

2025-2026 Financial & Legal Supports and Services



COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

2025-2026 Financial & Legal Supports and Services

What You'll Find Inside

The 2025–2026 Financial & Legal Supports & Services Community Resource Guide offers an overview of organizations and professionals who provide financial planning, legal guidance, and benefits navigation for individuals with disabilities and their families.

Financial Planning and Trust Services

 Includes professionals and firms who assist with estate planning, special needs trusts, and financial strategies to protect and manage assets.

Legal Guidance and Guardianship

• Features attorneys and agencies who support families with guardianship, conservatorship, power of attorney, and other legal planning tools.

Benefits and Support Programs

 Provides information about state and federal programs that assist with SSI, Medicaid, and benefit management to ensure continued eligibility while promoting independence.

Government and Advocacy Resources

 Highlights local and state agencies that offer assistance with conservatorship, waivers, and other financial or legal supports for individuals with disabilities.

Cobb County School District Transition Guides

- SSI Guide
- Family Supports Guide
- NOW/Comp Waiver Guide

To use the active links in this guide, please access a digital copy of this Community Resource Guide on the Cobb County Transition Services webpage or through the QR code.



Resources found within the Cobb County School District Community Resource Guides are for informational purposes only. The resources contained here are not associated with, affiliated with or sponsored by the Cobb County School District. CCSD makes no recommendations about the validity or usefulness of any agencies listed herein. The resources contained in this guide may change after publication. Please contact the resources for the most up to date



<u>The Amari Firm</u> assists families with estate planning, wills and trusts, Medicaid and long-term care planning, and guardianship or conservatorship services. Their team helps families prepare for future care needs and preserve assets for loved ones with disabilities.



3535 Roswell Road, Suite 18 Marietta, GA 30062 Phone: 678-609-3230 www.elderlawatlanta.com



<u>The Bobby Dodd Institute Benefits Navigator Program</u> helps individuals and families understand how work and income affect benefits like SSI, Medicaid, and other supports. Navigators provide free guidance to help families maximize earnings and maintain eligibility for essential benefits.





2120 Marietta Blvd. NW Atlanta, GA 30318 Phone: 679-365-0071



www.bobbydodd.org/empowers/programs/benefits-navigation

<u>The Bowden Law Firm</u> provides estate planning and special needs planning services for families. They help clients create comprehensive plans to protect loved ones, establish guardianships, and ensure long-term financial stability.

191 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2525 Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone: 404-941-1370 www.bowdenlaw.com

<u>Burgess & Christensen</u> offers legal services in Social Security disability law, guardianship, and special needs trusts. Their firm assists individuals and families through every step of the application or legal process to secure needed benefits and protections.





540 Powder Springs Street, Building A, Suite 1
Marietta, GA 30064
Phone: 770-422-0013
www.disabilityhelpline.com





<u>Choice Wealth Management</u>, led by Greg Corneille, provides financial planning and investment management services designed to help families meet long-term goals. Their team offers personalized strategies for budgeting, insurance, retirement, and estate planning.

11555 Medlock Bridge Road, Suite 100, Johns Creek, GA 30097





Phone: 404-475-2675 www.choice-wealth.com



<u>The Cobb County Probate Court</u> oversees the appointment and supervision of guardians and conservators for adults with significant disabilities, as well as the administration of estates. The court provides information and forms related to guardianship and conservatorship petitions.

32 Waddell Street Marietta, GA 30090 Phone: 770-528-1900

www.cobbcounty.org/courts/probate-court

<u>The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)</u> provides treatment and support services for individuals with developmental disabilities and behavioral health needs. The agency oversees the Medicaid NOW and COMP waivers, which fund community supports that promote independence and community participation.



1230 Bald Ridge Marina Road, Suite 800

Cumming, GA 30041 Phone: 678-947-2818



Toll-Free: 1-877-217-4462 www.dbhdd.georgia.gov

<u>Exceptional Futures</u> provides individualized Benefits Navigation services to help students and adults with disabilities understand how employment and income affect their SSI and Medicaid benefits. The program supports families in making informed financial decisions, connecting with local agencies, and maintaining eligibility for critical supports while pursuing independence.

200 Cobb Parkway North, Building 400, Suite 428

Marietta, GA 30062



Phone: 770-627-2413 <u>www.exceptionalfutures.com</u>



<u>The Georgia Department of Community Health</u> administers Medicaid programs and waivers that allow individuals who are elderly or have disabilities to receive care in their homes or communities. DCH ensures access to healthcare and community-based supports across the state.





2 Peachtree Street NW Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone: 404-656-4507 www.dch.georgia.gov



<u>Harrison & Held, LLP</u> provides estate and trust planning services, including special needs trusts and letters of intent for future care. The firm also advises families on guardianship, trust taxation, and financial planning to safeguard the long-term well-being of individuals with disabilities.

Phone: 404-566-4307 www.harrisonheld.com

<u>The Law Office of Miller & Chaet</u> offers legal services focused on special needs planning, including wills, trusts, and guardianships. They help families create plans that protect assets and secure care for loved ones with disabilities.

11800 AmberPark Drive, Suite 130 Alpharetta, GA 30009 Phone: 678-746-2900 www.northfultonwills.com

<u>MassMutual's Taylor, Yeganegi & Associates Financial Services</u> helps families plan for the future with estate tools such as wills, life insurance trusts, and powers of attorney. Their advisors assist families in building secure financial plans tailored to their unique goals.

1301 Shiloh Road, Building 800, Suite 830 Kennesaw, GA 30144 Phone: 678-302-2721

<u>www.financialprofessionals.massmutual.com/us/ga/kennesaw/taylor-yeganegi-associates-</u> financial-services



Nadler Biernath LLC focuses on estate planning, Medicaid planning, and special needs trusts. Their attorneys assist families in establishing plans that protect assets while maintaining eligibility for important benefits programs.

4360 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30341





Phone: 770-455-0535 www.nadlerbiernath.com

<u>The Pollan Law Firm</u> provides legal services related to Medicaid eligibility, special needs trusts, guardianship, conservatorship, and disability law. Their attorneys work with families to create plans that ensure financial stability and continuity of care.

1801 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 125 Atlanta, GA 30309 Phone: 678-510-1358 www.pollanlawfirm.com

<u>The Selective Service System</u> requires all male U.S. citizens and male immigrants ages 18 through 25, including those with disabilities, to register. Registration ensures eligibility for certain federal benefits and government employment.



www.sss.gov





<u>The Social Security Administration</u> provides benefits to individuals with disabilities through the SSI program. SSI offers monthly financial support to help eligible individuals meet basic living needs such as food, clothing, and shelter.





1415 Franklin Road Marietta, GA 30067 Phone: 1-800-772-1213 www.ssa.gov





<u>The STABLE Account</u> program for the state of Georgia allows individuals with disabilities to save and invest money without affecting eligibility for Medicaid, SSI, or SSDI. Funds in these accounts can be used for qualified disability expenses such as housing, education, and transportation.

www.georgiastable.com



Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a benefits program that provides monthly payments to children and adults with disabilities and limited or no resources.

Apply for Benefits



Call 1-800-772-1213 for an appointment.



Visit Cobb County Social Security Administration Office



Apply at www.ssa.gov/apply/ssi

Eligibility Requirements

- The adult must have a physical or mental disability that:
 - Is severe and creates functional limitations.
 - Prevents gainful employment.
 - Has lasted for more than 12 months and is expected to continue.
- Adult income is limited to less than \$1500. .

Frequently Asked Questions

- How long does the process take?
 - Depending on the need for appeals, the process can take anywhere from three months to two years.
- What kind of documentation do I need?
 - If you make an appointment or apply online, you will receive a list of documents.
- Can anyone help me manage my benefits?
 - Check out the information on Benefits Navigation on the next page.

The QR code will allow electronic access to the active links on the page..





Benefits Navigation

Benefits Navigators are free and helpful to families to make sure benefits aren't lost.

What is the Benefits Navigator Program?

- The Benefits Navigator Program helps individuals and families understand how earned income will impact SSI benefits (and other State and Federal benefits).
- Benefits Navigators can help determine how to maximize earnings and keep benefits.

Who is the Benefits Navigator for Cobb County?



Bobby Dodd Institute 2120 Marietta Blvd. NW Atlanta, GA 30318 679-365-0071

Questions a Benefits Navigator Can Answer

- How much can someone make before losing their SSI payment?
- How will savings/working affect the SSI payment?
- What work incentives are available?
- If my child has SSI, what should I expect when they turn 18?
- Who do I contact if I think the SSI amount is not correct?
- Who do I contact if I need to update information for SSI?

If you would like to connect with the Transition Resource Specialist that supports your school, please consult the Locations list on the Transition Services website: https://www.cobbk12.org/page/38587/special-education-transition-services



Family Support Services

Family Support Services provide funding assists families in obtaining disability-related goods and services. Family support funding is not income-based, but it is based on each family and individual's unique needs. Individuals cannot already be receiving services through the NOW or Comp Waivers.





Eligibility Criteria:

- Three years of age or older.
- Documentation of an intellectual or developmental disability prior to age 22.

To Apply:

There are two organizations in Cobb County that provide Family Support Services. Click on the link to either and access the application.

- InCommunity
- Highland Rivers Behavioral Health

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https://www.cobbk12.org/page/38587/special-education-transition-services

To use the links embedded into this document, access an electronic version through the QR code.



Common Services:

- Information and Referral
- Respite
- Community/Social Activities
- Summer Camps
- Special Diets, Clothing, or Personal Care
- Equine, Music, and/or Speech Therapy
- Dental Care
- Nutritional Supplements
- Incontinence Supplies
- Assistance in Identifying Needs

Additional services may be provided

Funds are limited and are based on a "most in need" determination. These funds are also not guaranteed the following year.





NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver

The New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) offer home- and community-based services for individuals with intellectual disabilities or other closely related conditions, such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or neurological problems.











Eligibility Criteria:

- Eligible for Medicaid.
- Have a diagnosis of an intellectual disability and/or a closely related condition.

Required Documentation to Apply:

- Application
- Psychological Report (Including IQ scores, adaptive scores, and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder assessments if applicable)
- Proof of Citizenship
- Copy of Social Security Card (or number)
- Copy of Medicaid and/or Medicare card
- Copy of Social Security benefit information
- Copy of guardianship documents (if applicable)
- Most recent IEP
- Signed Notice of Privacy Practices

NOW/COMP Waiver Program Services:

- Adult Dental Services
- Adult Nursing Services
- Adult PT and/or OT
- Adult Speech Therapy
- Behavioral Supports
- Community Access Services
- Community Living Support Services
- Community Residential Alternative Services
- Financial Supports
- Pre-Vocational Services
- Respite Services
- Specialized Medical Supplies
- Support Coordination
- Transportation Services

Additional services may be provided



NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver



Websites

- <u>DBHDD's Intellectual &</u>
 <u>Developmental Disability</u>

 Services
- Parent to Parent of Georgia



QR Code

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https://www.cobbk12.org/page/38587/specialeducation-transition-services

More Information

- <u>DBHDD NOW/Comp Waiver Fact</u> <u>Sheet</u>
- Constructing a Good Life
 Through Understanding the NOW and Comp Waivers



Application

Online NOW/Comp Waiver Application

NOW/Comp Waiver Application

NOW/Comp Waiver ROI

NOW/Comp Waiver HIPAA Notice



Support

These agencies can provide help for families completing the NOW/Comp Waiver Application.

- Special Needs Cobb
- Parent to Parent of Georgia

It may be necessary to request records to be submitted with your application. Go to the <u>Cobb County School District Special Education webpage</u> and scroll to "Records and Transcripts" for instructions on accessing records.