



Office of the District Attorney
Cobb Judicial Circuit
Victim Witness Unit

70 Haynes Street * Marietta, GA 30090

Ph 770-528-3047 / Fx 770-528-3031

<http://cobbda.com>

email: victimassistance@cobbcounty.org

D. Victor Reynolds
District Attorney

Resource and Information Guide

Números Importantes:

Como víctima de un crimen, usted puede estar en necesidad de servicios e información adicional. Favor llamar al 770-528-3045 para más información de los recursos y programas comunitarios.



District Attorney's Office – Cobb Judicial Circuit - Victim Witness Unit
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website: www.cobbda.com / email: victimassistance@cobbcounty.org

The duties of the District Attorney are established by the Constitution of Georgia and outlined in the Official Code of Georgia. A District Attorney is elected to represent each judicial circuit throughout the State of Georgia. It is the duty of the District Attorney to represent the state in all criminal cases in the superior court of each circuit and in all cases appealed from the superior court and the juvenile courts of that circuit to the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals. Put simply, the primary responsibility of the District Attorney's Office in Cobb Judicial Circuit is to prosecute felony crimes that occur in Cobb County. The ultimate goal of prosecution is to seek justice. By prosecuting serious, violent, & property crimes, we work to protect victims, hold offenders accountable for their criminal acts, and provide safety to the community at large.

Within the District Attorney's Office there are several distinct units designed to provide the best services possible for the community. These units consist of Crimes Against Women and Children; the Drug Prosecution Unit; the White Collar Unit; Major Crimes; the Juvenile Unit; an investigative unit; a child support unit; and the Victim Witness Unit (VW Unit).

The purpose of the Victim Witness Unit is to provide direct support and notification services to victims of crime. The Unit is mandated by Georgia law under the Georgia Crime Victims Bill of Rights in what services are provided to victims of crime. Such mandates include, but are not limited to, notification to all crime victims of court hearings and education about the stages involved in the criminal justice system. Staff advocates also strive to improve the treatment of victims and witnesses by providing them with assistance and services necessary to speed their recovery from a criminal act and to support and aid them as they move through an unfamiliar, complicated, and time consuming criminal justice system. The most essential services provided include keeping the victim notified of the status of their case and providing opportunities for them to participate in the process, educating victims about the criminal justice system, and as ensuring each person is aware of any additional service programs in the community that might also be able to assist them.

Specifically, advocates provide the following services to victims of crime: explaining the steps of the court process and providing the victim with notice of hearings and status reports of the case; assisting in preparing victims for court appearances and providing orientation and companionship to court hearings; making referrals for services and support from other community resources; assisting in completing necessary paperwork including victim compensation forms, victim impact statements, and restitution forms; assisting in the return of the victim's property from evidence; interceding with employers, creditors, and schools to help explain absences when necessary; providing a safe, secure place for victims to wait before testifying; coordinating an on-call system for court appearances to aid victims in avoiding lengthy absences from work; providing assistance and support when the victim feels intimidated, harassed, or afraid; and advising victims of any other rights afforded to them under the Georgia Law.

Victim Advocates in the VW Unit work with victims to not only ensure that their needs are met, but also to keep them updated at all times on the status of their case. Advocates are trained in communication skills, courtroom procedures, crisis intervention, and many other areas specific to victim advocacy. While the Victim Witness Unit is supported by the Cobb County Board of Commissioners, the Unit is funded through fines imposed on convicted criminal defendants, and grant funds including a Victims of Crime Act grant and a JAG Grant. Unit staff is available for community awareness programs, teaching opportunities, and/or public speaking engagements. Staff of the Victim Witness Unit provides support and notification services in the Superior Court of Cobb County (ten Judges), the Magistrate Court of Cobb County (two Judges) and the Juvenile Court of Cobb County (four judges), and partners with Cobb County Police's DV/Stalking Unit for advocacy services.



Crime Victims Advocacy Council

Crime Victims Advocacy Council

- Crime Victims Advocacy Council (CVAC) was organized in July 1989, under the guidance of Urban Action, Inc., the urban ministry program of the United Methodist Church in North Georgia. Urban Action, through participation in various types of assistance programs, became aware of unmet needs of the many crime victims of our society. CVAC was developed specifically to respond to these needs, Subsequently; CVAC incorporated as an independent, nonprofit organization.
- CVAC, Inc. is an organization of people, who care about the needs of victims of crime. It is composed of volunteers from all walks of life, such as persons of faiths, criminal justice professionals, attorneys, and other interested people from the community. CVAC responds to crime victims with understanding and help, whatever their race sex or religious beliefs. CVAC realizes that crime victims most fully benefit through a variety of resources, services and programs. Therefore, CVAC seeks to involve churches, community organizations and concerned individuals and alike in its efforts to provide this broad spectrum of resources which aid in recovery.
- Crime Victims Advocacy Council directs its resources and energies toward several areas. It offers peer support groups (Crime Survivor Support Groups) to crime victims, free of cost. It provides educational programs to the community. It sponsors an annual memorial service for persons who died as victims of crime. It raises the consciousness of the community to recognize the rights of crime victims, and acts as an advocate on their behalf. Crime Victims Advocacy Council welcomes members and volunteers who share its concern for victims of crime.
- Crime Victims Advocacy Council welcomes members and volunteers from the community. For more information about the activities and programs of CVAC, or about volunteer opportunities and membership, call 770-333-9254

Crime Victims Advocacy Council, Inc.
3101 Paces Mill Road, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30339
770-333-9254
Email: askcvac@aol.com for more information.

www.gbgm-umc.org/cvac/

YWCA of Northwest Georgia Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs

Hotline 770-427-3390 24 hour 7 days per week

<http://www.ywca.org/site/pp.asp?c=ejINI0PNKuG&b=306834>



Emergency Shelter and Assistance

Sheltering Hands is a 32 bed group living facility offering a safe place for women and children who have suffered domestic violence. Our clients stay for 14 to 90 days depending on their individual needs and desires. Men are also encouraged to call for assistance and they too will be provided a safe place to stay.

During the initial stay, Phase I, clients and their children are assessed for domestic violence concerns. Basic needs are provided at no costs to clients. It is during this phase that clients are encouraged to reflect and begin to recuperate.

In phase II, clients learn about the dynamics of domestic violence and the impact it has on their children. During this phase, clients work on self esteem, parenting, goal setting, nutrition, recreation, education and many other topics that will help prepare them for living a violence-free lifestyle. This phase usually lasts from four to six weeks.

Once clients have successfully completed phase II and feel ready to move forward, they enter phase III of the program. During this phase, clients are prepared for work and/or education programs. They also participate in additional classwork to help them manage their families and the transition into an empowered life.

Domestic Violence Can Happen to Anyone . . .

- 31% of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives.
- Women of all races are about equally vulnerable to violence by an intimate.
- Each year, about 324,000 pregnant women in the U.S. are battered by the men in their lives.
- Approximately one in five female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.
- Children who witness domestic violence are more likely to exhibit behavioral and physical health problems.



Transitional Housing

The YWCA offers an additional housing program that focuses on economic empowerment of clients who are dealing with domestic violence and/or sexual assault. A family who chooses to live a violence-free life and has met program requirements can stay up to 24 months in one of our transitional locations. During this time a dedicated case worker will continue to work with the client and family on a variety of life skills, parenting issues, and economic empowerment that will enable the family to move to permanent housing.



Legal Advocacy

Normally, a protective order is sought to protect someone who is being abused and/or stalked. A YWCA employee located at the Court House can provide victims with expert advice and help on filling out applications for temporary protective orders. Staff/Volunteers will also accompany clients into the courtroom if desired.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

770-528-8024

BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 4 P.M.

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

TANF Assessor

(Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

Statistics on domestic violence indicate a strong correlation with income levels; therefore, each person that applies for TANF visits with the YWCA TANF Assessor located at the local Department of Family & Children Services. If it is determined that domestic violence is present, a waiver can be obtained and the person is offered the services of the YWCA.

rape &

sexual assault

Rape is a crime of violence and domination in which one person forces, coerces or manipulates another person into sexual intercourse.

Sexual Assault is a more general term that includes rape as well as other crimes such as incest, sexual harassment and other unwanted sexual contact.

**eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca**

Facts about Rape/Sexual Assault

- Every 2.5 minutes someone is sexually assaulted in the United States.
- 44% of victims are 18 and younger.
- College-age women are 4 times more likely to be sexually assaulted.
- Anyone can be a victim of sexual assault (90% are women and 10% are men).
- Rape is about power, control, domination and anger.
- Most rapes are planned in advance.
- 80% of forcible rapes occur to victims aged 30 and younger.
- Between 70% and 80% of all rapes are committed by someone the victim knows.
- 61% of all rapes are not reported to the police.
- The FBI estimates that false accusations account for only 2% of all reported sexual assaults. This is no higher than false reports for any other crime.
- The victim is never to blame!!

Someone who has been sexually assaulted may experience disbelief, loss of control, anger, fear, depression, guilt, denial, mood swings, confusion and inability to concentrate, embarrassment, helplessness, difficulty with intimacy and relationships, and disturbances in eating and or sleeping habits.



The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network is the nation's largest anti-sexual assault organization. RAINN operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline and carries out programs to prevent sexual assault, help victims and ensure that rapists are brought to justice.

National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE

Free / Confidential / 24/7

<http://www.rainn.org>



It is the mission of The Center for Family Resources to strengthen individuals, families and communities.

DIRECT SERVICES: Many families experience a temporary financial crisis due to loss of employment, illness of a family member, spousal abandonment, or unexpected natural disaster. The Center for Family Resources' Direct Services Program offers financial assistance for rent, utility payments, medical prescriptions, transportation and food assistance to help families maintain their permanent housing and prevent them from becoming homeless.

Assistance of up to one month's rent or utility payment stabilizes the family in their permanent living environment and is provided one-time only. Our case management process assists the family in developing an action plan to address the cause of the family crisis. The case manager maintains contact with the family for six months following assistance to monitor their progress in accomplishing their goals leading to long-term residential stability.

HOUSING SERVICES: In the beginning, The Center for Family Resources offered temporary lodging for up to two weeks. Seeing the need to keep families together in their own personal space, three levels of housing programs are now offered to help families work toward self-sufficiency. Short-term Housing, Transitional Housing, and Cambridge Woods Apartments are designed to help the family regain stability.

Rent assistance is provided through Direct Services to prevent homelessness and keep families' stable. Both Short-term and Transitional Housing provide a safe and secure place for families while they work toward independence. Finally, [Cambridge Woods Apartments](#) offer permanent affordable housing for low income families.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES: A key component for attaining and maintaining family self-sufficiency is having the necessary skills to earn a sustainable income and plan for the future. The Center for Family Resources offers a variety of programs to assist participants in obtaining and maintaining employment.

The Center for Family Resources offers classes in GED preparation, computer and life skills to meet the demands of the job market and successful employment techniques. We offer counseling and courses in employment readiness, interviewing skills, job search, retention skills and resume preparation.

In addition, "Career Builders" is a 8-week course that provides computer literacy training, business skills and job readiness.

Programs for children are also provided. Mentors are paired with middle school and high school age youth.

Free childcare is provided in the evenings so parents have a safe and secure environment to place their children while they are attending classes or programs at The Center for Family Resources.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Community Development encompasses both the Volunteer Program and Community Leadership Development. The Community Leadership Development Program trains community residents to be proactive in identifying and solving problems in their community. In turn, the participants bring meaningful changes to their communities by building local capacity and working positively with their local government.

The Center for Family Resources coordinates a 12-week series of workshops, based on the curriculum developed by the University of Georgia's J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership. The participants range in age from youth to senior citizens, working together to accomplish resolutions for community issues and improvements in their local environment.

The Center for Family Resources graduated 37 Cobb County citizens from the CLD Program in 2003, involving three large communities. One of the graduates from our 2002 program has become a City Councilman.

FOCUS ON FAMILIES: Encourage personal growth and development
Provide responsible stewardship of resources

Promote emotional and economic self-sufficiency
Guided by strong, positive, ethics and honesty



MINISTRIES

MINISTRIES UNITED FOR SERVICE AND TRAINING, INC.

For millions of Americans, every day is a bitter struggle to survive with the least. They are America's poor, left behind on the road to prosperity. MUST Ministries has created this site to raise awareness about poverty and its causes and to help close the borders of the lost and forgotten in Metro Atlanta.

Services available through MUST Ministries:

Clothing	The Basics of Life
Financial Assistance	The Basics of Life
Food	The Basics of Life
Health Care Services	The Basics of Life
Housing	The Basics of Life
Managing the ABCs of Addiction, Behaviors and Cash	Breaking the Cycle of Poverty
MUST Outreach and Training Center	Breaking the Cycle of Poverty
Project Motivation	Breaking the Cycle of Poverty
Birthday Kits	Miscellaneous Services
Household Items	Miscellaneous Services
Holiday Programs	Special Outreach & Holiday Programs

MUST is a faith-based organization that for over 30 years has been dedicated to providing services to persons in crisis while assisting such persons to maintain their dignity.

MUST services are open to anyone regardless of income, race, or religious beliefs.

MUST Cherokee
141B W. Marietta St.
P. O. Box 1696
Canton, GA 30114
Ph 770-479-5397
Fx 770-479-4502

MUST Marietta
55 Elizabeth Church Rd
P. O. Box 1717
Marietta, GA 30061
Ph 770-427-9862
Fx 770-423-0446

MUST Smyrna
3240-S S. Cobb Drive
P. O. Box 248
Smyrna, GA 30080
Ph 770-436-9514
Fx 770-438-0496

www.mustministries.org



SafePath Children's Advocacy Center
736 Whitlock Avenue, Suite 600
Marietta, GA 30064
P: 770-801-3465 F: 770-801-3468 | email: info@safepath.org

Mission Statement

The mission of SafePath Children's Advocacy Center, Inc. is to reduce the trauma of child victims and their non-offending caregivers by facilitating a comprehensive multi-disciplinary team approach to intervention, investigation, treatment, and treatment of alleged child sexual and severe physical abuse.

Description

SafePath is a private, non-profit 501 ©3 organization that offers a comprehensive approach to the intervention, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of alleged sexual and severe physical abuse of children. SafePath provides a neutral, child friendly environment where professionals can provide a multi-disciplinary team approach to allegations of child abuse.

SafePath offers the following services in a child-friendly, neutral environment:

- intervention and early initial assessment of the alleged child victims and non-offending family members;
- joint child and family interviews in child-friendly, non-threatening environment;
- mental health evaluations, examinations, and therapy services;
- forensic evaluations, support, and educations;
- medical examinations and evaluation referrals of child sexual abuse / physical abuse victims;
- group therapy for child victims and their non-offending caregivers;
- therapy for child victims during intervention and follow-up;
- notification of and assistance in filing out Crime Victim Compensation Claims;
- court assistance services for child victims and non-offending caregivers;
- expert testimony in the courts;
- screening and coordination of incoming cases including collection and maintenance of appropriate data in a central location;
- training for those persons who provide direct services to child victims of abuse including but not limited to professionals, staff, and volunteers.

To report suspected child abuse in Georgia call 911.
For additional support call 1-800-CHILDREN (1-800-2-445-3736)



GEORGIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

gacoalition@gcadv.org

**GEORGIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
3420 NORMAN BERRY DRIVE, SUITE 280
ATLANTA, GA 30354 / ph 404-209-0280**

WHAT IS THE GEORGIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

The Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a statewide member based organization committed to eliminating violence against women by promoting systems change and supporting intervention programs which serve all battered women.

Contributions can be made by pressing the button below



Find a shelter in your area

**DONATE TO
GCADV**



STOP

If you do not want anyone who uses your computer to know that you visited this site,

CLICK HERE

24 HOUR STATEWIDE CRISIS LINE

1-800-333-HAVEN

Georgia's Office of Child Advocate
3330 Northside Dr., Suite 100
Macon GA 31210
Phone 478-757-2661, 1-800-254-2064
FAX 478-757-2666
www.gachildadvocate.org



The Office of the Child Advocate for the Protection of Children was established by statute for the purpose of assisting, protecting, and restoring the security of children whose well-being is threatened. With the creation of the Office of the Child Advocate, Georgia became the twelfth state to open an independent Ombudsman office designed to protect the rights of children in state care and to monitor the agencies charged with protecting our children. The office will provide independent oversight of persons, organizations, and agencies responsible for providing services to or caring for children who are victims of child abuse and neglect, or whose domestic situation requires intervention by the state. Our office will provide children with an avenue through which to seek relief when their rights are violated by state officials and agents entrusted with their protection and care. The rights, powers, and duties of the Child Advocate are set forth in O.C.G.A. §§ 15-11-170 through 15-11-177.

It is our objective to promote a healthy and more efficient child protective services system in Georgia. We will always advocate strongly for those changes needed to enhance the protection of our children. With the dawn of the new millennium we have an opportunity for all of Georgia's citizens to advocate for the children who need them. Together we can make a difference and this office will strive to coordinate the actions of those who would seek positive change within the protective services system.

The primary purpose of this office is to monitor and oversee DFCS' operations at both the state and local levels. It is the mission of the office to ensure the adequate protection of Georgia's children and to provide for an enhancement of the existing protective services offered through DFCS. To achieve this end, our office will be available for complaints relating to abused and neglected children at 1-800-254-2064 or by clicking on the following link: www.gachildadvocate.org

The Office of the Child Advocate will strive to support communities in meeting the growing needs of abused and neglected children. We must all work together to insure the safety and well-being of Georgia's children for they truly do belong to each of us. I look forward to working with the people, organizations and agencies that share the common goal of insuring that our children are safe and free from abuse and neglect.

Mission Statement

The Office of the Child Advocate will promote the enhancement of the State's existing protective services system to insure that our children are secure and free from abuse and neglect.

MADD
Activism Victim Services Education



- **Victim/Survivor Assistance**
Bereaved families and injured victims may call MADD Georgia's victim assistance help-line to reach trained victim advocates. MADD victim advocates provide emotional support, free literature on victim issues, and guidance through the criminal justice system.
- **Public Awareness**
Community awareness activities, such as MADD's Tie One On For Safety holiday ribbon campaign and Designate a Driver campaign, are used to increase the public's knowledge of the devastating consequences of impaired driving.
- **Prevent Underage Drinking**
Through MADD programs, youth are educated on the dangers of underage drinking and are helping to change a society that often accepts underage drinking as a "rite of passage."
- **Enforcement**
Through Court Monitoring, Law Enforcement Recognition and the support of sobriety checkpoints, we are able to participate in the enforcement of laws to protect citizens.

MADD Georgia State Office
100 Edgewood Avenue, Suite 810
Atlanta, GA 30303-3070

Phone: (404) 223-3331
Toll Free: (888) 833-6033
Fax: (404) 223-0333
VIP Info: (404) 591-3195
Toll Free VIP Info: (877) 430-7596

E-Mail: stateoffice@maddga.org

<http://www.maddga.org>



1105 West Peachtree St NE
P.O. Box 7948, Station C
Atlanta, GA 30357-0948
Phone: 404-853-2844 (appointment line)

www.familiesfirst.org

NOTE: Call appointment line for convenient office locations

Our Vision: Strong Families and Healthy Communities.

Our Mission: To strengthen and preserve families in partnership with them and their Communities.

Our Belief: Empowering families, children and communities to achieve their potential is the most important work there is.

Families First offers [individual and family counseling](#). We help young pregnant women continue their education and reach independence and offer specialized [foster care](#) for children in need. Families First provides support services for foster parents and helps people who want to [adopt](#). Our nurturing [group homes](#) for abused, neglected and abandoned children give them stability and security. Homeless young mothers find assistance in our [transitional housing](#).

Families First also assists families who are struggling with [divorce](#), [violence](#) and [visitation issues](#). Our community programs encompass [employee assistance counseling](#), after school support and [independent living skills](#).



Latin American Association

737 Roswell Street, Suite 203

Marietta, GA 30060

Phone 770-420-6556 / Fax 678-354-0500

www.latinamericanassoc.org

PROGRAMS: THE LATIN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SERVICES FOR LATINOS AS THEY STRIVE FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND AN ENHANCED QUALITY OF LIFE. SOME VISIT US BECAUSE THEY WISH TO LEARN SPANISH OR ENGLISH; OTHERS BECAUSE THEY SEEK HELP IN FINDING A JOB OR BUYING THEIR FIRST HOME. WHATEVER THE REASON, WE WELCOME ALL AND INVITE YOU TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR BROAD RANGE OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

FAMILY: AT THE LAA WE BELIEVE THAT HEALTHY FAMILIES ARE THE BASIS FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES. FOR THIS REASON, OUR DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES IS EQUIPPED WITH PROFESSIONALS THAT GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO HELP TO PROTECT THEIR CLIENTS' INTERESTS, PROVIDE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR THEIR FAMILIES, AND SECURE THEIR PATH TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

General Services include emergency assistance with food, clothing, transportation, and financial help, as well as information and references about social services.

Family programs

[Program against domestic violence](#)

[Program for the protection of children](#)

[Program for Latino fathers](#)

[Building Strong Families](#)

[Program for the homeless](#)

Program against domestic violence

For anyone who fall victim to domestic violence, this program exists to provide them with social services, legal assistance, support groups, and counseling. They will find a safe and stable environment with professionals who will offer them help to get out of their abusive situation.



Raksha -- Raksha's mission is to promote a stronger and healthier South Asian community through confidential support services, education, and advocacy. Guided by values of consensus in decision-making, diversity in leadership, and the dignity and worth of every individual, Raksha strives to empower and serve the South Asian community.

About Raksha -- Raksha, meaning protection in several South Asian languages, is a Georgia-based nonprofit organization for the South Asian Community. The community includes people from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. With approximately 70,000 South Asians in the metropolitan Atlanta area, Raksha's mission is to promote a stronger and healthier community through free and confidential direct services, education and advocacy. Founded in 1995, Raksha addresses social issues within our South Asian community such as family violence and divorce, as well as issues concerning children, senior citizens and new immigrants.

Raksha strives to be a source of support for all South Asians who may need a helping hand.

Programs and Services

Raksha's general direct services include crisis intervention, information and referrals, interpretation and translation, legal and general advocacy, individual and family counseling with children and adults encompassing a variety of issues facing the South Asian community.

Raksha's community outreach programs increase awareness around issues such as immigration, the myth of the model minority, family violence, child sexual abuse, hate crimes, stalking, LGBT issues, access to health care and workforce readiness within the South Asian community.

Raksha strives to promote cultural sensitivity and provides technical assistance on the unique needs of South Asians to law enforcement agencies, social service agencies and health care providers, among others.

Raksha, Inc.
P.O. Box 12337
Atlanta, Georgia 30355
toll free: (1 866) 725-7423 / (1 877) 672-5742

Office: (404) 876-0670 / Help Line: (404) 842-0725 / Fax: (404) 876-4525
E-mail: raksha@raksha.org / www.raksha.org



Tapestri, Inc.
PMB 362
3939 Lavista Road, Suite E
Tucker, GA 30084

Phone: (404) 299-2185
Fax: (770) 270-4184
Email: tapestri@tapestri.org

www.tapestri.org

Tapestri, Inc., Immigrant and Refugee Coalition Challenging Gender Based Oppression, is dedicated to ending violence and oppression in immigrant and refugee communities, using culturally competent and appropriate methods. As advocates for immigrant and refugee families affected by domestic violence, sexual assault and exploitation, we are committed to using education, community organizing, direct services and advocacy to effect change in the lives of these families.

Our name, "Tapestri," symbolizes the different threads of society coming together to form a safe cover to protect its many colored communities.

Services

- * Information about and referrals to services available to battered immigrant women in metro Atlanta area
- *Multicultural Training
- *Legal advocacy
- *Services to victims of trafficking
- *Technical Assistance



Phone: 770-677-9300

Fax: 770-677-9400

Address: 4549 Chamblee Dunwoody Road

Atlanta, GA 30338-6210

<http://www.jfcs-atlanta.org>

Email: info@jfcs-atlanta.org

Jewish Family & Career Services provides comprehensive programs and services that strengthen the Jewish family in all of its contemporary forms and lifestyles. Jewish Family & Career Services, a nonsectarian agency that recognizes its membership in and interdependence with the broader Atlanta community, provides programs and services to meet community needs.

JF & CS offers a variety of programs and services to Atlantans who are in need. We're committed to providing confidential and therapeutic counseling and other services and support for individuals and families of all ages and needs....

Services include: Youth Services; Adult Services; Elderly Services; International Services; Career Services; Disability Services; All Stages of Life Services.

Your Cobb County Tools for Living from JF&CS

JF&CS of East Cobb offers an array of programming and services: child, teen, couples and family counseling; caregiver and bereavement support groups; career counseling and coaching; adoption, pregnancy counseling and home study preparation; college counseling; home health; community outreach; workshops and consultations.

The office is conveniently located at 1501 Johnson Ferry Road in the Johnson Square office park just north of Upper Roswell Road.

For more information, please call the Cobb County office at 770.933.0081.

SAVA – Senior Adult Victims’ Advocate

SAVA Program

SAVA provides services for adults age 60+ who are victims of abuse, neglect or exploitation by serving as a liaison between victims, social service agencies and the court system. SAVA operates a toll-free elder abuse helpline to provide telephone reassurance, assistance with court appearances and strategies to address current issues and reduce the risk of further victimization.

SAVA Elder Abuse Helpline

Metro Atlanta: 404.657.5250

Statewide: 1.888.774.0152

SAVA Services include:

- Assistance with filing for victim’s compensation, if eligible
- Help navigating the complexities of the court system with court accompaniment to victims as necessary
- Regular telephone assurance and counseling for support through the victimization
- A strategist to help victims develop ways to reduce future abuse and exploitation

The Division of Aging Services (DAS) administers this program through the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). Contact your [local AAA](#) for more information.

LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Atlanta Regional Commission

40 Courtland Street, NE

Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: 404.463.3100

Fax: 404.463.3264

Planning & Service Area

Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Rockdale

<http://www.dhr.georgia.gov>

The **Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS)** is the part of DHR that investigates child abuse; finds foster homes for abused and neglected children; helps low income, out-of-work parents get back on their feet; assists with childcare costs for low income parents who are working or in job training; and provides numerous support services and innovative programs to help troubled families.

SERVICES:

[Adoption Services](#)

The Adoption unit is now a part of the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS).

[Child Abuse & Neglect](#)

Child Protection Services investigates reports of child abuse or neglect and provides services to protect the child and strengthen the family.

[Emergency Food Assistance](#)

A federal program that helps supplement the diets of low income persons in Georgia.

[Energy Assistance](#)

Energy Assistance for low-income families.

[Food Stamps](#)

Food stamps supplement the food budget for eligible families.

[Food Stamps - En Español](#)

[Foster Care](#)

Foster care is provided for children whose families cannot care for them.

[Medicaid](#)

Information on the Right From the Start Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids programs.

[Refugee Resettlement](#)

A federally funded program that provides assistance to refugees.

[Secret Santa Program](#)

The Foster Care Secret Santa program distributes gifts to Foster Care children during the Christmas Holiday season.

[Subsidized Child Care](#)

Helps Georgia families pay for early childhood and school age care programs.

[Temporary Assistance for Needy Families](#)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or welfare, is cash assistance for poor children and their caretakers.



Board of Pardons and Paroles Office of Victim Services



The State Board of Pardons and Paroles has been long recognized for its leadership role in the advocacy of victims rights. The Parole Board continues to give the highest priority and greatest compassion to those citizens who are most affected by crime — the innocent victims and their survivors.

Parole wants input from victims

As the State's executive clemency agency, the Parole Board believes it can carry out its functions effectively only by gathering comprehensive information on offenders, including the impact of their actions on victims and the community. The Board's Office of Victim Services works with victims or their families to answer their questions about parole, to ensure their views and concerns reach Board Members prior to their parole decision, and to keep them notified of activity on their case. Most importantly, Parole's victim Services continually strive to make victims feel welcomed in the parole process.

Contact The Office of Victim via e-mail (VictimServices@pap.state.ga.us).

Board of Pardons and Paroles
Office of Victim Services
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE
Balcony Level, East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
PH 404-656-6668
FX 404-654-6377
Toll Free 1/800-593-9474
<http://www.pap.state.ga.us>



Sex Offender Registry

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § [42-1-12](#), the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) is the central repository for Georgia's Violent Sexual Offender Registry. This registry holds information pertaining to sex offenders who have been released from prison, placed on probation, parole, or supervised release after July 1, 1996.

Please visit the Sex Offender Registry Website at www.state.ga.us/gbi/sorsch.cgi for more detailed information about the sex offender registry.

*** SAMPLE ***

Sexual Offender Search Form

This data was last updated on 11/29/2006

Note : This is a special Search Form. You may perform a partial search for Last Name, First Name, Street name or City. You must enter at least First one character for a partial search. Example: To search for *John Smith* you can enter the first name (**JOHN**) or part of the first name (**JO**) or you can enter the last name (**SMITH**) or part of the last name (**SM**).

First Name:	<input type="text"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Street Name:	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
Zip Code:	<input type="text"/>
County:	<input type="text"/>
Gender:	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> All
Incarcerated:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> All



National Crime Victim Bar Association
2000 M Street NW, Suite 480
Washington, D.C. 20036
phone: 800-FYI-CALL
fax: 202-467-8701
email: victimbar@ncvc.org
www.ncvc.org/vb

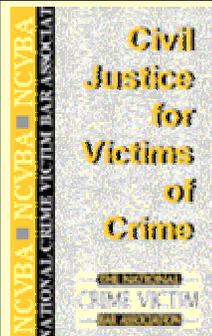
Information for Victims

Any Crime Victim May Be Able to File A Civil Lawsuit Against A Perpetrator Or Other Responsible Party

Regardless of the outcome of the criminal prosecution, or even if there was no prosecution, crime victims can file civil lawsuits against offenders and other responsible parties. Unlike the criminal justice process, the civil justice system does not attempt to determine an offender's *guilt* or *innocence*.

Offenders are also not put in prison. Rather, civil courts attempt to ascertain whether an offender or a third party is *liable* for the injuries sustained as a result of the crime. If defendants are found civilly liable,

courts may order them to pay monetary damages to victims. While money awarded in civil lawsuits can never fully compensate a victim for the trauma of victimization or the loss of a loved one, it can be a valuable resource to help crime victims rebuild their lives. Moreover, the exposure to civil liability is a powerful incentive for landlords, businessmen, and other proprietors to enact the security measures necessary to prevent future victimizations.



Civil Justice for Victims of Crime

This easy-to-read booklet is designed to give crime victims and those who work with victims a basic understanding of the civil justice system and to make them aware of the civil justice option. You can access the booklet for free [on-line](#) (Free [PDF reader](#) required).

Cobb County Community Services Board Douglas County Community Services Board



The Cobb County Community Services Board and the Douglas County Community Services Board are public agencies created by state law to provide mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services. The service areas are Cobb, Douglas, and Cherokee Counties, Georgia. The agency provides support to over 14,000 people annually. The majority of funds utilized to provide services are generated through a contract with the State of Georgia, Medicaid and Medicare revenue, Cobb County, Douglas County, Vocational Rehabilitation, grants, private pay and donations .

The agency's goals include: consumer preference; work initiatives; and the expansion of the availability and access to natural community supports through the reduction of stigma. Our programs are CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) accredited. The Cobb County Community Services Board and the Douglas County Community Services Board are national Best Practice providers as exemplified in the following demonstration grants funded through the US Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy: **Customized Employment, WorkForce Action, Training and Technical, and Assistance to Providers.**

Philosophy of Care:

To maximize customer satisfaction and consumer outcomes through respectful, evidence-based treatment and interventions, with responsible use of resources.

Core Values:

Our Success will occur through constant mindfulness of our Philosophy of Care and the following values:

- Importance of Community
- Customer driven care and supports
- Individual empowerment

Administrative Offices
3830 South Cobb Drive, Suite 300
Smyrna, GA 30080
Phone: 770-429-5000

www.cobbcsb.com



Launched in June 1997, United Way 211 is the nation's first 3-digit telephone dedicated to community life.

Today, nearly 300,000 people a year dial 2-1-1 when they need help or want to help others. The service is free, confidential, bilingual (English and Spanish), and available 24 hours a day.

2-1-1 links callers to counseling, job training, substance or domestic abuse and more. 211 also enable callers to find volunteering opportunities and ways to donate household and office items. To speak to a trained specialist, dial 2-1-1 (or 404.614.1000), search the [online database](#) or [ask a specialist online](#).

[211 call center reports](#) - These reports detail the types of calls our 211 call center receives on a monthly basis.

Mission

To mobilize the caring power of our community to help one another by making lasting improvements on human care issues.

Vision

United Way helps people from every part of our community work together on important human care issues. It is committed to making lasting improvements on those issues. It works to strengthen the everyday support systems of community life – how individuals, families and neighborhoods work to support one another – and is prepared to assist people when those systems alone are not sufficient.

Values

We Value:

- All members of our community
- Working on the issues most important to our community
- Approaching all work with an objective and open point of view
- Achieving measurable, lasting impact
- An asset-based approach to building communities
- Civic action in neighborhoods and communities
- All contributions that people and organizations make to strengthen communities
- Volunteers, donors, partners and our employees
- Integrity and efficient use of resources
- Accountability and transparency

Commitment to Diversity

United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta seeks to maximize our external and internal contributions by valuing, utilizing and recognizing everyone's unique potential in order to more fully achieve the goal of building a safer and stronger community.



Caminar Latino , Inc.
P.O. Box 48623
Doraville, GA 30362
Info Line: 404-651-1375
<http://www.caminarlatino.org/>

Caminar Latino is a certified domestic violence intervention program, whose mission is to provide transformative educational groups for the entire family, and to create equality, justice, participation, and peace through the acquisition of critical consciousness of individuals and communities, regarding domestic violence as human rights issue and a social malaise, and operating within the Latino cultural perspective.

The first domestic violence intervention program in the State of Georgia for Latino Families.

SERVICES:

Women's Program

- * Support and reflection groups
- * Court accompaniment
- * Assistance with Temporary Protective Orders
- * Access to shelters, legal services & counseling services
- * Interpretation

Children's Program

- * Sharing groups for adolescents and children 4-12 years old
- * Playgroup for infants and toddlers
- * Individual counseling
- * Liaison with schools and juvenile courts
- * Tutoring

Men's Program

- * 24-session family violence intervention program certified by the State of Georgia that includes:
 - * Educational & critical consciousness groups about domestic violence
 - * Substance abuse education group



Catholic Charities (formerly Catholic Social Services)

680 W. Peachtree St. NW

Atlanta, GA 30308

PH 404-881-6571

<http://www.catholiccharitiesatlanta.org/>

Catholic Charities Atlanta Service Programs & Ministries

[Community Outreach Centers](#)

[Emergency Assistance Program](#)

[Immigration Services](#)

[Migration & Refugee Services](#)

[Parish & Social Justice Ministry](#)

[Pregnancy, Parenting, & Adoption Services](#)

[Village of St. Joseph Counseling Services](#)

Village of St. Joseph Counseling Services: Phone: 404.321.2900

The Village of St. Joseph Counseling Services offers individual, couples, family, children, adolescent and group counseling provided by highly qualified, professional counselors.

Problems that are routinely addressed and resolved include marital and family conflict, adolescent issues, depression, anxiety and stress as well as the difficulties that are encountered in different life stages.

Workshops: Seminars and presentations are arranged for interested groups. Programs offered include:

- Parent education
- Couples communication
- Support groups for singles
- Acculturation groups
- School outreach
- Substance abuse groups

Immigration Services: New clients: 404.885.7461 / Current clients and general information: 404.885.7454

Our office provides low cost legal representation in front of the United States Immigration Services and the Board of Immigration Appeals. We deal with immigration related areas such as family based petitions, asylum, work permits, naturalization and immigration relief for abused spouses of legal permanent residents and U.S. citizens, as well as many other areas of immigration law.



Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Victim's Compensation

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council administers the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program, which helps victims and their families through the emotional and physical aftermath of a crime by easing the monetary impact placed upon them by providing financial benefits for expenses such as medical bills, loss of earnings, funeral expenses, mental health counseling, and crime scene clean-up.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- You are physically injured as a result of a violent crime
- You personally witnessed or were threatened with a violent crime
- You were hurt helping a victim of a violent crime
- You are the parent or guardian of a person killed or injured as a result of a crime
- You are a dependent of a homicide victim who relied on the victim for support
- You did not provoke or consent to the events that led up to the crime

ELIGIBILITY TIMELINES

- The victim/witness must have reported the crime to the proper authorities within 72 hours of the crime, **unless good cause is shown**
- The victim/witness must file an application within 1 year of the crime **unless good cause shown** (Please Note: A claim submitted 3 years after the victimization cannot be considered)

CATEGORICAL CAPS (FOR COVERED EXPENSES)

- Medical/Dental Expenses - up to \$15,000
- Counseling Expenses - up to \$3,000
- Funeral Expenses - up to \$3,000
- Economic Support - up to \$10,000
- Crime Scene Clean-Up - up to \$1,500

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

104 MARIETTA STREET, SUITE 440

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-2743

PHONE: 404.657.1956 / TOLL FREE: 877.231.6590

FAX: 404.657.1957

VICTIM SERVICES

PHONE: 404.657.2222

<http://cjcc.georgia.gov/>

CVCP is not an entitlement program, only those who meet all of the eligibility requirements will be approved. The above shows the maximum amounts that an eligible claimant may qualify for in each benefit category, the maximum program amount is \$25,000 per victim. **DISCLAIMER:** The information listed above only outlines some of the eligibility requirements for the program. There may be other factors that are not mentioned in this document that factor into our eligibility determination. If you have any questions, please call the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council at (404) 657-2222 or (800) 547-0060.

Legal Aid of Cobb County

30 South Park Square, Marietta, GA 30090

(770) 528-2565

<http://www.atlantalegalaid.org>



Legal Aid of Cobb County is a branch of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, which provides free civil (non-criminal) legal services to very low-income people living in Cobb County. We also help low-income groups when the members have the same legal problem.

Eligibility depends on household income and the type of legal problem. Cobb County Legal Aid's services include legal representation and brief services, instruction in self-help, legal advice and referrals.

We can make special arrangements for persons with disabilities and do home visits for the homebound. We have a TDD number for the hearing impaired, and use the Georgia Relay Center.

If you are a Cobb County resident, please apply to our office for general assistance.

AREAS OF ASSISTANCE

Cobb Legal Aid provides legal services for many types of cases including:

- **GOVERNMENT BENEFITS**
Social Security, Unemployment, SSI, TANF, Food Stamps
- **CONSUMER LAW**
Collection, Bankruptcy, Contracts & Warranties, Loan Problems
- **FAMILY LAW & DOMESTIC RELATIONS**
Spouse Abuse, Custody & Visitation, Divorce, Child Support & Alimony
- **EDUCATION**
Student Rights, IEPs, Student Loan Problems
- **HOUSING**
Private Landlord/Tenant, Federal Subsidized Housing and Other Public Housing, Homeowner and Real Property
- **HEALTH**
Medicaid, Medicare
- **EMPLOYMENT**
Wage Claims, Job Discrimination

WHEN YOU CALL LEGAL AID...

When you call or visit Legal Aid, you will speak with an intake receptionist. The receptionist will ask you questions about your income, the number of people in your family and your case. If your case meets all of our guidelines, you will speak with a screening attorney.

As a victim of crime, you may be in need of additional services or information. The following list details a few of the services available in the Cobb Community:

Assistance to families in need: past due rent, utilities, prescriptions, food, clothing, etc.		
	Cobb Family Resources	770-428-2601
	Must Ministries	770-427-9862
	Salvation Army	770-724-1652
	Storehouse Ministries	770-428-8410
	Sweetwater Valley Camp (Austell, Clarkdale, Mableton, & Powder Springs Communities)	770-819-0662
	Traveler's Aid (for new residents of Cobb – within 3 months)	770-428-1883
Court / Legal Resources	Cobb County Jail (for bail/bond information)	770-499-4255 770-499-4600 (general info)
	Cobb Magistrate Court	770-528-8900
	Dept. of Corrections and Parole Board Victim Services	404-651-6668
	District Attorney – Victim Witness (for victims of felony crimes)	770-528-3047 (main) 770-528-2252 (Juvenile Court)
	GA Law Center for the Homeless	404-681-0680
	Legal Aid of Cobb County	770-528-2565
	Probation	770-528-6620
	Protective Order Office	770-528-8024
	Solicitor General – Victim Witness (for victims of misdemeanor crimes)	770-528-8500
	Specialized Services/Resources	Crime Victims' Advocacy Council (homicide support groups)
Crime Victims' Compensation Fund (assistance with crime related expenses)		404-657-2222
Domestic Violence Statewide Hotline		1-800-33-HAVEN
Latin American Association		404-638-1800
Mother's Against Drunk Driving		1-888-833-6033
RAKSHA, Inc.		404-842-0725
SafePath Children's Advocacy Center (for sexually and physically abused children)		770-801-3465
YWCA of Northwest GA (Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services)		770-427-3390
Community Resources	Cobb Community Transit	770-427-4444
	Cobb County Health Dept.	770-514-2300
	Cobb/Douglas Mental Health - Access Center	770-422-0202
	Department of Family & Children's Services	770-528-5000
	GA Department of Labor	770-528-6100
	CobbWorks! Workforce Development Center	770-528-4300
	Senior Services	770-528-5355
	Social Security Office	800-772-1213