



# COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE



## Advocacy and Assistance



A community resource guide connecting individuals with disabilities and their families to advocacy organizations, support services, and planning resources that promote meaningful participation and quality of life.

**2026-2027**

# 2026-2027 Advocacy and Assistance Community Resource Guide

## What You'll Find Inside

The 2026-2027 Advocacy and Assistance Community Resource Guide highlights local, state, and national resources designed to support individuals with disabilities and their families in Cobb County. It focuses on advocacy, legal guidance, independent living, and access to essential services, helping families navigate complex systems like Medicaid waivers, guardianship, and transition planning.

- **Advocacy & Support Organizations**

- Contact information and services from groups like that promote inclusion, self-advocacy, and access to benefits

- **Legal & Transition Planning Resources**

- Guidance on guardianship, probate court, and future planning

- **Family Support & Medicaid Waiver Services**

- Eligibility criteria, application steps, and provider contacts for Family Support Services and the NOW/COMP Waiver programs

- **Educational & Community Navigation Tools**

- Resources to help families manage IEPs, transition milestones, and community-based supports

- **Cobb County School District Guides**

- Family Support Services
- Medicaid Waiver

*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 information on services provided.



# Advocacy and Assistance

**The Arc's Autism Now Center** offers support, resources, and advocacy for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities. Provides tools and information to help families connect with needed services.



Phone: 855-828-8476  
[www.autismnow.org](http://www.autismnow.org)



**The Arc of Georgia** advocates for the rights and full community inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Offers guidance on self-advocacy, benefits, housing, and more.



Phone: 404-492-7206  
[www.thearc.org/chapter/the-arc-of-georgia](http://www.thearc.org/chapter/the-arc-of-georgia)



**Autism Speaks** is a national organization dedicated to promoting solutions for individuals with autism and their families across the spectrum and throughout the lifespan. It offers advocacy, support, and resources including the Autism Response Team (ART), which connects families to information and services.



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

**Cobb County Probate Court Clinic (Legal Aid / Pro Bono)** provides a monthly clinic offering free 30-minute consultations with volunteer attorneys to assist families with probate and adult or minor guardianship matters. Parents and caregivers can get help determining the most appropriate court filing, identifying the correct forms, and understanding what to expect during probate or guardianship proceedings. Consultations are available in-person the second Thursday of each month and by phone the fourth Friday.

In Person Location: Marietta Square  
Phone: 770-528-2565  
[www.atlantalegalaid.org/get-help](http://www.atlantalegalaid.org/get-help)

**disABILITY LINK** is a Center for Independent Living (CIL) serving 12 Metro Atlanta counties, including Cobb. Led by and for people with disabilities, it promotes full community participation through advocacy, education, peer support, and independent living services. disABILITY LINK empowers individuals to make informed choices and achieve their goals.



1901 Montreal Rd, Suite 102  
Tucker, GA 30084  
Phone: 404-687-8890  
[www.disabilitylink.org](http://www.disabilitylink.org)





# Advocacy and Assistance

**The Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta (DSAA)** Supports individuals with Down syndrome and their families through advocacy, education, outreach, and community-building programs.



2221 Peachtree Rd NE, Suite D-226  
Atlanta, GA 30309  
Phone: 404-320-3233  
[www.dsaatl.org](http://www.dsaatl.org)



**Exceptional Futures Family Navigator Program** Provides personalized guidance to Georgia families of adults with special needs (age 18+), helping them navigate key future-planning steps like Medicaid waiver access, guardianship, Family Support funding, and Social Security. Offers action planning, timelines, and ongoing support—free of charge across Georgia.



**Cobb Location**  
570 Piedmont Rd  
Marietta, GA 30066  
Phone: 770-504-6053  
[www.efatl.org/family-navigator-program](http://www.efatl.org/family-navigator-program)



**The Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD)** works to advance public policy and improve services that support people with developmental disabilities in Georgia.



2 Peachtree St NW, Suite 26-246  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Phone: 404-657-2126  
[www.gcdd.org](http://www.gcdd.org)



**Inspiritus** helps individuals and families build thriving, self-sufficient lives by providing support in four key areas: meeting basic needs, promoting stability and safety, fostering community inclusion, and encouraging self-determination. The organization empowers people who face challenges such as developmental disabilities, poverty, displacement, or family disruptions through personalized services and community programs.



**Atlanta Location**  
731 Peachtree Street NE, Suite B  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
Phone: 404-875-0201 | 1-800-875-5645  
**Rome Location**  
202 East 3rd Avenue, Rome, GA 30161  
Phone: 404-875-0201  
[www.weinspirit.org/atlanta](http://www.weinspirit.org/atlanta)





# Advocacy and Assistance

**Parent to Parent of Georgia** provides support, training, and information to families of children with disabilities or special healthcare needs from birth through age 26. Services promote advocacy, independence, and informed decision-making. Families can connect one-on-one with trained volunteers through the Supporting Parent Program, or use the Roadmap to Success to navigate educational and transition milestones with helpful timelines and resources.



3070 Presidential Pkwy, Suite 130  
Atlanta, GA 30340  
Phone: 770-451-5484  
[www.p2pga.org](http://www.p2pga.org)



**Specialty Gifted Foundation** provides financial assistance, resources, and support to families raising children with disabilities. The organization helps families access adaptive equipment, therapies, and other disability-related supports while connecting them with community resources and assistance programs.



1205 Johnson Ferry Rd, Suite 136 #346  
Marietta, GA 30068  
Phone: 404-465-4418  
[www.speciallygifted.org](http://www.speciallygifted.org)



**Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia (SILC)** works to remove barriers to independent living for people with disabilities by collaborating with Centers for Independent Living, state agencies, and service providers. SILC helps families understand and access supports that promote self-direction, housing, transportation, employment, and other elements of community life across Georgia. The SILC for Cobb County is disAbility Link.

315 W Ponce de Leon Ave, Suite 660  
Decatur, GA 30060  
Phone: 770-270-6860  
[www.silcga.org](http://www.silcga.org)



# Advocacy and Assistance

**Together We Care** offers encouragement and tools to help families and faith communities include and support individuals with disabilities. Their programs help parents navigate services and build long-term life plans, while also helping adults with disabilities set and reach personal goals.



PO Box 801392  
Acworth, GA 30101  
Phone Not Listed  
[www.togetherwecare.org](http://www.togetherwecare.org)



**Transitionally Speaking** provides coaching and guidance to parents of children with disabilities as they prepare for life after high school. Through personalized one-on-one or small group sessions, families receive information and support for navigating adult services, including government benefits, community access, and long-term planning.



Phone: 678-517-2273  
[www.transitionallyspeaking.com](http://www.transitionallyspeaking.com)

**Understood** is a national nonprofit offering expert resources, tools, and peer support for families of children with learning and thinking differences like ADHD, dyslexia, and executive functioning challenges. Understood helps parents advocate effectively and build their child's confidence and success at home, in school, and beyond.



Phone: 516-654-7584  
[www.understood.org](http://www.understood.org)



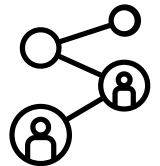


# TRANSITION SERVICES

EDUCATION. EMPLOYMENT. INDEPENDENCE.

## 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](#)

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

### 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.*

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





# TRANSITION SERVICES

EDUCATION. EMPLOYMENT. INDEPENDENCE.

## 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\*





# TRANSITION SERVICES

EDUCATION. EMPLOYMENT. INDEPENDENCE.

## NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver



### Websites

- DBHDD's Intellectual & Developmental Disability Services
- Parent to Parent of Georgia



### QR Code

To access an electronic version of this document, scan the QR code below.

**SCAN  
ME!** >>>



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>

### More Information

- DBHDD NOW/Comp Waiver Fact Sheet
- 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

DBHDD Notice of Privacy Practices



### 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 Cobb County School District Special Education webpage and scroll to "Records and Transcripts" for instructions on accessing records.*