Student Services ensures specially designed learning is provided to students with disabilities from ages 3 through 21. Special education supports and services are planned and provided in collaboration with the student, parents, classroom teachers, community agencies, and other school staff to encourage each student to learn more at higher levels.

The goal of our Exceptional Student Services team 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 (ages 3-9)
- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Speech-Language Impairments
- Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Visually Impairments

Call Dalton Public Schools to learn more.

Georgia Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (GLS)

See GLS under ***Bartow County*** for a full description

Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services

See Georgia Northwestern Technical College-Disability Services under ***Floyd County*** for full description.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

See Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) under ***Floyd County*** for a full description

Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

See Highland Rivers Behavioral Health under ***Bartow County*** for a full description.

Hope Spur, Inc.

706.307.0043

support@hopespur.org

www.hopespur.org

Assisting individuals who cannot afford out-of-pocket costs for outpatient mental health treatment and counseling services.

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

800.759.2963

www.nwgrc.org/services/area-agency-on-aging/

In-Home and Out-Of-Home Respite for individuals with Alzheimer's or related dementia.

Programs designed to assist caregivers and families with Alzheimer's and related dementia.
Counties served: Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson,
Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, and Whitfield

Northwest Georgia Work Source Georgia

www.careerdepot.org

Northwest Georgia Work Source Georgia can refer those with disabilities to job and educational opportunities available in the Northwest Georgia region.

RossWoods Adult Day Services

Carlene Mutter, Executive Director

706.270.9628

800.509.0209

cmutter@rosswoods.org

<https://rosswoods.org/>

Provides adult day services for anyone who is 18 or older, who needs assistance, supervision, nursing care, personal care, and therapeutic activities during the day. Serves Catoosa, Gordon, Murray, Walker, and Whitfield Counties.

Whitfield County Schools-Exceptional Student Services

Ruthie Reed Rule, Director

706.876.3921

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.

State and National Resources

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

<https://988lifeline.org/>

The 988 Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals in the United States.

ADA Information Line

Voice Phone: 800.514.0301

TTY Phone: 800.514.0383

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.

Department of Behavior Health and Development Disabilities (DBHDD)

678.947.2818

<https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/>

Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

404.657.2126

888.275.4233

404.657.2133 TDD

info@gcdd.org or hello@gcdd.org

<https://gcdd.org/>

The mission of the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD) is to bring about social and policy changes that promote opportunities for the wide spectrum of diverse people/persons with developmental disabilities and their families to live, learn, work, play and worship in their communities. GCDD works with legislators and advocacy groups to influence and support public policy that fosters a positive change in the way education, housing, workplace/careers and community living opportunities are made available to persons with developmental disabilities.

Lupus Foundation of America, Georgia Chapter

1337 Canton Road-D

Marietta, GA 30066

770.333.5930

info@lupusga.org

www.lupus.org/georgia

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Georgia

770.234.0855

namigeorgia@namiga.org

<https://namiga.org/>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

877-SAMHSA-7 (726.4727)

800.487.4889 TTY

www.samhsa.gov

To lead public health and service delivery efforts that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, and provide treatments and supports to foster recovery while ensuring equitable access and better outcomes. SAMHSA envisions that people with, affected by, or at risk for mental health and substance use conditions receive care, achieve well-being, and thrive.