

COMMUNITY RESOURCE HANDBOOK

2015-2016

TOWNS COUNTY HEAD START/GEORGIA PRE-K

This Community Resource Handbook has been compiled to aid the Towns County Head Start/Georgia Pre-K families in gaining access to community resources to meet family needs. This handbook is a guide to agencies listing contact persons, telephone numbers, locations, services provided and eligibility. In order to be accurate, a handbook needs to be continuously updated. Please share your input by providing any additional information and/or updates you feel would be useful to our families.

If at any time you need assistance or have problems obtaining information, please contact our Head Start Family Partner or our Head Start Center Director @ (706) 896-4131, option 4.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Alcoholics Anonymous	1
Al-Anon	1
American Red Cross	1
Avita Community Partners	2
Babies Can't Wait	2
Basic Adult Education	3
Blue Ridge Mountain EMC	3
Board of Education	4
Chatuge Regional Hospital	4
Chatuge Regional Nursing Home	4
Child Care Resource & Referral North Region	5
Child Support Enforcement	5
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta	6
City Hall Offices	6
Community Services/Ninth District Opportunity, Inc.	7
County Extension Services	8
County Public Offices	9
Day Care-Child Development Center	10
Department of Human Resources-DFCS	10
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	11
Divorce Care Support Group	12
Emergency Medical Services	12
Enotah CASA, Inc.	12
The Enotah Child Advocacy Center	13
Family Connection of Towns County	13
Farmers Home Admin./U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	15
Georgia Department of Labor	15
Georgia Forestry Commission	16
Georgia Legal Services/GA. Mtn. Regional Office	16
Georgia PeachCare for Kids	17
Georgia Public Service Commission	18
Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia	18
Home Health Care	18
Hospices	20
Hospitals and Emergency Services	20
Internal Revenue Service	21
Local Medical Service	21
Medicaid/Georgia Health Partnership	23
Mountain Education Charter High School	24
Mountain Regional Library/Towns County Library	24

New Hope Counseling	26
North Georgia Technical College	26
Northeast Georgia Speech Center	27
Parent to Parent of Georgia & Towns/Union County Navigator Team	27
S.A.F.E.	28
Social Security Office	29
State Aid for Cancer	29
Towns County Boy Scouts, Cubs, and Tiger Cubs	30
Towns County Chamber of Commerce	30
Towns County Head Start/Georgia Pre-K	30
Towns County Health Department	32
Towns County Lions Club	32
Towns County Recreation and Community Center	33
Towns County School System	33
Towns County Water and Sewer Authority	34
USDA Rural Development	35
Young Harris College	35
State of Georgia Elected Officials	36
Phone Numbers and Web Sites	37
<u>EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS</u>	42

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

- LOCATIONS:** Hiawassee Group: Chatuge Regional Hospital Cafeteria,
110 S. Main Street, Hiawassee
Meetings: Fridays at 7:00 PM and Sundays 7:00 PM: Open Discussion.
- Blairsville Group: Mountain Presbyterian Church
3831 GA 515, Blairsville
Meetings: Monday 8:00 PM Big Book Study and Wednesday 8:00 PM
Open Discussion
- Young Harris Group: Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church,
1114 Main Street S, Young Harris
Meetings: Tuesdays at 7:00 PM and Thursdays at 7:00 PM:
Open Discussion.
- ELIGIBILITY:** A sincere desire to stop drinking
- WEB SITE:** www.aageorgia.org

AL-ANON/ALATEEN

- PURPOSE:** To help families/friends of alcoholics. Open to anyone who has been affected by another person's drinking.
- LOCATIONS:** Chatuge Regional Hospital, 110 S. Main Street, Hiawassee.
Meetings: Sundays at 7:00 PM
- Mountain Presbyterian Church, 3831 GA 515, Blairsville
Meetings: Mondays at 8:00 PM, Wednesdays at 8:00 PM Use eastern
downstairs door)
- Christ the King Anglican Church, 145 North Main Street, Hiawassee
Meetings: Mondays at 7:00 PM Use side door on West. Handicap
Accessible.
- Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church, 1114 Main Street (Highway
76/515). Young Harris
Meetings: Tuesday 12:00 PM

AMERICAN RED CROSS/TOWNS COUNTY DISASTER ACTION TEAM

- CONTACT:** Captain Doug DeLorme 706-379-2067
Co-Captain Sally Varao 706-896-8630
- EMERGENCY:** 911 (Operators will notify someone on call.)
- PURPOSE:** The Northeast Georgia Chapter American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by a partnership of staff and volunteers. Provides

relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies through services consistent with its congressional charter and principles of the International Red Cross.

WEB SITE: www.negaredcross.org

AVITA COMMUNITY PARTNERS

CONTACT: Cathy Ganter, Service Director
PHONE: 706-745-5911 1-800-525-8751
LOCATION: 76 Hunt Martin Street, Suite A, Blairsville, Georgia 30512
SERVICES: Child, Adolescent, Adult Counseling
FEES: Based on income, PeachCare, Medicaid, Medicare and Private Insurance
WEBSITE: www.gamtns.org and www.avitapartners.org

BABIES CAN'T WAIT

CONTACT: Coordinator Dru Thomas
PHONE: 800-204-8731 OR 770-718-5096
EMAIL: www.pdthomas@dhr.state.ga.us
Children's Medical Services Coordinator Annette Harkins
PHONE: 770-535-6907
EMAIL: acharkins@dhr.state.ga.us
ADDRESS: 440 Prior Street, Gainesville, Georgia 30501-1119
PURPOSE: The BCW Program is available for children ages birth to three years of age who have a significant developmental delay or children who are at risk for delay due to a specific diagnosed medical condition.
Children's Medical Services
PURPOSE: CMS Program provides medical care to children ages birth to 21 years who have disabling conditions or chronic disease.

BASIC ADULT EDUCATION CENTER

CONTACT: Paula Ary, Adult Education Instructor, or Michelle Collins
EMAIL: pary@northgatech.edu or mcollins@northgatech.edu
PHONE: 706-439-6321
LOCATION: Shirley Miller Building, 32 Blalock Street, Blairsville
SERVICES: Provides services to Towns and Union County residents in GED preparation, Work Ready certification, ASSET test preparation, computer literacy, basic skills instruction, and reading tutoring.

Students should call ahead to reserve a space and must bring a picture ID to register.

North Georgia Technical College GED® Testing Centers recently converted to the Pearson Vue Computer-Based GED testing format as part of a state-wide implementation of this system.

First-Time Testers

If you have never taken the GED® test before, you **MUST** take it on the computer. Test candidates register, schedule, and pay for test with a credit card by going to www.gedcomputer.com or by calling 1-877-EXAM GED (392-6433) (open 7 a.m., - 7 p.m. CST).

You will need an active email address to register

Computer-based testing in Blairsville is once a month (mid-month—dates vary). The dates for the Blairsville tests are posted on Pearson Vue's website.

The paper based GED test will be offered every other month on the Clarkesville Campus until October 2013. For more information about taking the GED® test, please contact 706-754-7781 or your local learning center.

FEES: As of July 1, 2012 the total cost for all five sections of the GED test is \$160 or \$32 per section.

BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN EMC

CONTACT: Receptionist will direct your call.
PHONE: 706-379-3121 and 828-837-1017
ADDRESS: 875 Main Street East, Young Harris, Georgia 30582
SERVICES: Distributor of electricity, Safety programs for schools, participant in School Career Day, Energy Right

New Home, Basic New Home, heat pump financing, electric water heaters, 3-year rate guarantee, specializes in heat pump installation, Internet Service.

WEB SITE: www.brmemc.com

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Towns County School System

CONTACT: Dr. Darren Berrong, Superintendent

PHONE: 706-896-2279 School Number: 706-896-4131

LOCATION: Community Services Building (lower level), 67 Lakeview Circle, Hiawassee, GA

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 437, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

SERVICES: The Towns County Comprehensive School provides free public education for students in Kindergarten through 12th grade in Hiawassee.

ELIGIBILITY: Residents of Towns County

HOURS: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Superintendent
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Schools

WEBSITE: www.towns.k12.ga.us

CHATUGE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

CONTACT: Lewis Kelley, Administrator, Janet Curns, Director of Nursing

PHONE: 706-896-2222

ADDRESS: 110 Main Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

SERVICES: Provides inpatient and outpatient medical care as well as emergency services.

WEBSITE: www.chatugeregionalhospital.org

CHATUGE REGIONAL NURSING HOME

CONTACT: John Gordon, Administrator
Janet Curns, Director of Nursing

PHONE: 706-896-2231

ADDRESS: 386 Bel Air Drive, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

**CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL NORTH REGION
QUALITY CARE FOR CHILDREN**

CONTACT: Gloria Calhoun, Director

ADDRESS: 913 N. Tennessee Street, Suite 202, Cartersville, Georgia 30120

EMAIL: gloria.calhoun@qualitycareforchildren.org

PHONE: 770-387-0828 or 800-308-1825 Fax Number: 678-721-6676

SERVICES: Telephone referral service for parents looking for child care for Hall, Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, and White counties.
Offers training and technical assistance for all programs and individuals offering child care.
Assists individuals in becoming registered with the state to start day care centers.
Offers resource and referrals to group homes, day care centers, moms day out, after school care, summer camps and respite care, non-traditional work hours, special needs care and low income care.

WEB SITE: www.qualitycareforchildren.org

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

EMAIL: DahlonegaCSE@dhr.state.ga.us

PHONE: 1-844-MYGADHS (1-844-6942347)/Fax 706-867-3503

LOCATION: 133 Tifton Drive, Dahlonega, Georgia 30533

PURPOSE: To enhance the well-being of children by assuring that assistance in obtaining support, including financial and medical, is available to children through locating parents, establishing paternity, establishing support obligations, and monitoring, enforcing and reviewing support obligations.

FEE: \$25.00 paid in the form of a money order. There is *no fee* for applicants who receive TANF or some forms of medical assistance.

WEBSITE: www.dcss.dhs.georgia.gov

CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA
Scottish Rite Children's Medical Care &
Egleston Children's Healthcare System

- LOCATIONS:** Children's at Scottish Rite
1001 Johnson Ferry Road NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30342-1600
404-785-5252
- Children's at Egleston
1405 Clifton Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30322-1062
404-785-6000
- Children's at Hughes Spalding
35 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-785-9500
- PHONE:** 1-404-250-KIDS (1-404-250-5437) or 404-785-GIVE (4483)
- SERVICES:** Provides all levels of care for children with their combined services, including Asthma, Brachial Plexus, Cancer and Blood Disorders, Craniofacial, Cystic Fibrosis, Critical Care, Diabetes, Heart, Facial Nerve, Gastrointestinal, General Surgery, Genetics, Immediate Care, Neurosciences, Orthopaedics, Orthotics & Prosthetics, Radiology, Rehabilitation, Respiratory, Sleep Disorders, Spine Center, Sports Medicine, Transplant, Urology, and Wellness & Safety.
- ELIGIBILITY:** Ages birth through 21 years. Must be recommended by a Scottish Rite Mason, Physician or Public Health Department.
- FEES:** Based on income.
- WEB SITE:** www.choa.org/

CITY HALL OFFICES

HIAWASSEE

- PHONE:** 706-896-2202 / 706-896-2203/Fax 706-896-4991
- LOCATION:** 50 River Street, On the Square, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
- CONTACTS:**
- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Mayor | Barbara Mathis (mayor@hiawasseeega.gov) |
| City Clerk | Wylene White (clerk@hiawasseeega.gov) |
| Police Chief | Jimmy Wright (policechief@hiawasseeega.gov) |
| Sergeant | Arvil Walls |
| | Daniel Berrong |

Water Department	Carl Grizzle Kevin Grizzle Jeremy Arrowood
Water Plant	Gail Warne Randy Warne Randal Thomas
Sewer Plant	Michael Christopher Mike Harkins
Traffic Ticket Fines	844-854-0464
Utility	706-896-2885

YOUNG HARRIS

PHONE: 706-379-3171/Fax 706-379-3172

LOCATION: 5187 Maple Street, P.O. Box 122, Young Harris, Georgia 30582

CONTACTS:

Mayor	Andrea Gibby (mayor@cityofyoungharris.com)
City Clerk	Shirley Jarrard (shirleyjarrard@cityofyoungharris.net)
Deputy City Clerk	Nicolette Wade (nicolettewade@cityofyoungharris.net)
Water Superintendent	Gary Willer (garywiler@cityofyoungharris.net)
Water & Maintenance	Dean Stanley(deanstanley@youngharris.net)
Sewer Plant	Homer Melton

WEBSITE: www.youngharrisga.net

**COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM
NINTH DISTRICT OPPORTUNITY, INC./
TOWNS COUNTY FOOD PANTRY**

CONTACT: Teresa Stephens

PHONE: 706-896-4783 / Fax 706-896-4790

LOCATION: 1294 Jack Dayton Circle, Young Harris, Georgia

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 42, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

HOURS: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM.
Closed for lunch 12:00 PM-1:00 PM. Other times by appointment only.

**Food Distribution Days are every other Tuesday 2:00 PM-5:00 PM
The office is closed when school is closed due to inclement weather,
and food distribution will resume on the next distribution date.**

The following services are provided by the agency pending availability of funds. Target population includes, families with young children, elderly and or disabled. All individuals must meet the income eligibility guidelines as set forth by the funding source (125% to 200% of poverty).

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

- Assessment, counseling services and family enrichment services
- Development of individualized case plans
- Enrollment in special community projects
- Coordination of clothing, furniture or other personal care items

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

- Job Readiness Training/referral/placement
- Assistance with obtaining child support and other resource benefits, i.e.; child care

BUDGET COUNSELING & DEVELOPMENT

- Counseling/Referral to credit counseling services
- Money management training and budget counseling

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

- Homeless Prevention and Re-location assistance
- Weatherization services for the Home
- Installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors (Weatherization)

HEALTH

- Dissemination of information regarding health information and resources
- Coordination of health awareness and promotion activities (Health Fairs)
- Purchase of prescription medicine
- Assistance for free/reduced rate prescription medicine (non-insured)

NUTRITION ASSISTANCE

- Provision of food assistance and other special feeding initiatives
- Application assistance for SNAP benefits

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

- Arranging for payment for past due utility
- Referral for other energy related services
- Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (opens to 65+ and homebound in November; for general public December)

COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICES

CONTACT: Robert Brewer, County Extension Director (rbrewer@uga.edu)

Billie Harvey, 50/50 Resource Manager (bsharvey@uga.edu)

PHONE: 706-896-2024/Fax 706-896-8523

LOCATION: Senior Center Basement, Lakeview Circle

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 369, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

SERVICES: Coordinates and integrates the resources of the University of Georgia and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Landscaping, Community Development and Homemaking. Also provides educational and special interest programs. Courses available: Estate Planning, Food Preservation, Leadership Training Sessions, Sewing Techniques and Christmas Foods.

WEBSITE: www.caes.uga.edu/extensions/towns

COUNTY PUBLIC OFFICES

CLERK OF COURT

CONTACT: Cecil Dye

ADDRESS: Courthouse: 48 River Street, Suite E, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-2130

COMMISSIONER

CONTACT: Bill Kendall

ADDRESS: Courthouse: 48 River Street, Suite B, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-2276 Fax 706-896-4628

EMAIL: townscommissioner@windstream.net

SHERIFF

CONTACT: Chris Clinton

ADDRESSES: Detention Center/Administration Offices:
4070 State Highway 339, Young Harris, Georgia 30582
Courthouse: 48 River Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-4444/Fax 706-896-3349

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE: School Resource Officer, D.A.R.E. Program-Donnie Jarrard

TAX COMMISSIONER

ADDRESS: Courthouse Annex, 48 River Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-2267/Fax 706-896-6980

EMAIL: cbrtctc@hotmail.com

CHIEF APPRAISER

CONTACT: Sonya Young (taxmen@windstream.net)

ADDRESS: Courthouse Annex, 48 River Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-3984

DAY CARE - CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

CONTACT: Brenda Brewer

ADDRESS: 1112 Jack Dayton Circle, Young Harris, Georgia 30582

PHONE: 706-896-2992 or 706-896-4040

SERVICES: To provide daily child care for working parents.
After school child care also provided.

HOURS: 6:30 AM – 5:30 PM Monday – Friday

FEES: Sliding scale based on income.

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES**

CONTACT: Mark Knowles, Director

LOCATION: 1620 Highway 76 West, Suite 4, Hiawassee

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 156, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 770-532-5233

I. ADOPTION

SERVICES: Recruiting and studying homes for children in the custody of DFCS.

II. ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

ELIGIBILITY: Provided to adults at-risk due to abuse, exploitation, and neglect.

III. AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN

ELIGIBILITY: 1. Child under 18 years of age and not receiving any other type of public assistance.

2. Child who has lost support or care of one or both parents through a parent's physical or mental incapacity.
3. Child living in home of natural parents or relative.
4. Together with family, child does not have enough income to meet living expenses according to standards of the State Department of Human Resources.
5. Family does not have more than \$1000 in cash or other forms of saving or resources.
6. TANF recipients must accept job-training offers.

IV. CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

ELIGIBILITY: Provided by Case Workers to children abused, neglected or exploited.

V. FOSTER CARE

SERVICES: Child placement services or Case Worker services for children who cannot be cared for in their own home.

VI. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

PURPOSE: Food Stamps provided to purchase food, seed and plants to grow food. Food Stamps cannot be used for nonfood related items.

ELIGIBILITY: Must be low income household with one or more persons living in the same household such as:

1. Those with no job
2. Those with part-time job
3. Those who do not earn much money
4. Those on T.A.N.F.
5. Those on Social Security or small pension

DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

PHONE: 706-348-4882/ 800-846-9634

ADDRESS: 243 South Main Street, Suite B, Cleveland, Georgia 30528-1404

LOCALLY: Georgia Department of Labor, Towns County Public Library, Towns County High School (call to schedule time and place)

SERVICES: Assist people with disabilities in getting training for a job goal and obtaining employment. Very individualized services.

ELIGIBILITY: Rehabilitation services are available to any person with a mental or physical disability which constitutes a substantial handicap to employment. There must also be a reasonable expectation that after receiving rehabilitation services, the person will become gainfully employed.

HOURS: As needed
DIVORCE CARE SUPPORT GROUP

CONTACT: Mary Sweeten

PHONE: 706-896-9004

LOCATION: Hiawassee United Methodist Church
1139 Highway 76 West, PO Box 609, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

SERVICES: A series of support groups and seminars for separated and divorced families.

Divorce Care for Kids: Divorce recovery ministry for children ages 5-12

EMS (EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE)

CONTACT: Ricky Mathis

PHONE: 706-896-2228

ADDRESS: 1400 Jack Dayton Circle
Young Harris, Georgia 30582

SERVICES: Emergency 911, Three A.L.S., 24 Hour Service, Rescue of lost persons, CPR Classes, First Aid Classes, Scuba Diving, Repelling. All emergencies except law-enforcement and fire. Towns County EMS also provides car seats for infants and toddlers. This service is based on availability. Each person receiving a seat will have a form to fill out, a short session on Georgia law, and instruction on proper installation of the seat.

**ENOTAH CASA, INC.
COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**

CONTACT: Linda D'Angelo, Executive Director

EMAIL: Director@enotahcasa.org

PHONE: 706-864-0300/ Fax 706-864-0302

ADDRESSES: Main Office: 26 Short Street, PO Box 2198
Dahlonega, Georgia 30533

Local Office: 76B Hunt Martin Street, Blairsville, Georgia 30512
Phone and Fax: 706-835-1892

SERVICES: Non-profit agency provides trained, screened & supervised community volunteers to advocate for the best interests of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. CASA volunteers

are appointed by the Juvenile Court Judge to serve as the Guardian ad Litem in deprivation cases, ensuring that the child's best interest is represented throughout the legal and social service system.

WEB SITE: www.enotahcasa.org

THE ENOTAH CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

PHONE: 706-835-1303
National Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453)

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 243, Blairsville, Georgia 30514

SERVICES: Provides a safe place where kids who have been hurt can go to talk to someone about what happened. A non-profit children's advocacy center serving Towns and Union counties. Their purpose is to provide immediate support and assistance to child victims and their families.

- *Forensic Interviewing
- *Therapy
- *Legal Advocacy Services
- *Expert Testimony
- *Training for those providing direct services to child victims
- *Screening and Coordination of Cases
- *Crisis Intervention
- *Support Groups
- *Public Education

FAMILY CONNECTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

CONTACT: Amy Gibby Rosser, Director

PHONE: 706-896-4131 ext. 1233

LOCATION: 1400 U.S. Hwy. 76 East, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PURPOSE: To improve the lives of families and children in Towns
County

SERVICES: **Towns County Mentor Program**

Contact: Cynthia Wood, Mentor Coordinator

706-896-4131, ext. 1235

Eligible: Grades Head Start/Pre-K through 12

Purpose: One on one, adult to child, school based program. Students meet with Mentors at least one hour per week during the school year.

Mentors must attend training & have background and finger print checks.

Students may be referred by school administration, parent/guardian, or self. All students must have parent permission to take part in the program. Funded through the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Addictive Disease.

Youth Development Program

Contact: Cynthia Wood, Youth Development Coordinator

706-896-4131 ext. 1235

The Youth Development Program is a case management approach that targets middle school students to provide wrap around services for the student and their family in an effort to increase academic success, decrease disciplinary referrals, and promote good attendance.

Young Harris Development Center

Contact: Brittany Chastain, YHDC Coordinator

(706) 896-4131 x 1233

Eligibility: Any school age student in Towns County

Mondays and Thursdays from 3:00 – 7:00 PM at the Stephens Masonic Lodge Community Center in Young Harris, GA

Free of Charge

The Center offers the following:

Tutoring: academic tutoring and skill building curriculum activities with trained staff and volunteers

Parenting Classes: Individual and family support through practicing skills such as: setting limits, communication, problem solving, managing stress, fun family centered activities. Child care included.

Wellness Counselor: On site counseling, offered free of charge, to allow participants to set and achieve goals that encourage ownership of personal choices and family well-being.

Additionally:

- Snacks for Students and dinner provided weekly for students and their families, free of charge
- Structured games and activities
- Community Engagement through education

* This program is available because of a partnership between Towns County Family Connection, Young Harris College, and Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church

**FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SERVICE CENTER**

CONTACT: Kevin Thomas

PHONE: 706-745-2012 ext. 2

ADDRESS: 165 Wellborn Street, Box 6, Blairsville, Georgia 30512

SERVICES: Loans to rural families for home ownership. Low interest loans for moderate low-income persons for home ownership. Low interest loans for home repair. Grants available for age 62 and over for home repairs related to health. Low interest loans to farmers and business loans for public housing and farm ownership, operative loans and community service loans.

ELIGIBILITY: Any U.S. Citizen.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

LOCALLY: 45 Hughes Street, Blairsville, Georgia 30512. Take Welborn Street off the square. Go through the stop sign. Take first right. Office is located in old health department building across from the Civic Center.

PHONE: 706-745-6964

HOURS: Wednesdays only In Blairsville 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Closed for lunch

CONTACT: Sharon Spurling, Field Service Office Manager

PHONE: 706-632-2033/ Fax 706-632-7316

LOCATION: 1048 Appalachian Highway, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513

HOURS: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SERVICES: General services provided by the Blairsville Career Center include:

Unemployment Insurance Benefits, local, state, and national job search workshops on job seeking strategies; resume assistance; resource library housing up-to-date computer based information on job search techniques, employment counseling; labor market information; financial management workshops; referral to education and training; Veterans Services; Federal Bonding Program, Rehabilitation Services. A dedicated and knowledgeable staff ready to assist with job search activities.

ELIGIBILITY: Offers a wide range of services to both job seekers and employers.
FEES: None
WEBSITE: www.dol.state.ga.us

GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION

CONTACT: Roy Fortenberry/Bo Berry (rfortenberry@gfc.state.ga.us)
PHONE: 706-896-2499/Fax 706-896-7392
Forester Ritchie Mullen 706-295-6021
LOCATION: 443 Sunnyside Road, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
SERVICES: Daily burning permits and yearly permits available, forester available to help with tree problems, helps homeowners decide if they need to keep certain types of trees, assists landowners in finding programs to help buy trees for forestry or wildlife, provides programs on fire prevention, sets out trees, works with school for Fire Safety. Smokey the Bear appearance at the Georgia Mountain Fair.

GEORGIA LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL OFFICE

PHONE: 770-535-5717/Fax 770-531-6011
800-745-5717
LOCATION: 705 Washington Street NW, Suite B1, Gainesville, GA 30501
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1337, Gainesville, Georgia 30503
WEB SITE: www.glsp.org
HOURS: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday – Friday
(A good time to call for assistance is between the hours of 9:00 AM

and 11:00 AM) Intakes for new clients 9:00 AM-11:00 each day.

SERVICES: Free legal services to low-income people in civil matters only. The office does not handle criminal cases or fee-producing cases. Lawyers are available to help people experiencing problems in the areas of:

Divorce	Housing/Evictions
Mental Commitments	Jail Conditions
Repossessions	Hospital/Health Issues
Consumer Issues	Consumer Loans
Foreclosures on Realty	Custody

A lawyer or paralegal available to help with problems in areas of:

Welfare (TANF)	Medicaid
Food Stamps	Social Security
Veterans' Benefits	EPSDT
Vocational Rehabilitation	Medicare
Supplemental Security Income	WIC

ELIGIBILITY:

1. **Financial:** Household with gross income below a standard set by Legal Services.
2. **Priorities:** Certain types of cases are handled for financially eligible persons. Priorities are set by Legal Services.

GEORGIA PEACHCARE FOR KIDS

PHONE: 877-GA-PEACH (877-427-3224)
To replace a lost or stolen PeachCare or Medicaid card, or to change the name of provider: 866-211-0950.

WEB SITE: www.peachcare.org

SERVICES: PeachCare for Kids provides care from a doctor for sick children and preventive services such as immunizations and regular check-ups. PeachCare for Kids provides specialist care, dental care, vision care (including vision screenings and eyeglasses), hospitalization, emergency room services, prescription medications, and mental health care.

Requirements

*U.S. citizens, certain qualified legal residents, refugees, or asylees who reside in Georgia

*Uninsured

*Age 18 and under (Eligible until 19th birthday)

* Family income less than or equal to 247% of the federal poverty level, \$49,656 for a family of three and \$59,904 for a family of four.

Your child may be ineligible if:

*Your child is eligible for Medicaid. If your child is eligible for Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids will forward your application to Medicaid and your child will be enrolled.

*Your child has access to health insurance through a parent's employment with the State of Georgia, even if the parent has not purchased the state coverage.

FEEES: Children, birth to under age 6 – No Payment.
One child- \$0.⁰⁰-\$35.⁰⁰ per month.
Two or more children living in the same household-a maximum of \$70.⁰⁰ per month.

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CONTACT: Consumer Affairs Section

PHONE: 800-282-5813

ADDRESS: 244 Washington St., SW Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SERVICES: The Consumer Affairs Section mediates complaints between customers and regulated utilities. PSC representatives work to ensure that utilities are charging correct rates and comply with Commission rules. The Commission works to resolve quality and availability of service and billing questions, as well as answer general consumer inquiries.

ELIGIBILITY: Georgia residents.

WEB SITE: www.psc.state.ga.us

EMAIL: gapscc@psc.state.ga.us

GIRL SCOUTS OF HISTORIC GEORGIA

PHONE: Misty Irvans 770-536-8656

ADDRESS: 185 Newton Bridge Road, Athens Georgia 30606

MEETINGS: Girl Scout troops meet in Hiawassee and Young Harris.

ELIGIBILITY: Girls Kindergarten to 12th Grade

WEB SITE: www.gshq.org

HOME HEALTH CARE

Care South Homecare Professionals

- PHONE: 706-896-5037/After hours 706-896-5038, Fax 706-896-1471
- LOCATION: 584 Bell Creek Road, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
- PURPOSE: A specialized service for patients whose complete health care needs can be met without 24-hour hospital care. The aim of the agency is to provide patients with a full range of hospital-type professional and support services in the familiar surroundings of their own homes. The needs of patients, whether physical, emotional, social or spiritual, are provided through coordinated efforts of nursing, medicine and other allied health and welfare disciplines in the patient's home, without regard for race, color, national heritage, age or handicap.
- SERVICES: Nursing, Home Health Aid, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Work, Speech Therapy. The program and progress of every patient are reviewed at a weekly conference of the health care professionals providing services. Professionals from a variety of disciplines, such as respiratory therapy, entrostomal therapy, neurology, IV therapy and dietary services are available for consultation and patient care as needed.
- ELIGIBILITY: Residents of Towns County. A Registered Nurse Evaluator determines the eligibility of patients based on assessment of medical, nursing, social and environmental needs and resources within the individual patient family situation.
- FEES: Certified for Medicare/Medicaid billing and reimbursement. Private insurance and direct payment are also accepted.

Comfort Keepers

- ADDRESS: 1489 Old Blue Ridge Highway, Blairsville, Georgia 30512
- PHONE: 706-835-2607
- SERVICES: Companionship, bathing, toileting, meal preparation, light housekeeping, respite care. Screened, trained, and bonded staff.

K. B. Health Technicians, Inc. Home Health Care

- CONTACT: Truman Barrett
- ADDRESS: 6225 U.S. Highway 76, P.O. Box 1339, Young Harris, Georgia
- PHONE: 706-379-4012/Fax 706-379-9625

SERVICES: CNA care, housekeeping, errands.

FEES: Medicaid and Medicare are accepted. Fees vary.

Tugaloo Home Health Agency, an Amedisys company

ADDRESS: 417 Blue Ridge Street, Suite M, Blairsville, Georgia

PHONE: 706-781-1093

SERVICES: Assisting patients in maintaining and improving their quality of life, working with physician, our team of nurses, aides, therapists and social workers to address individual needs and provide the most patient-focused home care.

HOSPICES

Georgia Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

ADDRESS: 3032 Briarcliff Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30329

PHONE: 877-924-6073/Fax 706-657-5515

WEBSITE: www.ghpco.org

Georgia Mountains Hospices, Inc.

ADDRESS: 70 Caring Way, Jasper, Georgia 30143

PHONE: 706-253-4100/800-692-7199

WEBSITE: www.georgiamountainshospice.org

Premier Hospice of Georgia

ADDRESS: 500 Spring Street, Gainesville, Georgia 30501-3773

PHONE: 770-533-4422

Regency Hospice of Northeast Georgia

ADDRESS: 350 South Main Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-1251

WEBSITE: www.regencyhospice.com

Pruitt Health Hospice

ADDRESS: 6050 Appalachian Highway, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513-4231

PHONE: 706-632-0027

WEBSITE: www.pruitthealth.com

HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

HILL BURTON ACT

CONTACT: Hospital Business or Admitting Office
Hill-Burton Hotline 1-800-638-0742

THIS IS NOT A SERVICE AVAILABLE AT CHATUGE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

SERVICES: Medical care at partial or no cost. The hospital cannot refuse service because you cannot pay.

ELIGIBILITY: Persons with little or no income. If a problem with obtaining service from participating hospitals occur, contact Georgia Legal Services (770-535-5717), 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 10-105 Rockville, Maryland 20857.

Hospitals participating in providing free or low cost care in North Georgia are:

MCG Health, Inc., 1120 15th Street, Building 2086,
Augusta, Georgia 30912 706-721-3929

Memorial Medical Center, 4700 Waters Avenue, Box 23089
Savannah, Georgia 31403 912-350-8000

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE TAX ASSISTANCE

PHONE: 770-536-2235 or 800-829-1040

LOCATION: 329 Oak Street
Gainesville, Georgia 30501

HOURS: Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Closed for lunch 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

SERVICES: Assists taxpayers in filling out IRS returns, auditing of tax returns and collecting delinquent taxes.

WEB SITE: www.irs.gov/ or Georgia Department of Revenue: www.etax.dor.ga.gov

LOCAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Chatuge Primary Care

CONTACT: Brian Johnson M.D.
Holly Berndt, M.D.

PHONE: 706-896-4673 / Fax 706-896-6034
LOCATION: 103 Church Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
(Behind Bank of Hiawassee)
HOURS: 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM (12:30 – 1:30 lunch) Monday - Friday

Edwards Medical Practice

CONTACT: Tracy Edwards, M.D.
PHONE: 706-896-6701
LOCATION: 129 S. Main Street, Suite A, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

Health In Harmony Walk-in Clinic/Elizabeth Solomon, M.D.

CONTACT: Kim Harper, Robin Stewart
PHONE: 706-896-9442
LOCATION: 1220 Chatuge Circle, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
1.3 miles north of McDonalds on left.
HOURS: 9 AM – 4 PM or 5 PM (varies) Monday-Friday.

Hiawassee Family Practice

CONTACT: Robert Stahlkuppe M.D.
Nurse Practitioners Shirley Youngblood
PHONE: 706-896-2289
LOCATION: 56 Hospital Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
(Behind Chatuge Regional Hospital.)
HOURS: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday – Friday

North Georgia Allergy Asthma & Immunology

CONTACT: Dr. Anita Shvarts
PHONE: 1-855-656-6673
LOCATION: 85 Seasons Lane, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
WEBSITE: www.ngaallergy.com

Serendipity Clinic: Cash Pay Urgent & Direct Care

CONTACT: Dr. Kilee Smith, Board certified physician
PHONE: 706-970-1154
LOCATION: 620 Bell Creek Road, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
HOURS: Mondays & Wednesdays by appointment
Fridays 11 am-7 pm
Saturdays 2 pm-6 pm
SERVICES: Urgent and direct care, and also see infants and children. Do not file insurance claims, which means they can offer lower cost care than other facilities in the Hiawassee area.

Synergy Health, Inc.

CONTACT: Samuel "Le" Church, M.D., MPH
PHONE: 706-896-0505
LOCATION: 85 Seasons Lane, Hiawassee, Georgia
HOURS: 8:30 AM-5:00 PM Monday-Friday
SERVICES: Primary Care, Women's Health, Pediatrics, Adult Care, Health Care Billing
Services, Wellness Services, Community Health, Practice Management Consulting. Most insurance policies welcome.

Women's Health of Blairsville

CONTACT: Kevin S. Davis, M.D., OB/GYN
Cindy Mercer, MD
Christy Collins-Boyer, MSN, FNP, C (AANP)
PHONE: 706-745-9220
LOCATION: 77 Weaver Road, Suite A, Blairsville, Georgia 30512
SERVICES: Routine and High Risk Obstetrics, Infertility Treatment, Advanced Gynecologic Surgery, Menopausal Care, Annual Exams, Urinary Incontinence Treatment, Laparoscopic Hysterectomy, Endometrial Ablation, Cervical Cancer Vaccination, 3D-4D Ultrasound
WEBSITE: www.womenshealthofblairsville.com

MEDICAID/GEORGIA HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

LOCALLY: 130 Weaver Road, PO Box 2177, Blairsville, Georgia 30512
PHONE: 706-745-6089

EMAIL: Dfisher1@dch.ga.gov (Debbie Fisher)

PHONE: Georgia One number 1-877-423-4746. Customers can access the Automated Services to access EBT/SNAP/Food Stamps, Medicaid, and TANF. Press 1 for automated services; enter the Head of Household Client ID number. (This number will be repeated back to the customer for confirmation).

SERVICES: Provides medical assistance to pregnant women and to children ages 0-18 years of age.

Medicaid Transportation: Non-Emergency transportation available to Medicaid eligible clients who have no reliable transportation to medical providers.

ELIGIBILITY: Based on family size and income.

I. MEDICAID

PURPOSE: To provide medical assistance to qualifying individuals, children, or families.

SERVICES: Adult Medicaid, Medical Assistance for qualifying adults.

II. PEACHCARE PROGRAM

SERVICES: A comprehensive interagency employee service program for qualifying individuals.

III. OTHER SERVICES

Day Care Assistance Eligibility Determination
Preventive Services
Child Support Recovery Referral

WEBSITE: www.compass.ga.gov or www.dch.georgia.gov

MOUNTAIN EDUCATION CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

CONTACT: Site Administrators Roy Perren and Angie Burns

PHONE: 706-745-9575, Fax 706-745-3588

LOCATION: 218 School Street, Blairsville, Georgia 30512

HOURS: 4:00 PM – 9:30 PM Monday-Thursday
Summer: 4:00 PM-8:00 PM

PURPOSE: An individualized, self-paced, accredited evening high school for students who have not completed high school. All coursework is based on mastery learning and is facilitated by accredited teachers.

FEEES: None if enrolled only in Mountain Education Charter High School. For students enrolled jointly in Mountain Education Charter High School and a regular day school: one-half unit is \$75. One unit (block) is \$150.

WEBSITE: www.mymec.org

MOUNTAIN REGIONAL LIBRARY

CONTACT: Vince Stone, Director
Curtis Spiva, Technology Librarian

EMAIL: mountain@mountainregionallibrary.org

LOCATION: 698 Miller Street, Young Harris, Georgia 30582

PHONE: 706-379-3732

HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Tuesday, Closed
Thursday: 9:00 AM-7:00 PM
Saturday: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

SERVICES:	Books in print	Inter-library loans
	E-books	Photo copies
	CD's	Printing from computers
	Audio books	Laminating
	DVD's	Notary service
	Computer classes	Tax forms
	Fax services	Services for the visually impaired
	Workshops	The use of computers and the internet
	Test proctoring	Children's summer reading program
	Reference services	Wireless internet access

WEBSITES: www.mountainregionallibrary.org and www.mountainregionallibrary.org/kids.html includes links for homework help, fun kids links, child-safe browsers, and access to Kids GALILEO

TOWNS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY **A Division of Mountain Regional Library System**

CONTACT: Deborah Phillips, Branch Manager

LOCATION: 99 S. Berrong Street, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-6169

HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Thursday: 10 AM-6:00 PM

Friday: Closed

SERVICES: DVD's Audiobooks
CD's Wireless internet access
Photocopies (Black/white) Printing from computers
Fax services Laminating
Tax forms Notary services
Children's vacation reading program Test proctoring

NEW HOPE COUNSELING

CONTACT: Troy Beaver

LOCATION: 76C Hunt Martin Street, Blairsville, Georgia

PHONE: 706-745-4066, Fax 706-745-0668

SERVICES: Provides an outpatient program for the treatment of addictive diseases, domestic violence, and related personal mental behavior concerns. Their goal is to facilitate growth and change for those desiring it, and a place to gain self-acceptance.

*Clinical Evaluations

*Level 1 Treatment for DUI's

*Alcohol and Drug Evaluations and Education classes

*Anger Management Evaluations and Classes

*Family Violence Intervention Program Provider (State Certified)

*Individual Counseling

*Urine Drug Screening

*Pretrial Recommendations

Victim Impact

Monthly Update Reports to Referral Sources

WALK-IN'S WELCOME

HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

FEES: Sliding scale fees

EMAIL: tbnewhope@yahoo.com

WEBSITE: <http://www.newhopecounselingofblairsville.com>

NORTH GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

- WEBSITE: www.northgatech.edu
- LOCATIONS: Clarkesville Campus (Main Campus)
P.O. Box 65, 1500 Hwy 197 N, Clarkesville, Georgia 30523
706-754-7700/Fax 706-754-7777
- Blairsville Campus
121 Meeks Avenue, Blairsville, Georgia 30512
706-439-6300/Fax 706-439-6301
- Currahee Campus
8989 Highway 17 South, Toccoa, Georgia 30577
706-779-8100/Fax 706-779-8130
- SERVICES: North Georgia Technical College uses the ASSET Placement Test to identify academic skills and needs. The test includes sections on reading comprehension, writing skills, and basic math. Algebra is required for some programs. Applicants without a high school diploma or a GED Certificate are required to demonstrate an "Ability to Benefit" by making designated scores on the ASSET Placement Test in order to receive federal financial aid. In lieu of ASSET, the SAT, ACT, or CPE scores may be used if less than five years old. Postsecondary level Math and/or English with a grade of C or better may be used in lieu of the ASSET. Applicants who have a disability and need special testing accommodations should contact the Director of Special Services at 706-754-7729 to make arrangements.

NORTHEAST GEORGIA SPEECH CENTER

- CONTACT: Diane Brower
- PHONE: 770-534-5141
- ADDRESS: 604 Washington Street Northwest, Suite B2, P.O. Box 1482,
Gainesville, Georgia 30501
- HOURS: 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM Monday - Friday
- SERVICES: **Speech and Language:** Speech program for children and adults includes evaluation and treatment for speech problems of all types: stuttering, articulation, delayed speech and language, speech problems resulting from cleft palate, cerebral palsy and hearing loss, voice problems, aphasia (language problems resulting from strokes or accidents), laryngectomees (people with no larynx or vocal cords), various lingual deformities, including absence of tongue.
- Hearing:** The hearing program includes routine hearing screenings using up-to-date technical equipment, lip-reading and auditory training for deaf and hard of hearing.
- ELIGIBILITY: Any child or adult having or suspected of having a speech,

Language, or hearing problem. Center serves people of Hall County and surrounding counties. Acceptance is dependent upon the severity of the problem, ability to learn, desire to improve and the willingness of the family to cooperate, as well as the availability of clinic time. (Note: Acceptance for the therapy cannot be construed as a guarantee for a cure.)

FEEES: The Center is a nonprofit organization founded by the Junior Service League of Gainesville. Where fees cannot be paid in full, each person will be requested to pay that portion of the full fee that he/she can, according to the Center's sliding scale. Those persons eligible for third party payments should make approximate inquiries or contact the Center. Medicaid and Medicare payment is acceptable.

AREA SERVED: Northeast Georgia

**PARENT TO PARENT OF GEORGIA, INC./
TOWNS/UNION COUNTY NAVIGATOR TEAM**

LOCALLY: Towns/Union County Navigator Team

CONTACT: Becky Tracy

PHONE: 706-745-9615, extension 4404

EMAIL: btracy@ucschools.org

SERVICES: Navigator Teams are a project of Parent to Parent of Georgia, and are a parent-led volunteer network for families of children with special needs

CONTACT: Debra S. Tucker, Director

PHONE: 1-800-229 -2038/770-451-5484/Fax 770-458-4091

ADDRESS: 3070 Presidential Parkway, Suite 130, Atlanta, Georgia 30340

HOURS: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Monday - Friday

SERVICES: To provide support and information to parents of children with all types of disability or chronic illness. Additional services include:

- *Special training for parents who wish to offer support to others
- * Information about specific disabilities and conditions.
- *Current listing of local, state, and national resources and services.

FUNDING: Government Grants, United Way Atlanta, Children's Trust Fund, United Way SE Georgia, Private Contributions.

AREA SERVED: Statewide Organization

WEB SITE: www.p2pga.org/

**S.A.F.E. (SUPPORT IN ABUSIVE FAMILY EMERGENCIES)
FAMILY VIOLENCE SHELTER**

CONTACT: Janet Kowalski

PHONE: 706-379-1901/ Fax 706-379-1910
Crisis Hotline: 706-379-3000
Visitation and Family Support Center (706) 835-1637

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 11, Blairsville, Georgia 30512

SERVICES: For women who are battered or abused. SAFE offers support groups, referral to other agencies, legal and advocate services, children's programs and crisis intervention.

AREA SERVED: Towns and Union Counties

FEES: None

EMAIL: info@safeservices.org

SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE

PHONE: 1-800-772-1213/770-532-7506

LOCATIONS: 2565 Thompson Bridge Road, NE, Suite 210, Gainesville, Georgia 30501

155 Big A Road, N, Toccoa, Georgia 30577
877-405-7655/TTY 706-886-6411

HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m-4:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 pm
Except Federal Holidays

SERVICES: To pay Supplemental Security income to those entitled, and assist persons in claiming Medicare benefits. To furnish information regarding the above program and furnish assistance in filing claims for any of the above benefits. To assist in administering all programs under the Social Security Act as a representative of the United States Department of Health and Human Services and furnish assistance, counsel and referral services in all areas of human need and problems insofar as possible and practicable. To assist in securing Social Security numbers.

ELIGIBILITY: **Regular Social Security:** Benefits require certain amount of employment covered by Social Security Law. Requirement for Medicare: Age 65, or entitled to Social Security disability benefits for more than 24 months. Special Medicare benefits possible for persons with severe kidney disease.

Supplemental Income Benefits: Age 65 or over, blind or

disabled and have very limited income and resources.

WEB SITE: www.ssa.gov/

STATE AID FOR CANCER

CONTACT: Local Department of Family and Children Services

PHONE: 706-896-3524 (Towns) or 404-463-5111

SERVICES: Provides financial assistance for the medical care of low-income patients requiring diagnostic and/or treatment services for cancer.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must meet income criteria along with a referral from the patient's physician.

TOWNS COUNTY BOY SCOUTS, CUBS, AND TIGER CUBS

CONTACT: Kim Farmer, Mountain District Representative 706-781-4899
kimfarmer7@gmail.com
Daniel Victoria, District Executive 404-414-0477
davictor@bsaemail.org

PURPOSE: To provide for boys and young adults an effective educational program designed to train in the responsibilities of useful citizenship and to provide for growth in moral strength and character and to enhance the development of physical, mental and emotional fitness.

ELIGIBILITY: **Tiger Cubs:** Boys in first grade. Program calls for equal participation with the boy and an adult partner.
Bob Cat Rank: In the first grade
Wolf Rank: In the second grade
Bear Rank: In the third grade
Webelos Rank: In the fourth and fifth grade
Boy Scouts: through 20 years of age
Venturing and Exploring for Girls age 14-20

WEB SITE: www.scouting.org and www.nega-bsa.org/

TOWNS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PHONE: 706-896-4966/800-984-1543/Fax 706-896-5441

ADDRESS: 1411 Jack Dayton Circle, Young Harris, Georgia 30582

SERVICES: Works for interests of county business. Information available on food, lodging, real estate and business. Community Calendar of activities and tourist information is available.

WEB SITE: www.mountaintopga.com

TOWNS COUNTY HEAD START/GEORGIA PRE-K

CONTACT: Vicki Stephens-Berrong, Center Director

LOCATION: Towns County Elementary School
1150 Konahetah Road, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-4131, option 4 / Fax 706-896-1959

Ninth District Opportunity, Inc., Towns County Head Start/Georgia Pre-K is a pre-school program that is accredited by NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) and State Day Care licensed. Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. is a National Head Start Association Program of Excellence. Head Start/Georgia Pre-K also serves children with disabilities. Service is provided for all children who qualify, regardless of race, sex, national origin or religion.

HEAD START SERVICES:

- ❖ Head Start assists three and four year old children in building the confidence and skills they need to succeed in school and to become leaders and productive citizens of the future.
- ❖ Provides experiences for children that are vital to achieving our nation's first education goal-that all children enter school ready to learn. Provides children with an environment which is conducive to learning and encourages curiosity, exploration, problem solving and self expression.
- ❖ Assists parents in securing immunizations, regular medical and dental screenings and follow-up services for their child.
- ❖ Assists children in developing a positive self image by providing many opportunities for success and promoting good health and nutrition. Provides breakfast and lunch daily.
- ❖ Provides children with developmentally appropriate educational experiences and activities to meet the individual needs of the child.
- ❖ Provides opportunities for parents to acquire the necessary skills for them to become strong partners in their child's growth, development and learning experiences.
- ❖ Provides opportunities for parents to participate in the decision-making process.
- ❖ Provides opportunities through collaborative efforts, for community agencies, community leaders and parents of enrolled children to develop partnerships in order to meet the needs of individuals.
- ❖ Provides for a successful transition into the Head Start program and into kindergarten and/or into the next educational setting.

FEES: There are no fees for a child to enter the Head Start Program/Georgia Pre-K Program. Head Start is federally funded. The Georgia Pre-K Program is state funded.

AGE ELIGIBILITY: Head Start children must be three or four years old on or before: September 1 of the current school year.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To advocate for families in need and to promote access to opportunities which will facilitate movement towards self development, self reliance and self determination.

GEORGIA PRE-K SERVICES:

- ❖ Georgia's Pre-K Program provides appropriate activities and learning experiences that help prepare young children for school. The term *school readiness* means that children are socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively prepared for continued success in kindergarten.
- ❖ Georgia's Pre-K Program helps children become independent, self-confident, enthusiastic learners. Participation in the program encourages children to develop good habits and daily routines.
- ❖ Georgia's Pre-K Program encourages teachers to adopt child-centered instructional practices based on the interests and the development skill levels of each child. Child-centered instruction allows teachers to facilitate learning in a rich environment that fosters children's initiative, exploration, and collaborative interaction with peers and adults.
- ❖ Georgia's Pre-K Program helps to ensure a smooth transition to kindergarten. Children with special needs will be referred to the proper agencies for access to and coordination of health and other services. Families are also provided with information and assisted in gathering required documentation necessary for their child's enrollment in kindergarten.
- ❖ Georgia's Pre-K Program serves children who are residents of Georgia and that are four years old by September 1 of the current school year to be eligible for participation. Acceptable proof of age must be on file the day the child begins the Pre-K Program.
- ❖ Georgia's Pre-K Program is based on first come, first serve.

TOWNS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CONTACT: Cindi Sparks, Office Manager

TELEPHONE: 706-896-2265

ADDRESS: 1104 Jack Dayton Circle, Young Harris, Georgia 30582

HOURS: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM / 1:00-5:00 PM (Mon., Wed., Thurs.)
8:00 AM-12:00 PM / 1:00-7:00 PM (Tuesday)
8:00 AM-12:00 PM / 1:00-3:00 PM (Friday)
Closed due to furlough on the first and third Friday of every month.

SERVICES: Immunizations, Child Health Screenings, Dental Care for children who meet income guidelines, Prenatal Care, Family Planning, Adult Health, Blood Pressure Screening, Minor First Aid, Routine Lab Work, Children's Medical Services Medicaid and Non-Medicaid Child Health Program, WIC Program, Mental Health, Vocational Rehabilitation, TB and Diabetes Screening, Environmental Health Services, AIDS

Testing.

CLINIC: WIC Clinic Thursdays (call for other available days)
Family Planning Clinic Tuesdays
Dental Clinic Mondays and Wednesdays
Well Child Clinic Wednesdays and Fridays
Pap Smear Clinic Tuesdays
General Clinic Thursdays

FEES: Based on sliding scale according to family income. No one will be refused services due to inability to pay.

TOWNS COUNTY LIONS CLUB

CONTACT: Janice King, President

PHONE: 706-896-4191

MEETINGS: Anderson Music Hall, Hiawassee Georgia 30546

MEETING TIMES: 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:00 PM

SERVICES: Eye examinations and glasses for local, needy applicants, hearing aids for those unable to provide for themselves. Purchase of infant restraining car seats for needy babies.

Give A Christmas Program provides toys and clothing for needy children in the county.

Star Student and Honor Student Programs sponsor for the Towns County Comprehensive School.

Natural Resource Conservation Workshop sponsored for local high school student to attend.

WEBSITE: www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/townscounty/

TOWNS COUNTY RECREATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER

CONTACT: Wes Hooper
Alan Rogers, Assistant

PHONE: 706-896-0543

ADDRESS: 150 Foster Park Road, Young Harris, just off Mining Gap Trail

HOURS: 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

SERVICES: A state-of-the-art center with modern amenities: workout room, walking track, basketball courts, pickle ball courts, and a community room with kitchen area.

FEES: Registration and fees are based on activity.

TOWNS COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: Dr. Sandra Page
ASST. PRINCIPAL: Dr. Connie Hobbs
LOCATION: 1150 Konahetah Road, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
PHONE: 706-896-4131

MIDDLE SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: David Turner
LOCATION: 1400 U.S. Highway 76 East, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
PHONE: 706-896-4131

HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: Pending
ASST. PRINCIPAL Erica Chastain
LOCATION: 1400 U.S. Highway 76 East, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
PHONE: 706-896-4131

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

CONTACT: Michelle Pyrlik, Director
PHONE: 706-896-4131, Extension 1050

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SUPERINTENDENT: Dr. Darren Berrong
LOCATION: 67 Lakeview Circle, Suite C, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546
PHONE: 706-896-2279

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

McKinney-Vento is the primary piece of federal legislation dealing with the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness in U.S. public schools. It was reauthorized as Title X, Part C, of the No Child Left Behind Act in January 2002.

CONTACT: Roy Perren
LOCATION: 1400 U.S. Highway 76 East, Hiawassee, Georgia 30546

PHONE: 706-896-4131

WEBSITE: <http://www.towns.k12.ga.us/>

TOWNS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

CONTACT: Maxine Bradshaw

PHONE: 706-896 - 4372

ADDRESS: 1224 Jack Dayton Circle, P.O. Box 8, Young Harris, Georgia 30582

SERVICES: Public Water Service

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT: David Mull, Area Director

PHONE: 706-754-6239, ext. 4, Fax 855-514-3349

HOURS: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Monday – Friday

ADDRESS: 555 Monroe Street, Unit 83, P.O. Box 12, Clarkesville, Georgia 30523

SERVICES: Provides very low income to moderate income housing loans, grants, and repair loans.

ELIGIBILITY: Income eligibility and credit approval.

WEB SITE: www.rurdev.usda.gov

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

PHONE: 706-379-3111 / 800-241-3754

ADDRESS: 1 College Street, Young Harris, Georgia 30582

DIVISIONS AND PROGRAMS:

DIVISION OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF FINE ARTS

DIVISION OF HUMANITIES

DIVISION OF MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE

DIVISION OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

ACTIVITIES: Planetarium, Speakers, Musical Programs, Children’s Plays.

WEBSITE: www.yhc.edu

STATE OF GEORGIA ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor Nathan Deal
206 Washington Street
111 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-1776/Fax 404-657-7332
400 N. Capitol Street NW, Suite 376
Washington, D.C. 20001
www.gov.state.ga.us

Secretary of State Brian P. Kemp
404-656-3300/Fax 404-657-8733
214 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-2881/Fax 404-656-0513
www.sos.state.ga.us

U.S. Representative Stephen Allison
504-A Coverdell Legislative
Office Building, Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-0188
103 Blue Ridge Street
Blairsville, GA 30512
706-781-3929
stephen.allison@house.ga.gov

Senator David Perdue
B40D Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-1005
202-224-3521/Fax 202-228-1031
www.senate.gov

Commissioner of Agriculture
Gary Black
19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. SW
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-3600/Fax 404-651-7957
800-282-5852
www.agr.georgia.gov

Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle
240 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-656-5030/Fax 404-656-6739
www.ltgov.georgia.gov

Attorney General Sam Olens
40 Capitol Square SW
Atlanta, GA 30334
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Senator Johnny Isakson
120 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-1006
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3625 Cumberland Boulevard,
Atlanta, GA 30339
www.isakson.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email-me

Congressman Doug Collins
210 Washington Street, NW, Suite 202
Gainesville, GA 30501
770-297-3388/Fax 770-297-3390
Toll-Free 855-821-3405
1504 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-9893/Fax 202-226-1224
dougcollins.house.gov

State School Superintendent
Richard Woods
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE
Atlanta, GA 30334
800-311-3627/404-656-2800/Fax 404-651-8737
state.superintendent@doe.k12.ga.us

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500
202-456-1414/Fax 202-456-2461

PHONE NUMBERS AND WEB SITES

ABUSE

800-721-1999 Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault www.gnesa.org
800-532-3208 Parents Anonymous Hotline www.parentsanonymous.org

ADHD

800-321-3287 The Feingold Association of the U.S. www.feingold.org

ADOPTION

800-TO-ADOPT National Adoption Center www.adopt.org
800-232-2751 AASK America/Aid to Adoption of Special Kids

AIDS

800-CDC-INFO Centers for Disease Control & Prevention www.cdc.gov/hiv
(800-232-4636)
800-232-4636 National AIDS Hotline www.aidshotline.org
800-227-8922 National Sexually Transmitted Diseases Hotline
www.ashastd.org

ALCOHOLISM

800-848-3649 Laurelwood Alcohol and Drug Treatment Facility
www.nghs.com/meantal-health-services

800-NCA-CALL
(800-622-2255)
866-806-2821

National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence, Inc.
www.ncadd.org
Hopelinks www.hopelinks.net

ANEMIA

800-522-7222 Cooley's Anemia Foundation www.cooleysanemia.org

ASTHMA/ALLERGY

8007ASTHMA Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America www.aafa.org

BLINDNESS/VISION

800-683-5555 Foundation Fighting Blindness www.blindness.org
800-424-8666 America Council of the Blind www.acb.org
800-AFBLIND American Foundation for the Blind www.afb.org
800-222-3566 Blind Children's Center www.blindchildrenscenter.org
800-562-6265 National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired
www.spedex.com
877-887-6327 Eye Care America-Online Referral Center www.eyecareamerica.org
800-NLSREAD National Library Services for the Blind and the Physically
Handicapped www.loc.gov/nls

CANCER

855-858-2226 American Childhood Cancer Organization www.acco.org
800-722-WISH Make a Wish Foundation www.wish.org
800-4-CANCER National Cancer Institute Information Service www.cancer.gov/help

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

800-526-7234 Job Accommodation Network (JAN) www.askjan.org
800-232-5463 Job Opportunities for the Blind

CAREER COUNSELING

800-LET-ERIC ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult Career and Vocational
Education www.eric.ed.gov/

CEREBRAL PALSY

800-872-5827 UCPA Partnership Development www.ucpheartland.org

CHILDREN/YOUTH

800-24-CHILD Children's Hospice International www.chionline.org

800-331-5362 National Association for the Dually Diagnosed www.thenadd.org

CLEFT PALATE

800-24-CLEFT Cleft Palate Foundation CLEFTLINE www.cleftline.org
(800-242-5338)

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS/SPEECH

800-638-8255 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
www.asha.org

800-221-2483 National Center for Stuttering www.stuttering.com

800-992-9392 Stuttering Foundation of America www.stutteringhelp.org

CRIME

800-851-3420 Victims of Crime Resource Center www.ncjrs.gov

CYSTIC FIBROSIS

800FIGHTCF Cystic Fibrosis Foundation www.cff.org

DEAFNESS / HEARING IMPAIRMENTS

800-237-6213 Described and Captioned Media Program www.dcmp.org

800-522-4582 John Tracy Clinic on Deafness www.jtc.org

800-521-5247 Hearing Aid Helpline www.ihsinfo.org

800-222-EARS Occupational Hearing Services (Dial A Hearing Test)

800-638-8255 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
Hearing and Speech Hotline open M-F 8:30-5:00
www.asha.org

DIABETES

800-533CURE Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Hotline www.jdf.org

DISEASES

800-543-3135 American Leprosy Missions www.leprosy.org

800-345-HDSA Huntington's Disease Society of America www.hdsa.org

800-558-0121 Lupus Foundation of America www.lupus.org

800-825-8787 Terri Gotthelf Lupus Research Institute

800-344-4867 National Multiple Sclerosis Society www.nmss.org
800-683-5555 Foundation Fighting Blindness www.blindness.org
800-4PDINFO National Parkinson Foundation www.parkinson.org
800-421-8453 Sickle Cell Disease Association of America
www.sicklecelldisease.org
800-621-3141 Spina Bifida Association of America www.sbaa.org

DOWN SYNDROME

800-232-NDSC National Down Syndrome Congress www.ndsccenter.org
800-221-4602 National Down Syndrome Society www.ndss.org

DRUG/ALCOHOL INFORMATION

888-425-2666 Al-Anon/Alateen www.al-anon.org
800-559-9503 *or* Addiction Treatment Center www.addictiontreatmentcenter.com
229-255-2090 Addiction Hotline for Georgia
800COCAINE *or* Cocaine Addiction Treatment Resources www.800cocaine.com
800-559-9503
800-258-2766 “Just Say No” International
800-NCA-CALL National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence, Inc. www.ncadd.org
(800-622-2255)

877-SAMHSA Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
(877-726-4727) www.samhsa.gov

EDUCATION

800 94-MY GED Georgia GED Testing Program www.tcsq.edu
(8009469433)

EPILEPSY

800-332-1000 Epilepsy Foundation of America www.epilepsyfoundation.org

EQUIPMENT

866-241-6568 AT&T’s National Center for Customers with Disabilities (NCCD)
www.wireless.att.com
888-584-8332 National Audiovisual Center www.ntis.gov/products/nac.aspx

FINANCIAL AID

800-638-0742 Federal Hill-Burton Free Care Program
www.hrsa.gov/gethealthcare/affordable/hillburton
800-537-2329 Georgia Advocacy Office www.thegao.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

312-642-9130 American Burn Association www.ameriburn.org
800-245-2691 HUD User www.huduser.org
800-221-6827 National Easter Seal Society www.easterseals.com
800-772-1213 Social Security Administration www.ssa.gov
888-866-8773 Visiting Nurse Association of America www.vnaa.org

GROWTH DISORDERS

800-451-6434 Human Growth Foundation www.hgfound.org

HEADACHES

888NHF5552 National Headache Foundation www.headaches.org

HEALTH INFORMATION

800-336-4797 National Health Information Center www.health.gov/nhic

HOSPICE

800-658-8898 National Hospice Organization www.nhpco.org

IMMUNOLOGY

414-272-6071 American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
www.aaaai.org

KIDNEY DISORDERS

800-638-8299 American Kidney Fund www.kidneyfund.org

800-622-9010 National Kidney Foundation of Georgia www.kidney.org

LEARNING DISABILITIES (DYSLEXIA)

800-223-0179 International Dyslexia Association www.interdys.org

LIVER DISORDERS

800-GO-LIVER American Liver Foundation www.liverfoundation.org

MAINSTREAMING INTO THE COMMUNITY

646-505-1191, National Organization on Disability www.nod.org
Ext. 122

MENTAL HEALTH

800-969-6642 Mental Health America www.mentalhealthamerica.net

800-374-2721 American Psychology Association www.apa.org

800-433-5255 Association for Retarded Citizen of the U.S. www.thearc.org

MISSING CHILDREN

800-THE-LOST National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
www.missingkids.com

NEUROLOGICAL IMPAIRMENT/PARALYSIS

800-962-9629 *and* National Spinal Cord Injury Association www.spinalcord.org

800-404-2898

800-225-0292 Christopher Reeve Organization www.christopherreeve.org

800-NHF 5552 National Headache Foundation www.headaches.org

NUTRITION

800-284-9488 Gerber Products Company www.gerber.com

888-779-7264 USDA Choose My Plate www.choosemyplate.gov

ORTHOPEDIC PROBLEMS

800-237-5055 International Shriners Headquarters www.shrinershq.org

PARENT INFORMATION

800-5323208 Parents Anonymous – Questions for Parents
www.parentsanonymous.org

800-637-7974 Parents without Partners www.parentswithoutpartners.org

PESTICIDES

800-858-7378 Pesticides Information www.npic.orst.edu

POISON CONTROL CENTER

800-222-1222 Poison Control Center www.georgiapoisoncenter.org

PUBLIC SERVICE

800-282-5813 Public Service Commission www.psc.state.ga.us

RARE DISORDERS

800-223-8355 Cornelia deLange Syndrome Foundation www.cdlsusa.org

800-233-7393 National Reyne's syndrome Foundation www.reyessyndrome.org

800-CAL-NTSA Tuberos Sclerosis Alliance
www.tsalliance.org

REHABILITATION

800-346-2742 National Rehabilitation Information Center www.naric.com

RESPIRATORY DISEASE

877 CALL NJH National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory
Medicine www.nationaljewish.org

NATIONAL RUNAWAY SWITCHBOARD

800RUNAWAY 1800runaway.org www.1800runaway.org

SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME (SIDS)

800-221-SIDS First Candle/Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Alliance
www.sidsalliance.org

800-232-SIDS American SIDS Institute www.sids.org

770-488-8167 National SIDS & Infant Death Project IMPACT
www.sidsprojectimpact.com

TOYS

800-638-2772 U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission www.cpsc.gov

TRAUMA

800-556-7890 American Trauma Society www.amtrauma.org

800-962-9629 National Spinal Cord Injury Association www.spinalcord.org

800-444-6443 Brain Injury Association of Georgia www.braininjurygeorgia.org

800-273-2876 Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation www.qfbf.org

800-669-7700 Burn Survivor Resource Center www.burnsurvivor.org

800-888-2876 The Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors, Inc.
www.phoenix-society.org

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency.....	911
Emergency Medical Technicians (Ambulance)....	911/706-896-2228
Fire Department.....	911/706-896-2090
Sheriff's Department.....	911/706-896-4444
Chatuge Regional Hospital.....	706-896-2222
Poison Control.....	1-800-222-1222