

Service Map

for Childhood Health &
Education in Georgia



A guide for parents, caregivers
& anyone working with children
0 to 21 years in Georgia



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

About

This map was created by the **Georgia Department of Community Health** (DCH), one of Georgia's four health agencies serving the state's growing population of almost 10 million people. Responsible for a \$15 billion budget in State Fiscal Year 2017, the department is one of the largest agencies in Georgia state government.

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dch.georgia.gov



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

Main Office

404-656-4507
2 Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30303

State Office of Rural Health

502 Seventh Street South
Cordele, GA 31015-1443

How to use this map



We know how important raising a healthy and happy family is to you. But it's not always easy.

This map was created to help you navigate the services offered in Georgia to support you and your family.



Answer the questions below to help you find which section of the map to read first.

Use the lists of national program websites and community-based resources and contact information to learn more.



Guiding Questions

- 1 How do I get health insurance for myself and my family?
- 2 Where do I go to get health care?
- 3 How do I plan for a healthy pregnancy?
- 4 What programs can help my family if we are low-income?
- 5 What kind of community resources can my family access?

While some programs and services are only available to low-income families, you may be surprised to learn what government assistance you and your family are eligible for. Visit the **Georgia Gateway** (gateway.ga.gov) to find out.



What does health insurance cover?



Whether you have state-funded or private health insurance, you and your family should have access to preventative, specialty, and dental care.

Preventative Care:

- immunizations
- exams
- screenings
- dental
- vision
- hearing



Specialty Care:

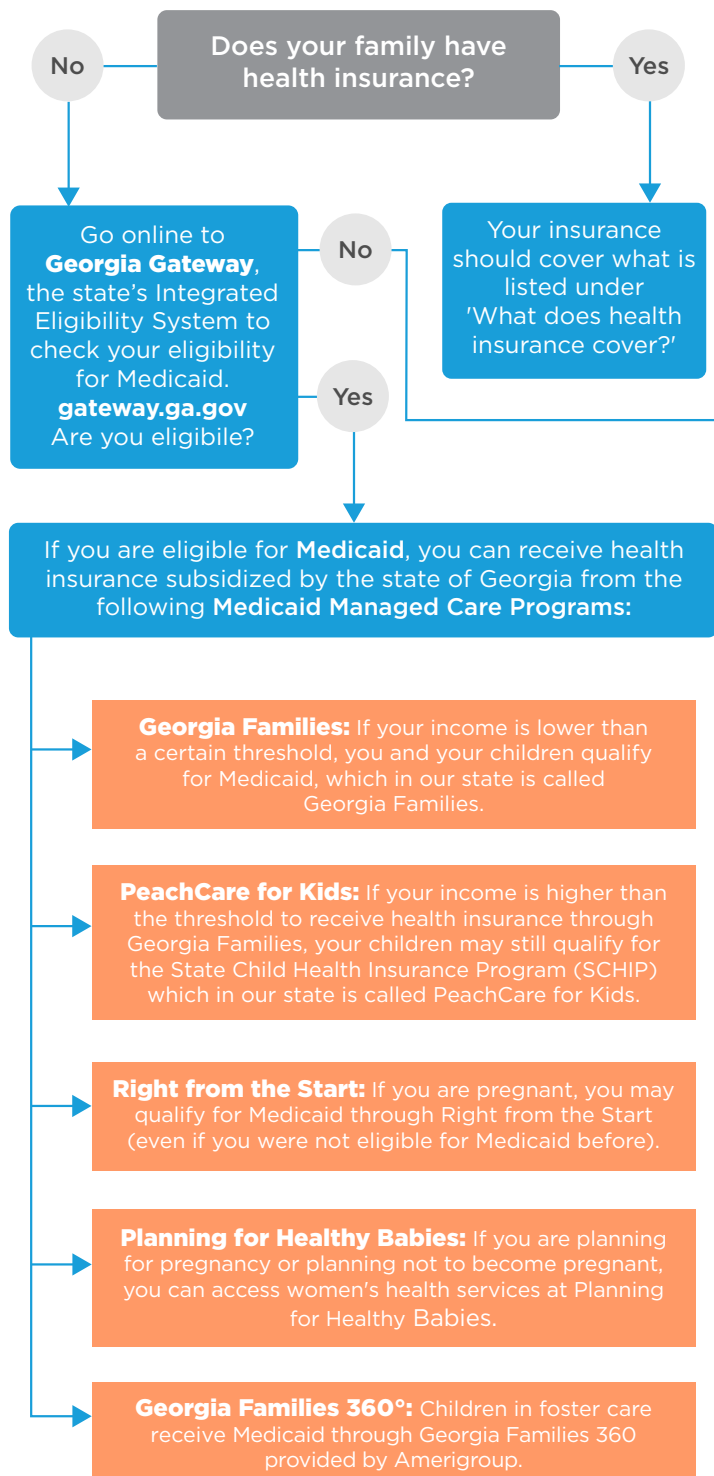
- Ears, nose & throat specialist
- audiologist
- ophthalmologist
- occupational, physical & speech therapy
- HIV care

Dental Care:

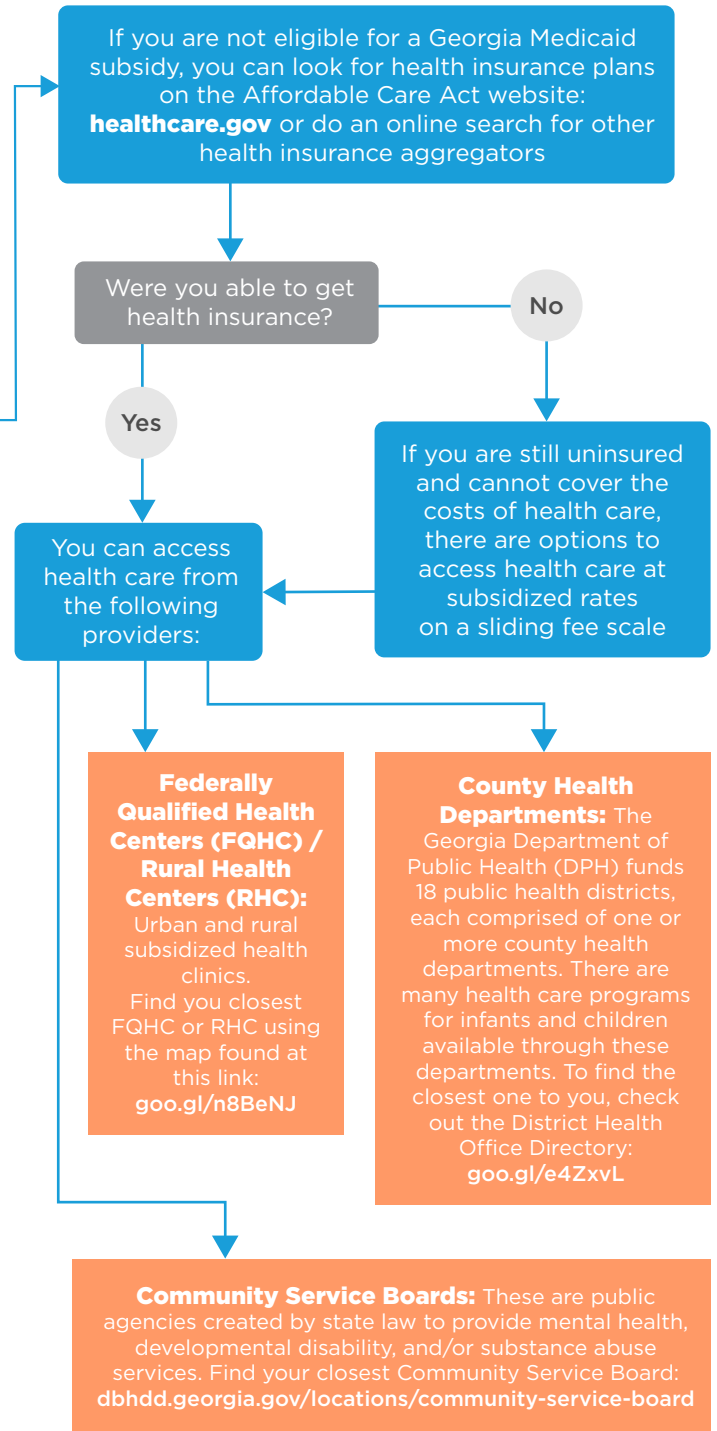
- exams
- x-rays
- cleanings
- fluoride
- fillings
- extractions



Finding adequate and affordable health insurance is one of the most important steps in caring for you and your family.



Know where to go in your community to get health care, either with or without insurance.



If you or your children qualify for one of the above programs, you can choose from four Care Management Organizations (CMOs): **Wellcare, Peach State, CareSource** or **Amerigroup**. Find a doctor or dentist in your network to get care.

Wellcare
1-866-231-1821
georgia.wellcare.com

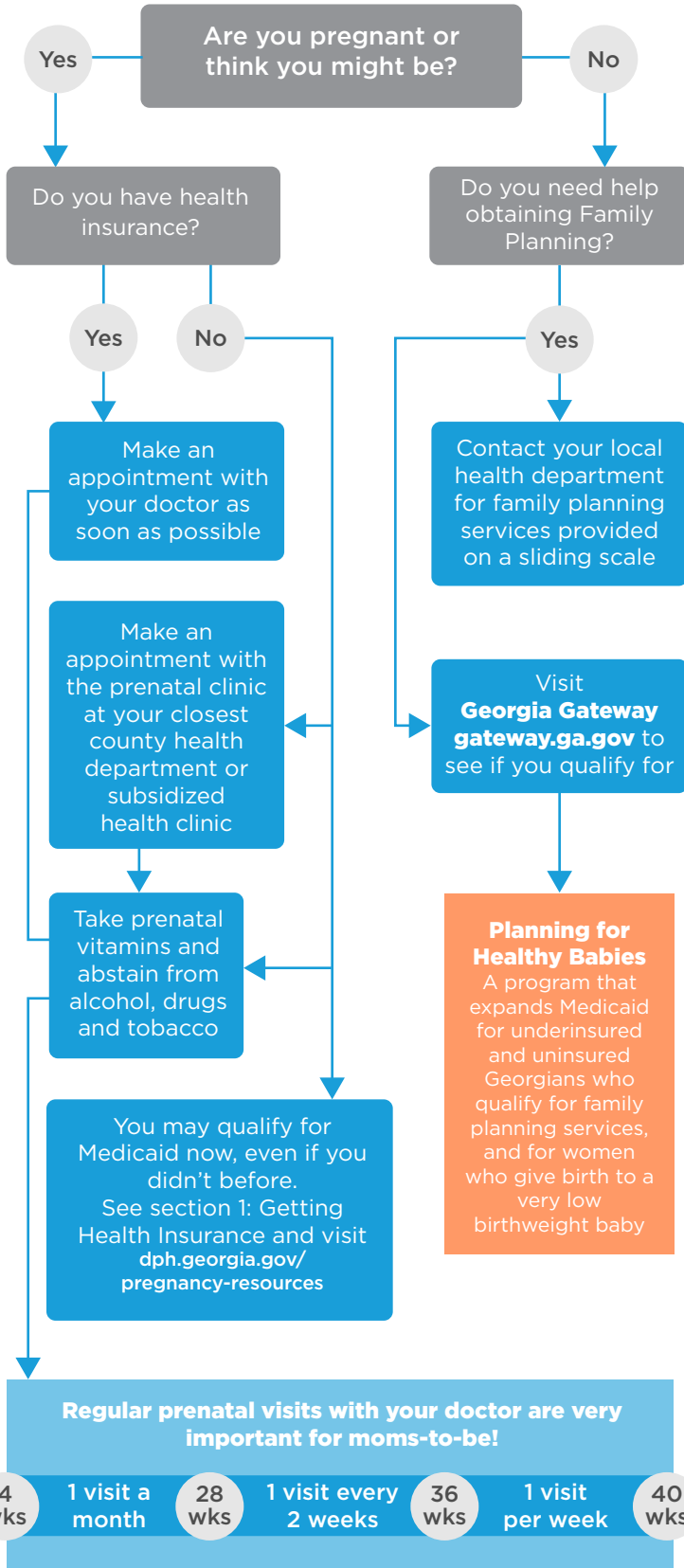
CareSource
1-855-202-0729
caresource.com/georgia

Peach State
1-866-874-0633
pshp.com

Amerigroup
1-800-249-0442
amerigroup.com

3 Planning for a healthy pregnancy

Having a healthy pregnancy is one of the best ways to promote a healthy birth. Getting early and regular prenatal care improves the chances of a healthy pregnancy.



4 Low-income family assistance

There are a number of programs that your family may qualify for depending on your household income that can assist with nutrition, child care, housing, medical services and more.

The **Georgia Gateway** (gateway.ga.gov) is an online portal that lets you see if you may qualify for:

- Help with buying food
- Help with buying prescription drugs
- Help with paying for child care
- Help with paying for health insurance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

A supplemental Nutrition Program for: infants and children age 1 to 5 years (including foster children), pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers (up to 1 year) and postpartum women (up to 6 months)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

A monthly cash assistance program with an employment services component for low-income families with children under age 18, and children age 18 attending school full-time.

Child Care and Parent Services (CAPS)

Subsidizes the cost of child care for eligible low-income families living in Georgia.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

A federally-funded program that provides monthly benefits to low-income households to help pay for the cost of food.

Medicaid (see section 1)

A joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources.

HOUSING, UTILITIES, etc.

Subsidized Housing (Section 8)

HUD.gov/states/georgia

Georgia Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

goo.gl/HWAFMD

Lifeline Assistance Programs Access

Voice and/or Broadband assistance: goo.gl/zhFq7b

Non-emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)

goo.gl/Ct5xzy

GENERAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Georgia Family Connection Partnership 404-527-7394
gafcp.org

United Way 2-1-1
unitedway.org/local/united-states/georgia

Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) 404-657-2700
dph.georgia.gov

Georgia Community Action Association 404-361-4442
georgiacaa.org

Poison Control 404-616-9000
georgiapoisoncenter.org

Injury Prevention/SAFE KIDS Coalition 404-785-7436
safekidsgeorgia.org/resources

Georgia DPH - Maternal and Child Health 404-657-2850
dph.georgia.gov/MCH

Georgia DPH Tobacco Quit Line 1-877-270-STOP
dph.georgia.gov/ready-quit 1-855-DEJELO-YA

VISION & HEARING

Georgia Hearing Aid Distribution 404-657-4990
goo.gl/7LnRyw

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation 404-325-3630
lionslighthouse.org

Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) 435-797-3584
dph.georgia.gov/EHDI

Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS) 404-463-0616
goo.gl/EswyiR

Department of Human Services 404-651-9361
dhs.georgia.gov

EMPLOYMENT

Employ Georgia 1-844-283-0997
employgeorgia.com

Technical College System of Georgia 1-833-FOR-TCSG
tcsge.edu

Department of Labor
dol.georgia.gov

MENTAL HEALTH & CRISIS

Georgia NAMI Non-Crisis HelpLine 770-408-0625
Crisis Directory: namiga.org/crisis-info

Georgia Crisis & Access Line 1-800-715-4225

Gateway Behavioral Health Services 866-557-9955
gatewaybhs.org

Local Suicide Prevention Lines
suicide.org/hotlines/georgia-suicide-hotlines.html

EDUCATION

Georgia Head Start Collaboration Office 1-866-763-6481
goo.gl/eEvDqA

Georgia Local School Districts 404-656-2800
goo.gl/N5zczS

State Funded Preschool Local Coordinator 404-656-5957
decal.ga.gov/BftS/EnrollingInPreK.aspx

Child Care Resource & Referral Agency 1-877-316-3552
decal.ga.gov/CCS/CCRRSystem.aspx

Community Mental Health Center 404-651-8520
dbhdd.georgia.gov/behavioral-health

Home Health Providers 404-215-6000
homehealthcareagencies.com/directory/ga

Hope Scholarships for TCSG
goo.gl/CFerQm

GA Dept. for Libraries & Archives: 678-364-3710
georgiaarchives.org

ABUSE

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia: 404-413-1460
gcapp.org/prevent-abuse

Abuse Hotline 1-855-422-4453
goo.gl/igx7vE | goo.gl/JQrBTB 1-800-334-2836

HELPLINE Georgia 1-800-338-6745
Alcohol & Drug Problems, Victims of Violent Crime, Gambling Problems, Legal Matters, Reporting Drug Trafficking, Self-Help and Support Groups

National Websites

Learn the Signs. Act Early: cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly

A milestone tracker app to help parents track their child's development and act early in case of concern.

Text4baby: text4baby.org

A free text message service and app for critical health and safety information about baby's development, pregnancy, child care tips and more.

Zero to Three: zerotothree.org

A portal of resources and services for babies and toddlers focusing on critical early connections.

First Signs: firstsigns.org

A resource and education hub for parents and professionals about autism and related disorders, including the screening and referral process.

Autism Speaks: autismspeaks.org

Promotes solutions across the spectrum, including an Autism Response Team hotline: 888-288-4762

Autism Society of America: autism-society.org

Information and resources for individuals and families living with autism. 800-3-AUTISM

American Academy of Pediatrics: aap.org

Professional association of pediatricians working to improve & develop healthcare policy for all children.

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: aacap.org

Promotes the healthy development of children, adolescents, and families through advocacy, education, and research.

Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration: samhsa.gov

A federal agency that leads public health efforts to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness.

National Federation for Families: ffcmh.org

Focuses on the issues of children and youth with emotional, behavioral, or mental health needs and their families.

National Institute of Mental Health: nimh.nih.gov

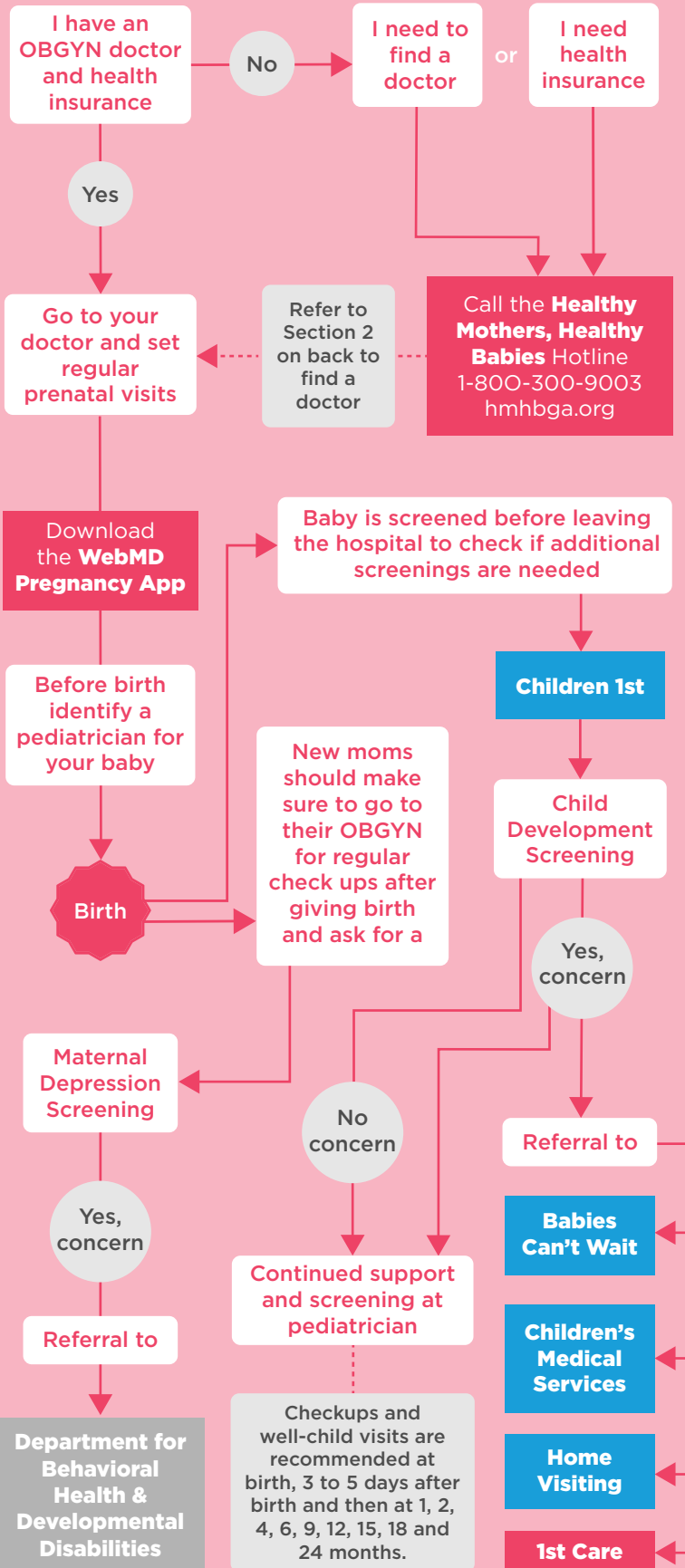
The largest research organization in the world specializing in mental illness.

Center for Child and Human Development: gucchd.georgetown.edu

Focuses on children, youth and families with special health care needs, behavioral health challenges and disabilities (including adults with disabilities).

PRENATAL, INFANTS & TODDLERS

(0 - 3 Years)



RESOURCES

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies

hmhbga.org | 1-800-300-9003

HMHB operates the Maternal and Child Health Referral Line and the Prevent Child Abuse Georgia Helpline, to provide callers with appropriate referrals and resources including prenatal education, breastfeeding support, infant mortality prevention, and health insurance access.

1st Care

dph.georgia.gov/services/services-children-first
855-707-8277

1st Care is a comprehensive home visiting program for infants who are medically fragile, including those born with low, or very low birth weight.

Department of Public Health Perinatal Care

dph.georgia.gov/perinatal-health | 404-657-2850

DPH Perinatal Care focuses on the health of women and babies before, during and after birth and include support services, information and referrals for breastfeeding, centering pregnancy, birth control, preterm birth, tobacco quit line, social support, safe sleep, & nutrition.

MotherToBaby Georgia

mothertobaby.org/georgia | 866-626-6847

MotherToBaby provides free evidence-based information to mothers, healthcare professionals, and the general public about medications, alcohol, drugs of abuse, herbal supplements, chemicals, infectious diseases, and other exposures during pregnancy and while breastfeeding.

WebMD Pregnancy App

webmd.com/pregnancy-app

Newborn Screening (NBS)

dph.georgia.gov/NBS | 404-657-4143

Department of Public Health Immunizations

dph.georgia.gov/immunization-section
404-657-3158

Maternal Substance Abuse & Child Development

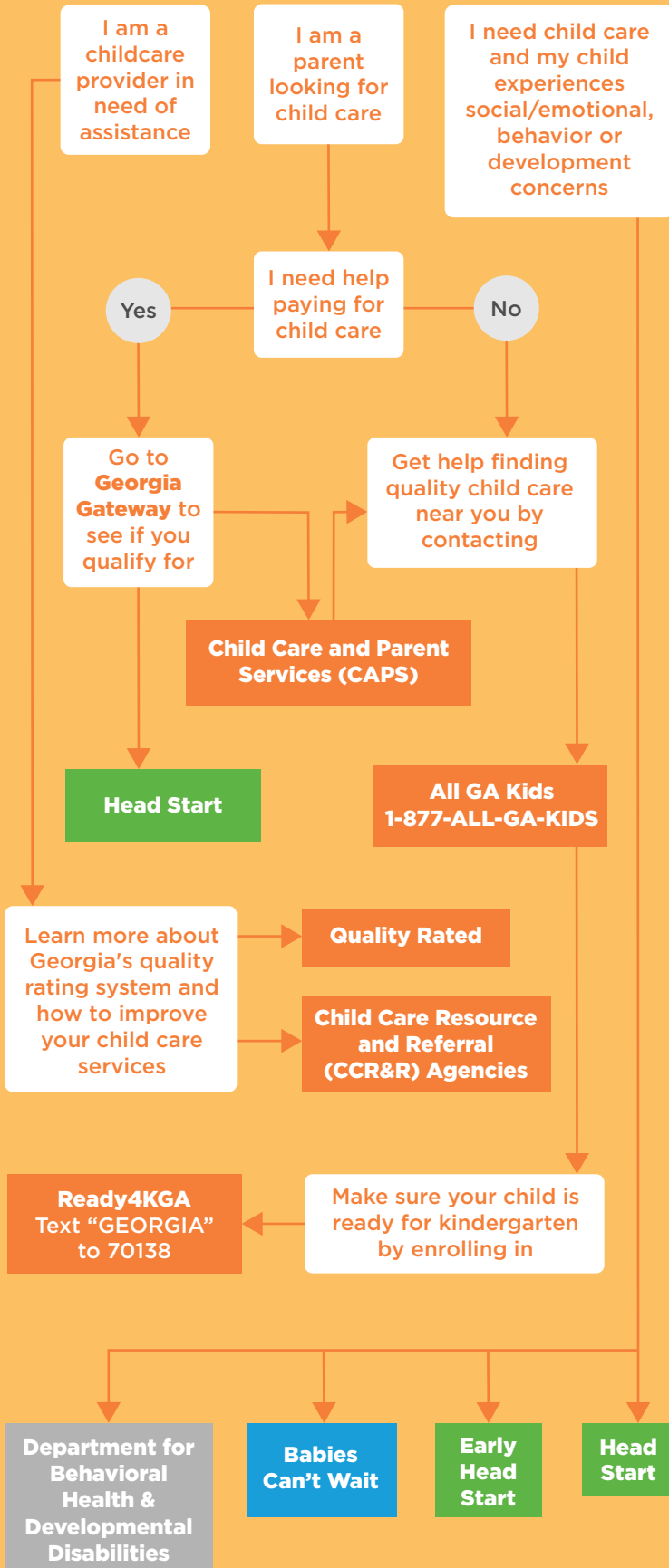
emory.edu/msacd

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

dph.georgia.gov/WIC | 1-800-228-9173

CHILD CARE

(0 - 5 Years)



RESOURCES

Child Care and Parent Services (CAPS)

caps.decal.ga.gov | 1-833-4GACAPS

CAPS provides access to high quality and affordable early learning environments for families considered low-income.

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care & Learning (DECAL)

families.decal.ga.gov | 1-888-442-7735

Bright from the Start DECAL administers the Georgia's Pre-K Program; licenses child care centers and home-based child care; administers the Child Care and Development Funds; and administers federal nutrition programs. It also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state.

Quality Rated

qualityrated.decal.ga.gov | 1-855-800-7747

Quality Rated is a tiered quality rating and improvement system used to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early and school-age care and education programs.

Child Care Resources & Referral System (CCR&R)

decal.ga.gov/CCS/CCRRSystem.aspx

CCRRS promotes quality early learning by supporting child care programs that are working towards a Quality Rated star rating.

All GA Kids

allgakids.org | 877-ALL-GA-KIDS

Georgia's source for parents who are looking for quality child care throughout the state of Georgia

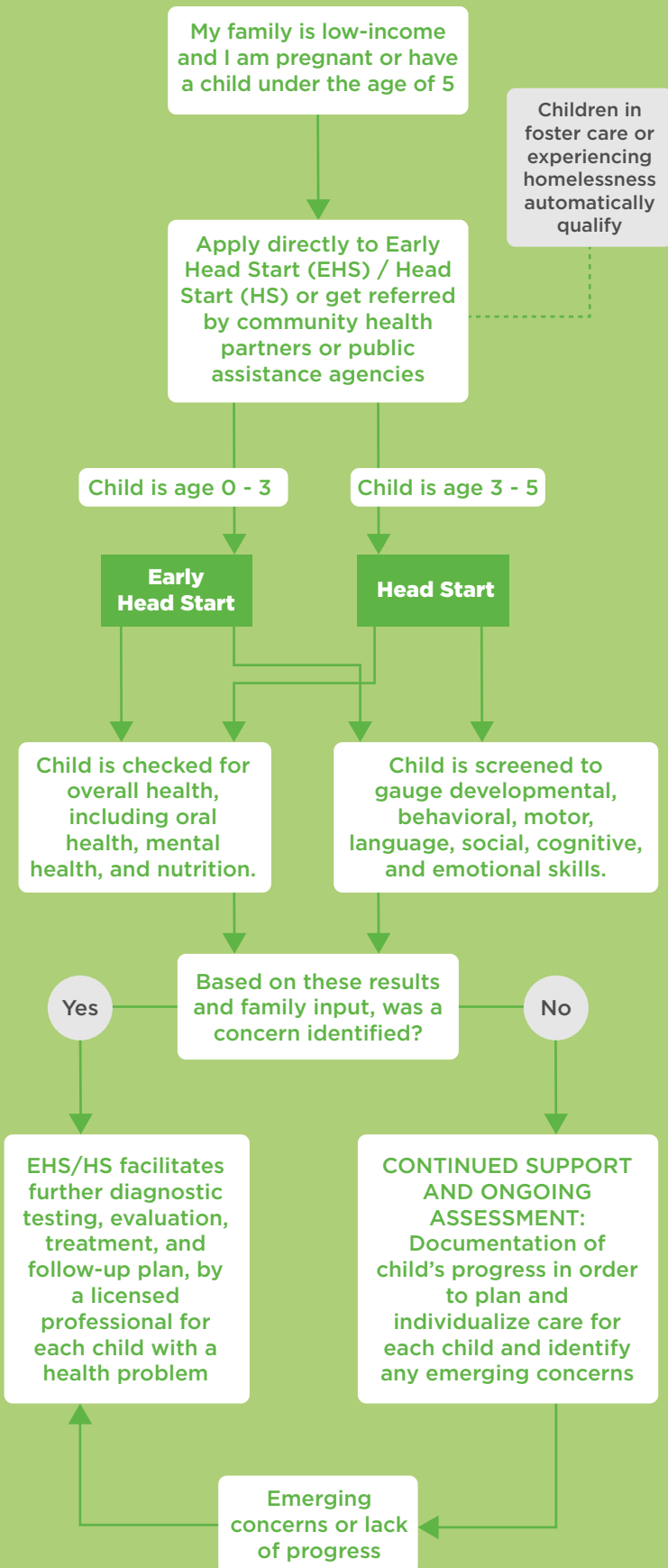
Ready4KGA

words2reading.com/ready4kga | Text "GEORGIA" to 70138

Developed by educational researchers, Ready4KGA is an evidence-based text messaging program for parents of newborns, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds provided at no cost that are customized for Georgia.

EARLY HEAD START & HEAD START

(0 - 5 Years)



RESOURCES

Early Head Start (EHS)

georgiaheadstart.org
404-929-2457 or 404-651-7425

EHS is a federally funded program that provides intensive comprehensive child development and family support services to low-income infants and toddlers (ages 0 to 3) and their families, and to pregnant women and their families. EHS is designed to nurture healthy attachments between parent and child (and child and caregiver). In Georgia, EHS is managed by local, non-profit community agencies. EHS programs include home- and/or center-based services, and family child care services as part of the EHS-Home Visiting program.

Head Start (HS)

georgiaheadstart.org
404-929-2457 or 404-651-7425

Head Start a federally-funded program for low-income children ages 3 to 5 managed by by local non-profit community action agencies.

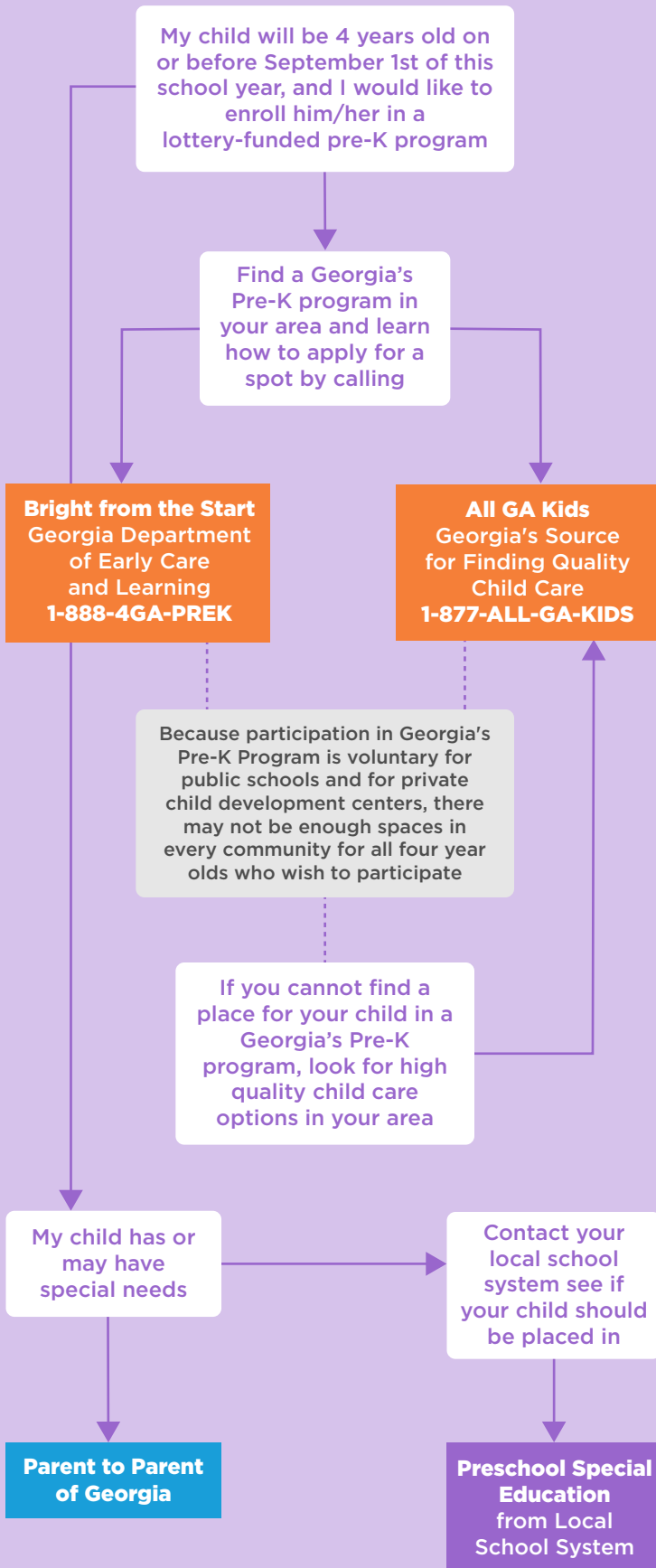
Both EHS and HS provide high-quality health, oral health, mental health, nutrition services, developmental screening and verify that the child:

- has a medical home provider;
- has health insurance coverage;
- is up-to-date on a schedule of age appropriate preventive and primary medical and oral health care;
- has had evidence-based vision and hearing screenings;
- has received a nutritional needs assessment, including special dietary requirements, food allergies, and community nutrition issues;
- is receiving the necessary oral health preventive care, treatment and follow-up, including topical fluoride treatments;
- has access to any needed prescribed medications, aids or equipment for medical and oral health conditions (assistance provided to parents or caregivers).

Read about the eligibility requirements for EHS and HS online: eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov

GEORGIA'S PRE-K

(4 years)



RESOURCES

Preschool Special Education

goo.gl/UJBDNB | 404-657-9954

In Georgia, preschool-age children (ages 3 to 5) with disabilities receive special education and/or related services through their local school districts (Part C under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA]). For more information, contact your local school district.

School-Age Special Education

goo.gl/TP6kaQ | 404-656-3963

Special education for school-age children is provided by local school districts in Georgia (Part B under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA]). The Division for Special Education Services and Supports includes programs that support local school districts in their efforts to provide special education and related services to students with disabilities. These services focus on enhancing student achievement and post-secondary outcomes through implementation of regional and statewide activities for students, families, educators, administrators, and other stakeholders. For more information on special education in your area, contact your local school district.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

gvs.georgia.gov | 844-FOR-GVRA, 844-367-4872

The Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency operates five programs that help people with disabilities to become fully productive members of society by achieving independence and meaningful employment.

Department for Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

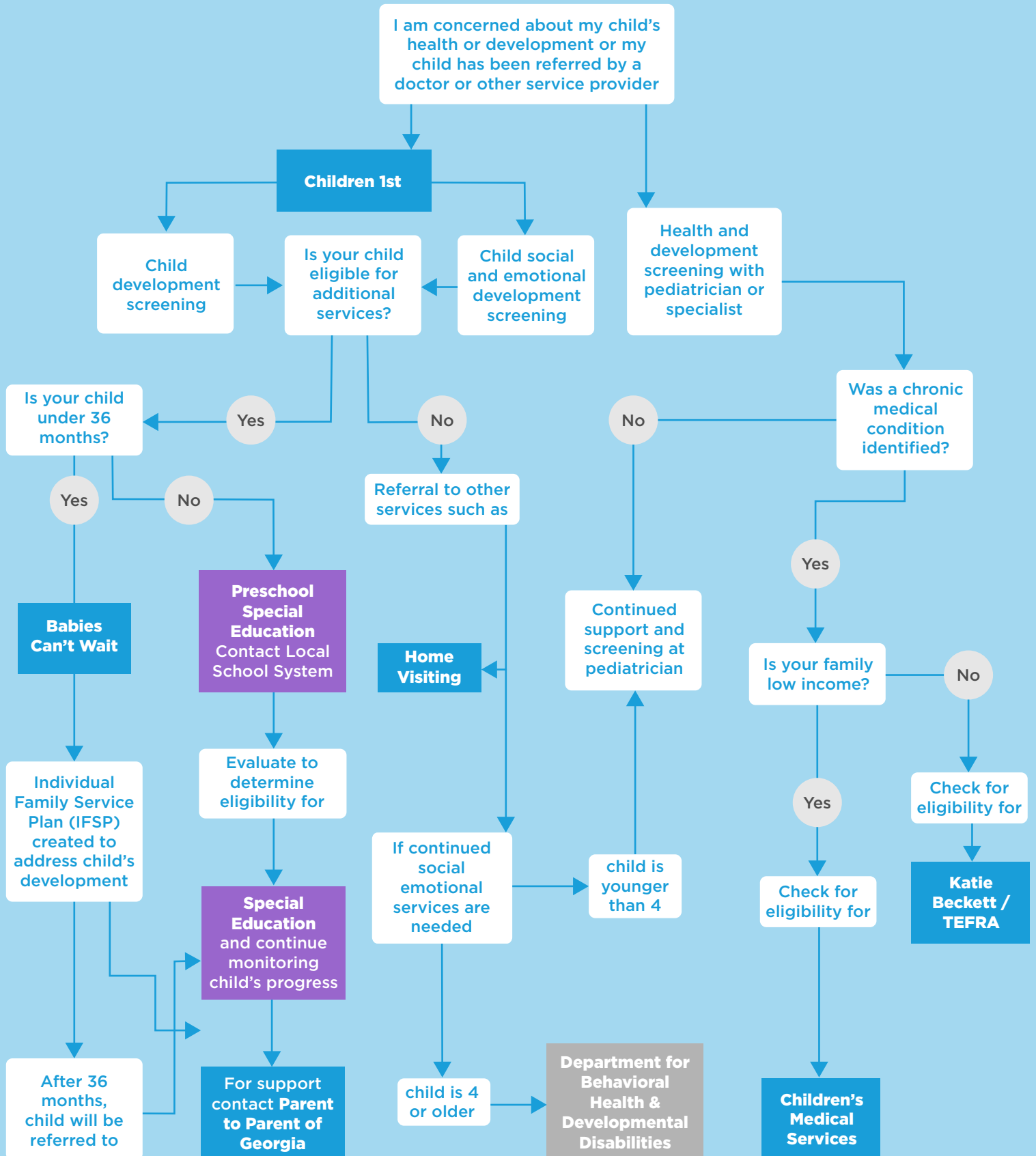
dbhdd.georgia.gov | 1-800-436-7442

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities provides treatment and support services to people with mental health challenges and substance use disorders, and assists individuals who live with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

For more resources, see the Mental Health & Crisis heading under section 5, Other Community-Based Resources and the National Websites page.

CHILDHOOD SPECIAL NEEDS

(0 - 21 Years)



Resources for Children with Special Needs

Children 1st / Child Find

dph.georgia.gov/children1st | 404-657-2850
for referrals: 855-707-8277

Children 1st is the entry point into all public health services for children, birth to 5 years old and facilitates early identification of at-risk children. Children 1st implements Child Find (a federal program) using screenings and evaluation to locate, identify, and refer all young children with disabilities as early as possible.

Babies Can't Wait

dph.georgia.gov/Babies-Cant-Wait

Babies Can't Wait provides early identification and screening for children ages 0 to 36 months. It coordinates a comprehensive system of services by developing an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) based on the specific needs of the child and their family. The services designed are delivered in the child's natural environment.

Parent to Parent of Georgia (P2PGA)

p2pga.org | 1-800-229-2038

P2PGA offers a variety of services to Georgia families impacted by disabilities or special healthcare needs. It also manages the Babies Can't Wait statewide directory of information and serves as the Parent Training Information Center for the southeast. Visit P2PGA's Roadmap to Success portal for useful links, videos and other information: roadmap.p2pga.org

Children's Medical Services (CMS)

dph.georgia.gov/CMS | 800-300-9003

CMS works to ensure that there is a comprehensive system of quality specialty health care services available for children in low-income households with chronic medical conditions from birth to 21 years of age. Call the number above for a statewide directory of CMS programs.

Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

gcdd.org | 888-275-4233

GCDD promotes public policy that creates an integrated community life for persons with developmental disabilities by sharing information, coordinating public outreach and implementing strategic legislative advocacy.

Georgia Advocacy Office

thegao.org | 800-537-2329

GAO is a federally-mandated protection and advocacy system for people labeled as disabled or mentally ill in Georgia.

Georgia Tools for Life

gatfl.org | 404-894-0541

Georgia Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access and acquisition of assistive technology devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they live, learn, work and play independently with greater freedom.

Georgia Pediatric Program (GAPP)

healthforcega.com/georgia-pediatric-program-children

GAPP serves children who are medically fragile and in need of skilled nursing care. The program provides services either in-home or in a medical day care as an alternative to full-time skilled nursing facility care or hospital care.

Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) & New Options Waiver (NOW)

dch.georgia.gov/waivers

COMP and NOW are waiver programs that offer home- and community-based services for people with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities.

Katie Beckett/TEFRA Medicaid Program

dch.georgia.gov/tefra | 678-248-7449

Katie Beckett provides benefits to certain children 18 years of age or less who qualify as disabled individuals and who live at home rather than in an institution, regardless of family income.

Georgia Home Visiting Program

greatstartgeorgia.org | 1-855-707-8277

The Georgia Home Visiting Program provides voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services to at-risk pregnant women and parents with young children. The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program (the program name on the federal level), provides voluntary, culturally-appropriate, individually-tailored supports to families in their homes, including providing information about children's health and development, and support services.

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