



Money Follows the Person

Participant Transition Planning Guide

for returning to the community
2012

MFP Participant Name: _____

Anticipated Discharge Date: _____



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH

Money Follows the Person (MFP) Contact Information

If you are an older adult or a person with a physical disability or acquired brain injury and want more information about MFP, contact:

The Department of Human Services, Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRCs) at **866-55-AGING** (866-552-4464)

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH), Money Follows the Person (MFP) at **404-657-9323** or **404-651-6889**

The Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman at **888-454-5826**

Website:
dch.georgia.gov/mfp

E-mail:
[gamfp@dch.ga.gov](mailto:gamp@dch.ga.gov)

If you are a person with a developmental disability and want more information about MFP, contact the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Regional Office nearest you:

Region 1 DBHDD Office (Rome):
706-802-5272

Region 2 DBHDD Office (Augusta):
706-792-7733

Region 3 DBHDD Office (Tucker):
770-414-3052




Region 4 DBHDD Office (Thomasville):
229-225-5099

Region 5 DBHDD Office (Savannah):
912-303-1670

Region 6 DBHDD Office (Columbus):
706-565-7835

Transition Guide Icons

The following icons will help remind you to take action or call attention to important activities and information:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Information |  Medical Equipment and Supplies |
|  Assignment |  Daily Support |
|  Moving |  Self-Direct |
|  Affordable Housing |  Community Activities |
|  Transportation Options | |

Would you like to return to your home or community?

Money Follows the Person could be your answer!



If You:

- Are Medicaid-eligible and have lived for at least three months in a nursing facility or an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF); AND
- Have a strong desire to live in the community

Read on:

This booklet will help you understand the services and support that are available through *Money Follows the Person* (MFP) to help you successfully move back into your home or a qualified residence in the community. In addition, this booklet contains information that you will need to move into the community.

MFP offers you support so you are not alone in the transition process. You will get help to plan your short-term and long-term goals, help with services and support you need to make your move and follow-up visits for the first year of living in the community. A number of people will be available to assist you. Options Counselors (OCs) and MFP Transition Coordinators (TCs) will help with planning and coordinate the services you need to move.

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Are You Interested in Moving?

In 1999, the United States Supreme Court issued a landmark decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.* recognizing that “unjustified institutional isolation of persons with disabilities is a form of discrimination” under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a qualified Medicaid-eligible person, you should know that *Olmstead v. L.C.* gives you the choice to return to the community from a nursing facility, hospital or Intermediate Care Facility (ICF). You now have a choice of where you want to live – you can stay in the nursing facility, hospital or ICF or you can return to your community. Georgia is implementing the *Olmstead* agreement in part by using the MFP Demonstration, a \$93 Million Grant awarded to Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) to transition eligible participants through 2020. The MFP Grant was awarded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to DCH, Medicaid Division, Aging and Special Populations Unit.

The Choice is Yours



The first step is to express interest in *Money Follows the Person* (MFP) to one of the contacts listed on page 2, or by notifying the social worker at your nursing facility or Intermediate Care Facility (ICF). The social worker will coordinate a visit from an Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRC) Options Counselor or MFP Transition Coordinator. The Options Counselor or Transition Coordinator will review MFP with you and tell you how it works. If you are interested, you will sign the *MFP Consent for Participation* and you will complete the *Authorization for Use of Health Information*. Next, you will be screened for entry into the program. During the screening, you will be asked questions to get a better picture of your goals, needs and resources. Once the screening is complete, the Options Counselor and/or Transition Coordinator will help you complete the *Quality of Life Survey*. If you decide not to participate, there will be no penalty or loss of any current benefits.

Some Simple Ground Rules

MFP offers transition services to qualified, Medicaid-eligible older adults, adults and children with all types of disabilities. An ADRC Options Counselor or MFP Transition Coordinator will assist you in understanding the information and help you choose the services and support you need to live in the community.

There are many factors that determine how long it will take to make your move to the community. Some of these factors include identifying your goals and resources, locating housing, identifying and obtaining the health services and equipment you need, identifying the daily support services you need and identifying transportation options. **The most important factor will be how actively involved you are in the transition process.**

The transition process is based on trust. You must be honest with your Transition Coordinator and each member of your transition team at all times during the transition process. Dishonesty can cause difficulties which can slow down or stop the process. Your transition team members (see *Identify Who Will Assist You*, page 14) are there to help you leave the nursing facility or ICF, not to judge you.

For more information on your rights and responsibilities, ask for a copy of the booklet called *Home and Community Services, A Guide to Medicaid Waiver Programs in Georgia*.

What are Medicaid Home and Community-Based Programs?

Documents You Will Need

You will need your Medicaid card. Usually, Medicaid pays for your stay in the nursing facility unless you have private insurance or someone is paying for your stay. If you do not have your Medicaid card yet, you should apply. Ask the social worker at your nursing facility or ICF to help you get your Medicaid card. Medicaid will pay for participating doctors, pharmacists, hospitals and other providers of your care in the community.

In addition to the MFP services listed on pages 9 – 12, you may be eligible for a variety of Home and Community-Based Services, also known as waiver services. These services help people with basic needs. Each waiver program (see *Apply for a Home and Community-Based Service Waiver*, page 24, for details) offers several core services including service coordination, personal support services, home health services, emergency response systems and respite care for care givers.

MFP participants typically enter a Medicaid waiver program immediately upon discharge from the nursing facility or institution. To ease your move into the community, waiver services and MFP transition services are combined. For example, waiver services do not include funds for making security and utility deposits. MFP funds can be used for this purpose.

In addition, MFP can provide basic household furnishings (e.g., bed, table) and basic household goods and supplies (e.g., cookware, toiletries) to participants who need these items to set up their qualified residence. These items are not usually provided by waiver services, but MFP provides these items to assist participants to move into the community.

After you leave the facility, you will receive 365 days of MFP transition services. After your MFP transition services end, you will continue receiving home and community-based waiver services, Medicaid State Plan services, state funded programs and local community services that you are qualified to receive.

What MFP Services Do You Need?



The next step is to consider what services and support you need to relocate to the community. Review the following list of 14 MFP transition services and check the box beside the services you may need.

Service	Service Description/Allowable Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Peer Support	Peer Supporters may have transitioned out of nursing facilities themselves or they may have experience helping others to resettle. They can assist you to connect to agencies, individuals and associations in your local community. This service is limited to \$1,200.
<input type="checkbox"/> Trial Visit- Personal Support Services	This service provides a brief period of personal support services or residential services (such as a personal care home) during a trial visit to the community before you transition. The purpose of this service is to give you an opportunity to manage and direct Personal Support Services staff and/or interact with staff in a personal care home. This service is limited to \$1,044.
<input type="checkbox"/> Household Furnishings	You may be in need of basic household furnishings such as a bed, table, chair, dresser, appliance, etc. You can use this service to obtain basic household furnishings to set-up your qualified residence. This service is limited to \$1,500.
<input type="checkbox"/> Household Goods and Supplies	You may need basic household goods (e.g., cookware, toiletries). This service is limited to \$750. You can use this service to help you obtain basic goods and supplies that are needed to set-up your qualified residence. You can also use this service for a one-time \$200 purchase of groceries.
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Expenses	When you leave the nursing facility or ICF, you may need assistance to move your belongings. This service is limited to \$750 and can be used to cover the cost of a moving service or the rental of a moving van or trailer.

What MFP Services Do You Need?

Service	Service Description/Allowable Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Utility Deposit	You may have to make a utility deposit. This service is limited to \$500 and can be used to make utility deposits for phone, electric, water and gas.
<input type="checkbox"/> Security Deposit	You may need to make a security deposit on a qualified residence. This service is limited to \$1,000 and can be used for housing application fees and deposits for rentals.
<input type="checkbox"/> Transition Support	As you begin the process of planning and making your move into the community, you may find that you have unique service needs such as obtaining documentation or accessing paid roommate match services, etc. This service is limited to \$600 and can be used for unique expenses needed to transition. These expenses must be authorized on a case-by-case basis. Check with your MFP Transition Coordinator for details.
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	You may need assistance to get around the community in search of housing and other services required for transition. This service is limited to \$500 and can be used to pay for transportation when public and/or para-transit are not available. This service does not replace Medicaid non-emergency transportation (for medical appointments) or ambulance services.
<input type="checkbox"/> Skilled Out-of-Home Respite	Once you are discharged from the nursing facility or ICF, your caregivers and/or family members may need a brief period of support or relief from providing your care. This service will pay for up to 14 days of skilled respite during the MFP 365 day period. The respite must be provided at a Georgia qualified nursing facility or community respite provider approved through a Georgia waiver program. This service is limited to \$1,878.

Service	Service Description/Allowable Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Long-Term Care Ombudsman	A Long-Term Care Ombudsman is available to assist you with problems or concerns you have with the MFP process while you are still in the nursing home as you prepare to transition to the community.
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Ombudsman	A community ombudsman is available to contact you to review your health, welfare and safety and to advocate for you if you encounter any problems with MFP services during the 365 days you are in the MFP program. This service is available to participants entering the Community Care Services Program (CCSP) , Service Options Using Resources in the Community Environment (SOURCE) Program , and the Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) for transitioning into a home or apartment. This service is limited to \$1,800.
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment and Supplies	If you need Assistive Technology and services, supplies or equipment that are not covered by your Medicaid Health Insurance plan, you can use this service to obtain these devices and services. This service is limited to \$5,000 and might include bath chairs, communication systems, specialized or customized wheelchair accessories, environmental control systems, and/or computer access devices that will help you live more independently, enhance your quality of life and reduce your dependence on others. You will need to be evaluated for some of these devices before you leave your current facility. You need time to learn to use them before you move to your new community. This may be difficult because these items can't be ordered until you have a discharge date. Second, in most cases Medicaid must deny coverage for the item before you can use this service to obtain it. Ask for assistance.

What MFP Services Do You Need?

Service	Service Description/Allowable Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Adaptations	<p>You may need to have your existing vehicle modified for your use and safety. This service is limited to \$6,240 and can be used to make adaptations to a vehicle that you or your family owns. For example, these funds can be used to add a hydraulic lift, van ramp, special seats and other interior modifications for access into and out of the vehicle as well as to improve safety while moving.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Modifications	<p>You may need to modify your qualified residence so that you can use it more independently. With the assistance from a qualified contractor, you and your Transition Coordinator will determine the environmental modifications that need to be made to your qualified residence. These might include such things as the installation of ramps, widening doorways, obtaining and installing grab-bars and/or modifying a bathroom to ensure your health, welfare and safety to assist with your activities of daily living.</p> <p>This service is limited to \$8,000 and provides assistance for making physical adaptations to a qualified residence where you will be living, or a qualified residence owned by you or by your family. If you have a Housing Choice Voucher, these funds can be used to modify a qualified residence you rent using the voucher. On a case-by-case basis, these funds can be used to make modification to almost any qualified residence with the approval of the landlord or owner. Check with your MFP Transition Coordinator for details. Most of these modifications need to be completed before you move into your qualified residence.</p>

Assignment: MFP Services



Write down questions you have for your ADRC Options Counselor and MFP Transition Coordinator.

Identify Who Will Assist You

Your Transition Team

You don't have to move all by yourself! As you plan your move, you will meet with an ADRC Options Counselor and MFP Transition Coordinator to build or gather a transition team. By this point, you probably know your ADRC Options Counselor and your MFP Transition Coordinator. In the space below, write their names and telephone numbers:

If you have not yet met your ADRC Options Counselor and/or MFP Transition Coordinator, call the appropriate number listed in the front of this booklet and ask for a referral. Building your transition team can seem challenging at first. But all it really means is drawing together a group of people who can help you get the resources, support and services you will need.

Your transition team is made up of friends, family members and anyone who contributes to your physical, mental and emotional well-being. The team will include your circle of family and friends. The team will include your MFP Transition Coordinator and a Waiver Case Manager. The team will most likely include a peer support person, nursing facility or ICF staff members and community service providers. You will continue to build your transition team during the transition process by asking other people in your life to participate. Everyone depends on others at times. Through MFP, you will learn who these important people are and you will build more relationships with new people who share qualities that are important to you.

Circle of Friends/Circle of Support

Your circle of friends includes you, your family members, friends, your MFP Transition Coordinator, your waiver case manager, neighbors, and others you chose for assistance and support, including the services of a Long-Term Care Ombudsman. In the space provided, list friends/family members you would like to include in your transition process:

Peer Supporters

Peer supporters offer advice and support and help you get connected to your community. Peer Supporters may be people with disabilities or older adults who have transitioned out of nursing facilities or other state institutions themselves, or they may have experience helping others to resettle. They can assist you to connect to agencies, individuals and associations in your local community. If you want the assistance of a Peer Supporter, ask your MFP Transition Coordinator



to help you locate one. They are typically found by contacting *Georgia Centers for Independent Living* (see *Quick Reference Guide to Resources*, pages 78-80). Peer Supporters will be part of your transition team and support system, if you want them to be.

Identify Who Will Assist You

Advocacy Partners

The state of Georgia has several agencies that will be part of your support. The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Adult Protective Services and the Georgia Advocacy Office are agencies that work to protect the health, safety, welfare and rights of MFP participants. They, along with your Transition Coordinator and Waiver Case Manager, can investigate and resolve any problems or complaints that may arise.

Long-Term Care Ombudsman
888-454-5826

Adult Protective Services
888-774-0152

Georgia Advocacy Office
800-537-2329

Providers

Providers of your MFP transition services and your waiver services are expected to be an active part of your transition planning process. Providers must adhere to strict policies and procedures when providing services and support, including emergency back-up staff in case your regular personal support service person does not show up for work or if there is an emergency situation.

Court-Appointed Guardian

If you have a court-appointed guardian, he or she will have a level of authority in making decisions for you. Your MFP Transition Coordinator will work with both you and your guardian to decide the best community living options.

Notes:

Complete Your Individualized Transition Plan (ITP)

The MFP Transition Coordinator and your transition team will work with you to develop an *Individualized Transition Plan (ITP)*. The ITP is different from the assessment you completed when you first entered your present facility. The ITP looks at your personal goals, your support and service needs and how these needs can be met in the community. In preparation for completing the ITP, you should complete the self-assessment below and on pages 18 – 19.

The purpose of the self-assessment is to focus on your goals, what you want to do and the support you need to live in the community. It does not focus on what you cannot do. The self-assessment will help you identify barriers that need to be removed and what needs to be done to assist you to leave the nursing facility or ICF and live in the community. After completing the self-assessment, you will be ready to lead your team in the development of your ITP.

Assignment: Complete Your Self-Assessment



The self-assessment will help you identify what you think and how you feel about where you now live and where you would like to live. You do not have to show your answers to anyone, but you can if you want to. It will help you (and anyone you choose) to plan for your future.

A good way to start your self-assessment is to think about what help or assistance you get now. What works for you and what doesn't work? Answer each question on the next two pages using the space provided.

Complete Your Individualized Transition Plan (ITP)

Self-Assessment:

A. What is my disability, or what are the things that lead to my being here or that have kept me here?

B. How does my disability (or age-related changes in health) affect my ability to live independently?

C. What is my ideal situation (city, suburb or rural; by myself, with family or with a roommate)?

D. Are there people in my life such as family, friends, etc., whom I can ask to assist me in my move to the community? Make a list and include contact information.

E. What are my strong points or good qualities that I can use to help me make the move to the community?

F. What barriers do I see to making my move to the community and what needs to be done to remove them?

G. What strengths and resources are available from my family and friends and my new community to help me succeed?

H. What goals do I want to meet in my new community (health and nutrition, personal care, social, recreational, school/work, etc.)?

I. What do I need more information about?

Complete Your Individualized Transition Plan (ITP)

Budget Worksheet

Personal Finances and Budget Worksheet



Check the areas below that you need help or assistance with in the community. In the box to the right, describe the type of assistance that would be most helpful, or describe concerns you have about your needs. Complete the budget worksheet on the next page to estimate the costs to live in the community.

I need help with...	Describe Assistance Needed Comment or Concern
<input type="checkbox"/> Paying bills	
<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing a monthly budget	
<input type="checkbox"/> Opening a bank account, establishing direct deposit of income	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stopping my Social Security check from going to the nursing facility/ICF and setting it up to go to my bank	
<input type="checkbox"/> Resolving past or present credit issues or problems	
<input type="checkbox"/> Training in budgeting money	
<input type="checkbox"/> Legal counsel	

Budget Categories	Monthly Amounts/Costs
Monthly Resources/Income	
Housing (rent, utilities) costs	
Food costs	
Debts (credit card and other)	
Medical, health care service expenses, prescription drugs (not covered by Medicaid)	
Personal items, movies, entertainment costs, etc.	
Transportation costs	

Complete Your Individualized Transition Plan (ITP)

Your Transition Coordinator will need to know the following:

- Proof of your monthly income and any financial issues including debts that you owe or other financial issues that may affect your credit
- Any problems that may have an impact on your ability to access housing, including your present credit, unpaid utility bills, a past criminal record, drug or alcohol abuse problems or evictions
- Access to your personal identification papers, including your Social Security card and birth certificate. If you need to get replacements, your MFP Transition Coordinator can assist you

It is important to be totally honest with your Transition Coordinator. The sooner you reveal any problems, the sooner solutions can be identified.

Once you have completed your self-assessment and gathered the personal and financial documents needed, you will be prepared to lead your transition team in developing your ITP.

Your Transition Coordinator will facilitate a meeting (or several short meetings) with you and your transition team to fully develop the ITP. The ITP will link your goals, needs and resources with available services and support. The ITP will list the MFP services you are requesting and the reason for each requested service. You should be aware that there are budget limits for each MFP service (see Allowable Cost listed in *What MFP Services Do You Need?*, pages 9 – 12).



The ITP will include a To-Do list—a list of plan assignments/tasks and who on the team is responsible for completing each task. The Transition Coordinator will write up the plan. Everyone on the team will have input and will receive a copy of the ITP, if they request it.

Notes:

Apply for a Home and Community-Based Service Waiver

Georgia has several home and community-based waivers. Waiver services exist because states are allowed to waive certain Medicaid requirements to pay for home and community-based services as an alternative to institutions, such as nursing facilities or hospitals for people with developmental disabilities (Intermediate Care Facility). Essentially, the law provides you with a choice.

Each waiver program offers several core services:

- Service coordination or case management (help with managing services and supports)
- Personal support (assistance with daily living activities, i.e. bathing, dressing, meals and housekeeping)
- Home health services (nursing, home health aide, occupational, physical and speech therapy)
- Emergency response systems
- Respite care (caregiver relief)

Although waiver programs offer different services, they have some things in common:

- Each waiver program is designed to help you return to the community from a nursing home or ICF
- Each program requires that you are eligible for Medicaid. To qualify for a waiver program, you can have higher income and resources than permitted in the regular Medicaid program
- Under federal regulations, the total cost of providing waiver services may not be more than the cost of providing care in a hospital, nursing facility or ICF

Note: You may meet the criteria to receive waiver services, but you may not receive services immediately. *Funding for waiver slots is limited and only a certain number of MFP participants can receive services based on available funds each year.* Your Transition Coordinator will assist you in applying for the most appropriate waiver for your needs.

You will be notified within 60 days or less about your eligibility for waiver services. If you are eligible for waiver services, you will be advised about when services begin. You will either select a Waiver Case Manager or a Case Manager will be assigned to you. If you are told that you do not qualify for a waiver, your MFP Transition Coordinator will assist you with applying for one of the other waiver options or will help you understand why you are being denied waiver services. You have a right to appeal all of these decisions.



Below is a short description of the Home and Community-Based Service Waiver Programs and the contact information for applying for each. For a complete list of waiver services available to MFP participants, refer to *Benefits and Services by Waiver* at the end of this Participant Guide, pages 102 – 103.

Community Care Services Program (CCSP)

This waiver program provides Home and Community-Based Services to people who are elderly and/or functionally impaired or have disabilities. In addition to core services, CCSP offers adult day health care, alternative living services (personal care home) and home-delivered meals.



To apply for CCSP, contact the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) serving your area. For a list of AAAs, see pages 81 – 84 in the *Quick Reference Guide to Resources* at the end of this booklet.

Apply for a Home and Community-Based Service Waiver

Service Options Using Resources in Community Environments (SOURCE)

Service Options Using Resources in Community Environments (SOURCE) is a statewide Primary Care Enhanced Case Management Service that links primary medical care with many long-term health services in a person's home or community setting to prevent unnecessary emergency room visits and hospital stays and avoid institutionalization. In addition to core services, SOURCE offers home delivered meals, adult day health care, personal care home and 24-hour medical access.



To apply for SOURCE, contact the SOURCE provider serving your county. For a list of SOURCE providers, see pages 89 – 95, in the *Quick Reference Guide to Resources* at the end of this Participant Guide.

The Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP)

The Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) provides waiver services to MFP participants between the ages of 21 and 64 with physical disabilities or acquired brain injuries that will help them live in their own homes and communities as an alternative to a nursing facility.

In addition to core services, ICWP covers specialized medical equipment and supplies, counseling and environmental modifications.

To apply for ICWP, contact the Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF) at **800-982-0411**. You can also contact GMCF at www.gmcf.org. GMCF will ask you questions over the phone, have you submit an application and schedule an in-person assessment.

The New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Waiver (COMP) Programs

The New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Waiver (COMP) programs provide home and community-based services to MFP participants with developmental disabilities. Services are provided to MFP participants who reside in an ICF.

In addition to core services, NOW/COMP services include: Adult Therapy Service (occupational, physical, speech and language therapy); Behavioral Supports Consultation Services; Community Access Services; Community Guide; Community Living Support; Community Residential Alternative Services (only under COMP); Environmental Accessibility Adaptation; Financial Support Services; Individual Directed Goods and Services (only under NOW); Natural Support Training (only under NOW); Pre-vocational Services; Respite Services (only under NOW); Specialized Medical Supplies; Support Coordination; Supported Employment; Transportation Services and Vehicle Adaptation.

To apply for a NOW or COMP waiver, contact the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) Regional Office nearest you:

- Region 1 DBHDD Office (Rome): **706-802-5272**
- Region 2 DBHDD Office (Augusta): **706-792-7733**
- Region 3 DBHDD Office (Tucker): **770-414-3052**
- Region 4 DBHDD Office (Thomasville): **229-225-5099**
- Region 5 DBHDD Office (Savannah): **912-303-1670**
- Region 6 DBHDD Office (Columbus): **706-565-7835**

Apply for a Home and Community-Based Service Waiver

What Will My Waiver Case Manager Do?

Your Waiver Case Manager will help assess your need for different waiver services. Your Case Manager will know the availability of the services in your community. You will get help to set up services you need.

Assignment: Apply for a Waiver



Write down any questions you have about applying for waiver services. Discuss these questions with your MFP Transition Coordinator.

Lined area for writing questions and notes.

Notes:

Lined area for taking notes.

Locate Appropriate Housing

A qualified residence in the community of your choosing is the foundation of living independently. Due to a lack of affordable, accessible and integrated housing in Georgia, it is important to begin to explore housing needs and living situations very early in the transition process.



To participate in MFP, you must transition into a qualified residence. There are several categories of qualified residences:

- A. A home owned or leased by you or by a family member.** This living situation meets the requirement for a “qualified residence” if you or your family member owns or leases the home where you will live. In this situation, you must retain equal legal rights under the lease or as the owner.
- B. An apartment with an individual lease** with lockable entrance/exit doors that includes living, sleeping, bathing and cooking areas over which you or your family have domain and control.

To meet the requirement for a qualified residence, you (or your family representative) must sign a lease for an apartment. Apartments can be fair-market (non-subsidized), affordable and subsidized, senior living complexes and/or senior high-rise apartment buildings (just to name a few types). You must have control over the living, sleeping, bathing and cooking areas in the rental unit. If the apartment does not have these areas or you do not have control over their use, the apartment would not be considered a qualified residence under MFP. Your unit must have lockable entrance and exit doors, not just locking doors into the building. The lease cannot require you to receive services from a specific company or require you to

notify the landlord if you are absent for a period of time. To be a qualified residence, the landlord can not assign apartments or change apartment assignments.

Assisted Living Facilities or Settings are unlicensed providers of housing for older adults or people with disabilities who can live independently, but need some assistance with activities of daily living like bathing, grooming, eating, etc. You must sign a lease with the provider. Assisted living services may include meals, housekeeping, laundry service, transportation, emergency call service, planned activities, medication assistance and the services of licensed nursing staff.

You must participate in the care planning process and resolve care plan differences that may arise between you and the assisted living service provider. The lease cannot require you to receive Medicaid services from a specific company that is not included in the rental rate. The assisted living service provider cannot require notifications if you are absent from the facility for a period of time. The assisted living service provider can not assign apartments or change apartment assignments and must allow you to age in place. In other words, the assisted living service provider can not terminate your lease/contract due to declining health or increased service needs.

- C. A residence in a community-based residential setting** in which no more than four unrelated individuals reside. There are a number of different living situations covered in this category that meet the criteria for a qualified residence.

Personal Care Homes (PCH) and *Community Living Arrangements (CLA)* are group living situations that provide staff supervised meals, housekeeping, laundry services, transportation and semi-private sleeping rooms. They do not provide medical or nursing care as a service. These facilities are licensed and

Locate Appropriate Housing

must meet design and operating standards, including minimum staff requirements. To meet the requirement of a qualified residence, PCHs and CLAs must be smaller group homes that house **no more than four unrelated residents**. This means that in a PCH or CLA, you will typically live with three other people (not counting staff) that you are not related to. You sign an Admission Agreement with the PCH provider/operator.

Host Homes also known as *Life Sharing Arrangements* are similar to Personal Care Homes. The most important difference is that in a host home, you will live with a family with one other unrelated person.

Check with your ADRC Options Counselor and your MFP Transition Coordinator for more information on available group living arrangements in the area where you expect to resettle (see pages 81 – 88 for a list of AAA/ADRCs serving your area). If you need housing, you will need to use every available resource to locate a qualified residence.

What does this mean to you? What types of residences and living situations should you look for as a MFP participant?

Assignment: Complete the Housing Needs Assessment

A realistic budget is essential. If you completed the budget worksheet (see *Complete Your Transition Plan*, pages 17 – 22), then you have some idea how much you can afford to spend on living expenses. Generally, one-third of your income will be used to pay rent and utilities. **If you did not complete the budget worksheet on page 21, stop now and go back to do so.**

The following housing needs assessment will help you identify



important information about where you would like to live. Complete the housing needs assessment to begin planning for your qualified residence. Check the box to indicate that you need assistance and use the space provided to describe the assistance that you may need.

I need assistance to:	Describe Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Enter and leave residence, using a ramp or zero-step entrance	
<input type="checkbox"/> Climb/descend interior stairs, using railings and grab bars, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Move around inside the residence, wheelchair access, wider doorways, hallways, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Use the bathroom facilities, elevated toilet, tub/shower transfer bench/chair or roll-in shower, knee space under sinks, access to storage	

Locate Appropriate Housing

I need assistance to:	Describe Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Use the bed/bedroom, transfers to/from the bed with lift, lowered shelves and clothing racks, dressing and grooming aids, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Use the kitchen, knee space under sinks, lower cabinets, access to appliances, adapted utensils, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Use the laundry facilities, access to the washer/dryer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clean and maintain my home, sweeping, dusting, mopping, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Control my home environment (open/close doors, windows, turn on/off lights, AC/Heat, fans, make phone calls, control TV, etc., using environmental control systems, large button phone, reachers, etc.)	

I need assistance to:	Describe Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain or locate basic household furniture for my home (bed/hospital bed, table, chairs, lamp)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain household goods and services (see worksheet on pages 97 – 99)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pet care or service animal trained to assist me (pick up or retrieve objects, open doors, and or other tasks)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate affordable housing	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain rental assistance using a Section 8 voucher	
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate a roommate or shared housing/group home	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make security and/or utility deposits	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make environmental modifications to my living space	

Locate Appropriate Housing

I need assistance to:	Describe Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay old utility bills and/or restore my credit, credit counseling; clear up old evictions, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Get around the neighborhood during the day and after dark, use sidewalks, lights and crosswalks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Access neighborhood transportation options	
<input type="checkbox"/> Find other types of housing because of a Section 8 violation, eviction, felony, or illegal drug conviction	

Money Follows the Person can help you with some of these items. Review the Assignment: *What MFP Services Do You Need?* that you completed on pages 9 – 12. Based on your housing needs, are there other MFP services that you need in addition to the ones that you checked in the Assignment? List them below:

Conduct a Housing Search



First, tell family, friends, neighbors, fellow church/synagogue or other organization members that you are looking for housing. Obtain the newspaper for the community to which you expect to resettle. Review the classified ads for housing/rental options. Most newspapers are available at a branch library near you.

Second, ask your ADRC Options Counselor and/or your MFP Transition Coordinator to assist you with a housing search using the AAA/ADRC resource called Services for Seniors online directory at www.georgiaservicesforseniors.org or call the AAA/ADRC serving your area (see pages 81 – 88 for a list of AAA/ADRCs serving your area) and ask for help.

Third, ask your Options Counselor and/or Transition Coordinator to assist you with the Georgia Housing Search tools at georgiahousingsearch.org. Georgia Housing Search is free and provides a toll-free number (877-428-8844) if you are blind and/or do not have Internet access. The website and toll-free number are bilingual. You will find available housing information on affordable units, amenities and some information on accessibility. The service also provides links to housing resources and helpful tools such as an affordability calculator, rental checklist and information about renter rights and responsibilities.

You must be actively involved in your housing search. You will need to use every resource available to find housing. You will need certain documents to complete your housing search. The list of documents needed to complete your housing search can be found on page 100, in the



Locate Appropriate Housing



Fourth, contact a local housing specialist at your nearest Center for Independent Living (CIL) for assistance (see pages 78 – 80 for a list of Centers for Independent Living serving your area).

Fifth, conduct an Internet search for housing. If you don't have a computer with Internet access and need one, you will find one at your local county library. Friends and family members may also be able to assist with Internet searches for affordable housing using the websites that are listed in the following sections.

Affordable (Non-Subsidized) Housing Resources



Affordable (non-subsidized) rental properties charge rents that are below market rates for that area. Since affordable housing varies according to income, not all of these properties will be affordable to you. If you have not done the budget worksheet (see *Complete Your Individualized Transition Plan: Budget Worksheet* on page 21),

you should stop your housing search and complete the budget worksheet so that you have some idea of rental rates you can afford.

Your online housing search should include:

- www.lowincomeapartmentfinder.com
- www.affordablehousingonline.com
- www.forrent.com
- www.senioroutlook.com for apartments for older adult participants
- Apartment finder magazine and local newspaper classified ads online, such as www.apartmentfinder.com or www.apartmentguide.com

Affordable (Subsidized) Housing Resources



You may be eligible for rental assistance which can substantially lower the amount of money you spend on housing. Your ability to qualify will depend on your income or the income of the household, if you live with one or more people.

Subsidized rental properties are properties (usually apartment complexes) that are not owned or managed by a local Housing Authority (see next section). As you search apartment listings and classified ads, you will notice “**BOI**” meaning, Based On Income. BOI means that the rental cost of the unit is based on the tenant's monthly income. These properties have rental rates based on 30% of the household's income. No pre-approval is needed to apply. Apply directly to the property manager at the complex.

Locate Appropriate Housing

To search for affordable (subsidized) housing:

- Call the United Way at 2-1-1 or follow the link to **211online.unitedwayatlanta.org/search.aspx**, scroll down the page to Shelter/Housing link to find additional housing resources
- Search Low-Rent Apartment at **www.hud.gov/apps/section8/index.cfm**, at the page, select "Georgia" from the drop-down menu, then click "Next"
- Search for rental properties in Georgia at **www.georgiahousingsearch.org**

Housemate and Roommate Match Services



Depending on your financial resources and your needs, you might consider renting a room from a home-owner (check with your Transition Coordinator about specific requirements). You might also consider renting with a roommate. Roommate services are a safe way to find others seeking a housing solution.

If you want to locate a potential roommate, try the following services, but beware of the cost of using them:

- Roommates.com at **www.roommates.com**
- Roomiematch.com at **www.roomiematch.com**

If you need an affordable place to live, Housemate Match can match you with a homeowner who has extra room in their home in Fulton, DeKalb, Cobb or Gwinnett counties. For more information, contact:

Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta
Housemate Match
5342 Tilly Mill Rd.
Dunwoody, GA 30338
Phone: **678-812-4000** (ask for the **Housemate Match** program)

Public Housing and Housing Choice Vouchers



Local Public Housing Authorities offer affordable housing for low-income individuals and families. Application processes and availability of units vary from one local housing authority to another. The best strategy is to identify the housing authority closest to where you want to resettle and then contact that housing authority for an application. Local housing authorities are now on the Internet. Begin your search by following the link to **www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts**.

Waiting Lists. Most housing authorities will have waiting lists, which may seem discouraging. Often you may be told that there is a 6-month to 2-year waiting list. If you are interested in living in the property, ***you should apply anyway!*** Waiting periods are only estimates. It could be longer or shorter. You might need to take something less desirable at first, but if you are on the waiting list, you will move up and be in line for something better.

Applications for Public Housing. If you apply for public housing, you must:

1. Follow-up with the apartment/housing authority to make sure they received your application and that they have all the necessary information they need to process your application. You will need to make periodic phone calls to see that your application is still active and to find out where you are on the waiting list.
2. Find out how long the apartment/housing authority will hold your application. You may need to renew the application on a regular basis.
3. If your circumstances change, be sure to update your application by phone and follow-up with a letter.

Locate Appropriate Housing

4. You must reply to all requests for additional information or to verify that you are still interested. You may find it helpful to request that a friend, family member, your MFP Transition Coordinator or an advocate receive a copy of any written correspondence. Your Transition Coordinator will assist you in following these steps.

Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. MFP participants can take advantage of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program that MFP has with the Decatur Housing Authority (DeKalb County). The Housing Choice Voucher program is a tenant-based rental assistance program that provides subsidies for the rental of apartments or houses in the private rental market. Your Transition Coordinator can assist you with the application process for a Housing Choice Voucher.

Notes:

Identify Health Services, Supplies and Equipment You Need



Health care in the community is different in important ways from the health care you have been receiving in the nursing facility or ICF.

First, you must understand your own aging process or your disability and medical conditions. Your MFP Transition Coordinator will assist you to plan for and obtain adequate medical support services and medical supplies before you leave the facility. This usually includes locating a Primary Care Physician in the community, specialists (as needed) and a pharmacy. On your discharge day, the nursing facility will provide you with your remaining medications and supplies. Take the remaining supply of your meds and any other supplies offered to you by the nursing facility when you leave. A few days before your discharge date or on that date, locate a pharmacy near your community residence, get your prescriptions filled and obtain any supplies you need.

In addition to your meds and supplies, you will need several weeks of food supplies to last until your Social Security check (or other resource) arrives. Ask your Transition Coordinator for assistance in obtaining these items.

It is important that your personal care attendants are trained to provide the services and support that you may need. Discuss this with your Transition Coordinator and Waiver Case Manager.

Finally, durable medical equipment and assistive/adaptive technology devices such as shower transfer benches, Hoyer lifts, wheelchairs, bedside commodes, etc., will need to be ordered by the facility shortly before you are discharged or when you have a discharge date. Your Transition Coordinator will assist you with this process.

Identify Health Services, Supplies and Equipment You Need

Assignment: Complete Health Care and Nutrition Worksheet



Use the following worksheet to plan for the services, supplies and equipment you need. Check the box to indicate that you need assistance and use the space provided to describe plans or assistance needed to complete the task.

I need assistance to:	Describe Plans/Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate a Primary Care Physician in the community and schedule an office visit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate a specialist doctor/clinic (urologist, cardiologist, pain management, mental health, etc.) in the community and schedule an office visit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate a dentist, vision care specialist, foot doctor, etc., in the community and schedule an office visit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate a therapist in the community (respiratory, physical, occupational, speech/language, hearing/audiologist) and schedule an evaluation	

I need assistance to:	Describe Plans/Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate a pharmacy and/or get a list of my current medications/dosages	
<input type="checkbox"/> Take my medications, use/need personal medication system, obtain 30-day supply of current meds upon leaving facility	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain supplies (urological, bowel program, bags, tubing, formula, pump, syringes, etc.) in the community	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learn my current skin care and/or wound care routines and/or schedule a clinic appointment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Locate a dialysis or other specialty clinic	

Identify Health Services, Supplies and Equipment You Need

I need assistance to:	Describe Plans/Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Make transfers/lifting/positioning in bed, pressure relief in wheelchair, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Identify equipment I have and equipment I need (wheelchair, walker, hospital bed, Hoyer lift, reacher or other devices for assisting, etc.), and/or schedule appointments for evaluations and/or get the approvals needed to get the equipment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Train myself and my personal care attendants/caregivers on my daily care routines and equipment I use/need	
<input type="checkbox"/> Laundry and house-keeping chores or other chores	

I need assistance to:	Describe Plans/Assistance Needed:
Food and Nutrition	
<input type="checkbox"/> Manage my diet; dietary restrictions, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan my meals and/or prepare my food, eat using adapted utensils, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain food supplies — grocery shopping, obtaining deliveries from sources such as Angel Food, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Obtain food donations — application for food stamps from my local Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) office, vouchers for and location of food banks, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	



Check pages 104-107 of the **Quick Reference Guide to Resources** for a list of Health, Food and Emergency Resources.

Identify Daily Supports You Need



Living independently does not mean that you must be able to do everything by yourself. Most people rely on an *informal network* such as a circle of friends/family and a *formal network* of services for assistance.

It is important to identify both informal and formal support networks. You may not have control over your informal network of support, but **you need to have control over the formal services you receive and how these services are delivered.**

As an MFP participant, it is critical that you be able to work with a variety of different people – your formal network of service providers. These people will be providing you with the services you need.

For example, if you need assistance with your personal care (bathing, dressing, using the bathroom, etc.), a Personal Care Attendant or Personal Support Services staff person will assist you. You should consider how much help you need on a daily basis. You may want to consider "self-directing" – hiring, supervising/training and firing (at times) – people that provide these services. (See *Do You Want to Self-Direct?* on page 54 for more detail.)

In addition to your Personal Care Attendant or Personal Support Services staff, your MFP Transition Coordinator, Peer Supporter and your Waiver Case Manager are available to assist you to develop the skills for managing the complexities of daily life and following through on things you need to do.

In addition to this *formal network* of services, you need to develop and rely on your *informal network* of friends and/or family members. **It is your life and even when you need help managing it, you must be the person in control.**

Assignment: Complete the Personal Support Services Log



When you need help with bathing, eating, going to the bathroom, managing your home or cooking, a Personal Care Attendant or Personal Support Services person may help you. To understand how much Personal Support Services you may need, complete the following two-day log. In the left column, indicate the service the nursing facility/ICF staff performed for you and in the right column, note the time it took to complete the care routine. Share the results with your MFP Transition Coordinator and with your Waiver Case Manager.

Day 1	
Morning Assistance w/Routine:	How much staff time (in minutes) to complete the task?
Afternoon Assistance w/Routine:	Staff time to complete
Evening Assistance w/Routine:	Staff time to complete
Night Assistance w/Routine:	Staff time to complete

Identify Daily Supports You Need

Day 2	
Morning Assistance w/Routine:	How much staff time (in minutes) to complete the task?
Afternoon Assistance w/Routine:	Staff time to complete
Evening Assistance w/Routine:	Staff time to complete
Night Assistance w/Routine:	Staff time to complete

You, your Transition Coordinator, your Waiver Case Manager and transition team will use this information in the planning process to develop your *Individualized Transition Plan* (ITP) and to establish your waiver plan for services and support. While the ITP provides you with a set of transition services to assist with your move into the community, your waiver plan for services (also called a care plan) assesses your need for other services. For more information on the services provided under each waiver, review the section, *Apply for a Home and Community-Based Services Waiver*, pages 24 – 29.

Each waiver program offers several core services:

- Services coordination/case management (help with managing services and supports)
- Personal support (assistance with daily living activities, i.e. bathing, dressing, meals and housekeeping)
- Home health services (nursing, home health aide, occupational, physical and speech therapy)
- Emergency response systems
- Respite care (caregiver relief)

The waiver services plan includes a list of service providers and a projected budget for the services you need. The waiver services plan includes information about risks to your health and safety such as equipment failures, interruptions in daily routine care, and/or transportation failures. Each risk must include plans for emergency backup.

24/7 Emergency Backup Service Plans



Your Transition Coordinator, transition team and Waiver Case Manager will work with you to develop your 24/7 emergency backup services plan. To begin this process, complete the following list. Use the space in the left column to write down your emergency backup plan for each risk in the right column.

When this happens...	I will do this...
<input type="checkbox"/> My equipment fails (wheelchair breaks down, have a flat, my Hoyer lift stops working, etc.)	

Identify Daily Supports You Need

When this happens...	I will do this...
<input type="checkbox"/> My Personal Care Attendant/ Personal Support Services staff does not show up for work. List who you call first for help, 2nd (friends/family), etc., list 1st and 2nd contacts for my home health agency and/or for the agency providing my Personal Care Attendant/Personal Support Service staff, etc.	
<input type="checkbox"/> My transportation fails (my van lift breaks down, paratransit does not come, my ride does not show)	
<input type="checkbox"/> The power goes out in my home or apartment	
<input type="checkbox"/> There is a natural disaster (fire, flood, tornado, emergency evacuation plans, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> I get sick (list contact for Primary Care doctor, 24-hour pharmacy phone, case manager, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> My Social Security check doesn't come (SSA contact info), or I need temporary assistance (TANF, food stamps, food banks, etc.) contact Division of Family and Children Services, food banks, etc.	

Independent Living Skills Training

Independent Living Skills Training can help you make the most of your abilities and increase your self-reliance and self-confidence. Through these classes, you will receive training and information plus you will learn about resources to help you take control of your life to live independently.

The goals of Independent Living Skills Training are:

- To educate you on relevant issues
- To teach you self-advocacy, assertiveness and empowerment
- To increase your self-awareness and independence

Classes may include:

- **Business Basics** – money management, Internet 101 and e-mail, basic computer skills, transportation skills, telephone skills, etc.
- **Communication/Social Skills Basics** – personal traits and building/ understanding relationships, anger management and conflict resolution, leisure skills, stress management, nutrition/physical fitness, basic hygiene and decision-making skills



To attend Independent Living Skills Training classes near you, contact your nearest **Center for Independent Living (CIL)**, see pages 78 – 80, or ask your Transition Coordinator for more information. Classes are usually free, but you will need to arrange transportation to the CIL to participate

Notes:

Do You Want To Self-Direct?

“Choice” is the hallmark of self-direction and this includes the choice not to self-direct and to self-direct to the extent of your ability and interest. Waiver programs permit you to elect the traditional service mode – *agency-delivered* – if self-direction does not work for you, or to direct some of your services but receive others from agency providers.



What does it mean to **self-direct** your services? The basic concept behind self-directed services is the idea of giving you a budget for services and then asking you (and your transition team) to decide how the budget is spent for available services. Being given a budget to manage puts you in the driver’s seat. You, as the budget-holder, are the person taking the lead in improving your own situation. As your authority increases over your *formal network* of services, so does your responsibility. In addition, your *informal network* of friends/family can be more involved both in giving advice and in delivery of services. Rather than beginning with a professional assessment of your needs, the starting point is your own self-assessment. **If you have not completed your *Self-Assessment* on pages 17 – 19, stop here and complete it.** Self-direction has two basic features, each with a number of variations. The more limited form of self-direction referred to as *employer authority* – enables you to hire, dismiss, and supervise individual workers (e.g., personal care attendants, personal support service staff and homemakers). The comprehensive model – referred to as *budget authority* – provides you with a flexible budget to purchase a range of goods and services to meet your needs.

Under Community Care Services Program (CCSP) and The Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) waivers, you must be enrolled in the waiver for a minimum of six months prior to choosing self-direction as an option. If you want to self-direct after the six-month enrollment period, your Transition Coordinator, transition team and Waiver Case Manager will:

- Train you to develop and manage a budget based on level of care and other assessment tools and criteria
- Help you select a Financial Management Service or Fiscal Intermediary who disburses the funds for payment of your Personal Support Services staff
- Train you to recruit, interview, hire, train, supervise and discharge Personal Support Services staff
- Assist you to develop and implement a service plan that includes an assessment of risks to you and a back-up plan in case an issue arises with your Personal Support Services employee
- If you experience a reduction in Personal Support Services services or the termination of self-directed services within the first 6 months, your Transition Coordinator will explain and assist you with the appeals process. Your Transition Coordinator may also assist you to prepare for a Fair Hearing or can assist you with a referral for additional legal assistance

Your transition team’s involvement and assistance decrease as your skills increase.

Do You Want To Self-Direct?

Tips for Finding a Good Personal Support Services (PSS) Worker

The skill set of the PSS worker is the most important thing to look for, not the level of licensing

- A non-licensed, or lower-level licensed PSS worker can cost less and be more effective than a higher-licensed PSS worker who might not fit into your and your family's lifestyle

Identify your own role and responsibilities in the caregiving process and communicate this to everyone around you.

- Get feedback from your family on their privacy needs and boundaries, and then have the PSS worker adjust their role to make the experience successful.

Treat finding the right PSS worker like finding a spouse or a roommate.

- Be careful and thorough. You will go through a honeymoon period where both parties have to make sure the work relationship works. You must recognize and work through cultural, religious, political and work ethic differences.
- If you don't know what you want, your PSS worker won't either. You must be clear on what you want.
- The best PSS workers, regardless of certification or licensing, foster mutual respect and understand professional boundaries.

Use a Variety of Ways to Find the Right PSS Worker.

- Ask your friends and neighbors for help in locating a PSS worker
- Place a 'help wanted' ad in your local newspaper
- Place notices on bulletin boards at churches, synagogues and places of worship and/or technical/trade schools and colleges in your area
- Ask around the disability community and call your local Center for Independent Living Center (see pages 78 – 80) for assistance

Interviewing a Potential PSS Worker

- Use caution when interviewing potential PSS workers
- Screen by phone and have your first face-to-face interview in a safe location, take a friend/family member along to the interview
- Prepare and use a list of questions during interviews
- Discuss all of your needs with potential PSS worker during interviews:
 - If you need the PSS worker to provide more than personal care, such as assistance with household chores, meal preparation and shopping, you must make this clear during the interview
 - If your daily schedule changes and you need to get up earlier or go to bed later, you need to hire someone who has a flexible schedule that can accommodate changes in your routine
 - If you need your PSS assistance when you travel, you must make this clear during the interview
 - If you use specialized durable medical equipment (DME) or assistive technology devices, be sure to ask whether the PSS worker is knowledgeable or is willing to be trained to use this equipment

For More Information on Personal Support Service Agencies in Georgia:

- Ask you ADRC Options Counselor and/or MFP Transition Coordinator for assistance
- Ask your Waiver Case Manager/Care Coordinator for assistance
- Do an internet search using the Agewise Connection database, located at www.agingatlanta.com for Home Care - Personal Care Assistance.

Do You Want To Self-Direct?



If you're enrolled in the **CCSP** waiver or will be soon, refer to *Benefits and Services for MFP Participants by Waiver* (see pages 102 – 103). Ask your Transition Coordinator and Waiver Case Manager about the following CCSP waiver services:

- Consumer-Directed Personal Support Services
- Financial Management Services

If you are enrolled in the **ICWP** waiver or will be soon, refer to *Benefits and Services for MFP Participants by Waiver* (see pages 102 – 103). Ask your Transition Coordinator and Waiver Case Manager about the following ICWP waiver services:

- Consumer-Directed Personal Support Services
- Fiscal Intermediary

Under NOW/COMP waivers, you are afforded the opportunity to self-direct many of your waiver services under two options:

1. Consumer/Self-Directed
2. Co-employer/Self-Direct. All services are not Self-Directed. If you choose to self-direct services under NOW/COMP, you can not receive the same service through traditional services delivery.

If you're enrolled in the **NOW** or **COMP** waivers or will be soon, refer to *Benefits and Services for MFP Participants by Waiver* (see pages 102 – 103). Ask your Transition Coordinator and Waiver Case Manager about the following NOW/COMP waiver services:

- Individual-Directed Goods and Services
- Financial Support Services

The goal of MFP is to expand your understanding and use of self-directed services.

Assignment: Self-Direction



Write down any questions you have about self-direction. Discuss these questions with your MFP Transition Coordinator, peer supporter and Waiver Case Manager.

Identify Transportation Options



Generally there are three transportation options:

1. Obtain your own vehicle and drive yourself or hire someone to drive you
2. Hire someone to drive you in their vehicle or rely on family and friends
3. Use the available public transportation system (both fixed route and paratransit) or medical transportation system

Each option has its own benefits and limitations. If transportation options are limited in the area you have selected for resettlement, you might want to consider how this will affect your quality of life. You should become familiar with all transportation options available to you.

Identify Transportation Options

Assignment: Complete Transportation Planning Worksheet



Use the Transportation Planning Worksheet to plan for the transportation services and equipment you need. Check the box to indicate that you need assistance and use the space provided to describe plans or assistance you need to complete each task.

I need assistance to:	Describe Plans/Assistance Needed:
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrange personal transportation from the nursing facility/ICF to complete tasks in the community (look for housing, make utility deposits, obtain home furnishings, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrange moving service to move my belongings to my qualified residence (moving services, U-Haul trailer and help from family/friends, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrange for and use paratransit and specialized transportation (obtain needed documents, complete applications, travel training, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrange for and use public transportation (apply for reduced fare cards, travel training, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrange to have my vehicle modified so that I or my family/friends can drive me (van lift or ramp, driving controls, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrange other types of transportation (dial-a-ride, voucher travel assistance program, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Your MFP Transition Coordinator will help you explore transportation resources and options for the community in which you choose to live. The following is a list of transportation resources to get you started.

MFP Transportation Services. MFP transportation services are designed to assist with gaining access to community services and resources required during the pre-transition period and are provided when transportation is not otherwise available. This service does not replace Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation or ambulance services. Transportation funds can be used for making trial visits to the community, viewing apartments and personal care homes to find a suitable, qualified residence, obtaining needed documents such as personal identification and for going home on the day of discharge. The service limit is \$500 per participant.

Public Transportation. Public transportation services vary by county. For example, Fulton and DeKalb counties have accessible public transportation (e.g., MARTA) with daily schedules that run early morning to late night, while Gwinnett County has limited accessible transportation with limited service routes and no services on Sunday. Clayton County has no accessible public transportation. Most non-metro counties have no accessible public transportation. To complicate matters, there are very few links between county transportation systems, so getting from Town A to Town B using accessible public transportation will be a problem. For more information on Public Transportation in Georgia, log onto www.grta.org/commuter_options/home.htm.

Paratransit services may or may not be available in your current or chosen county of residence. There are 14 urban transit systems in the state. Check the transit system nearest you for more information about paratransit services. www.dot.ga.gov/travelingingeorgia/transit/Pages/default.aspx.

Identify Transportation Options

Non-emergency transportation providers. You can use Non-Emergency Transportation (NET) for doctor appointments, therapy and clinic appointments, trips to your medical equipment vendor for wheelchair repair, etc., and trips to the pharmacy to get your medications. NET providers by region include North-Southeastrans (**866-388-9844**), Atlanta-Southeastrans (**404-209-4000**), Central-Southeastrans (**866-991-6701**), East-LogistiCare (**888-224-7988**) and Southwest-Southwest GA Regional Development Center (**866-443-0761**).

Specially designed transportation aids are available to meet transportation needs. These include van lifts and ramps for wheelchairs and scooters, and/or driving controls that can be installed in SUVs, vans, pickups and cars. If you or your family owns a vehicle, MFP funds can be used to adapt the vehicle for your use. MFP vehicle adaptation funds are not available for the purchase of a vehicle. You must obtain three quotes for the needed adaptations. Vehicle adaptations include the installation of driving controls (when applicable), a lift or ramp for wheelchair or scooter access, wheelchair tie-downs and occupant restraint system (WTORS), special seats or other modifications that are needed to provide for the safe access into and out of, and operation of the vehicle. This service does not cover repairs to the vehicle or for the adaptations once they are installed and operational. There is a maximum of \$6,240 available during the 365 day MFP period.

Dial-a-ride. This program varies by county. Check for it in the county where you expect to live.



Voucher Travel Assistance Program.

Some Centers for Independent Living (CIL) have a Voucher Travel Assistance Program. Check with your nearest CIL (see pages 78 – 80 for a list of CILs). The voucher travel assistance program provides eligible participants vouchers worth \$150 per quarter (every three months) to pay \$.55 per mile transportation costs. The program is designed for people with all types of disabilities who are transitioning to the community from nursing homes, institutions; those seeking employment or those who are facing challenging transportation options in their communities. Eligibility requirements are:

- Have a disability;
- Be low-income, provide proof of household income; and
- Live in the following counties: Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Clayton, Paulding, Bartow, Cherokee, Douglas, Henry, Newton, Rockdale.

DeKalb County has a transportation voucher program. Contact Almaz Akalewold at 770-322-2964 for more information.

For more information on the Voucher Travel Assistance Program, contact:

Walter Gordon,
IL Transportation
Coordinator
disABILITY Link

Decatur, GA

Phone:
404-687-8890 x 108

Email:
wgordon@disabilitylink.org

www.disabilitylink.org

Identify Transportation Options

Rural 5311 transportation providers. Rural communities with at least 50,000 residents may have access to DOT 5311 transit providers. Some 5311 transit providers have vans with lifts. Contact the Georgia Department of Transportation G-DOT at **404-631-1237** or the local County Commissioner's office for information.

Transportation from family, friends, volunteers, church members, etc., is an important option and worth considering. Using your MFP Transportation services budget, you could reimburse these individuals for transportation assistance.

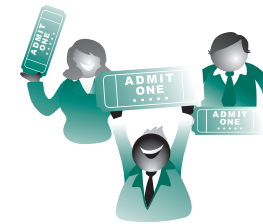
Georgia Department of Vocational Rehabilitation may be able to assist you with transportation as you begin your job search once you have settled into your community. Follow the link to www.vocrehabga.org.

For community-based agencies with low-cost transportation options, try Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC) for used equipment such as lift- or ramp-equipped vans, driving controls and other used transportation-related equipment, mobility devices and durable medical equipment. Follow the link to www.fodac.org.



Check page 114 of the *Quick Reference Guide to Resources* for a list of **Additional Transportation Resources**.

Complete Community Activities



Like transportation options, the types of recreation and social activities available to you will vary based on the community you choose.

Before you decide where to live, you should explore available community activities such as recreational, cultural, sporting events, school programs and events at your local house of worship. Some communities may not offer social, recreational or employment opportunities you would consider important.

Most communities have a brochure or pamphlet that contains information about services and activities available to people in that community. You can usually pick up the brochure at the town hall or chamber of commerce. Check for information about services for older adults and/or persons with disabilities.

Assignment: Complete Social & Recreational Planning Worksheet



Use the Social and Recreational Planning worksheet to plan your social and recreational activities. The worksheet begins on the next page.

Participating in community activities will help you overcome loneliness, isolation and boredom. You must plan to make contact with and communicate with people in your community that are not paid to provide your care or services. **If you do not make an effort to reach out to others, your life in the community will seem empty and you may experience depression.** Engaging in social and recreational activities and communicating with others is just as important as getting your basic personal needs met.

Complete Community Activities

These tasks should be completed in the community where you expect to resettle, before you leave the nursing facility or ICF. Tasks are listed in column 1 (far left). Use column 2 to describe what you will do, the date of the activity and where you will go. Use column 3 to indicate the assistance you need to complete the activity.

Community task	What? When? Where?	Who will assist?
Arrange to look at housing options with your Transition Coordinator		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Meet your peer supporter for a social outing – attend a movie or other arts or cultural event		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Visit with friends and/or family members in their home (can use Trial Visit Personal Support Services funds)		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Arrange a visit to the local Center for Independent Living (CIL), Senior Center or similar		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Attend a service or other activity at a house of worship (church, temple, synagogue) or other ethnic or cultural activity		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Community task	What? When? Where?	Who will assist?
Attend a birthday party, or attend a holiday gathering of some type		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Volunteer or assist at a community event or for a community agency		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Plan your 'house warming' party for just after you move, invite your transition team		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Other (describe)		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

In addition, you should create or obtain your own appointment book and begin using it to write down your daily schedule and appointments. Your appointment book should contain an address book. You must include the phone numbers of your transition team (e.g., MFP Transition Coordinator, peer supporters or case manager, friends, family members, etc.). Your Transition Coordinator will be checking with you to be sure your appointment book and contacts are complete.

Complete Community Activities

Training, School and Employment

Under current Social Security rules, you are able to earn some income from working, without losing your Social Security benefits (SSI, SSDI or retirement) or your Medicaid coverage. After leaving the nursing facility or ICF and getting settled in the community, you may decide to work occasionally or part-time to supplement your benefit check. Taking training classes may also be an option that you want to consider.

Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG) - Re-employment Initiative with University of Georgia, Institute on Human Development & Disability - The Olmstead Settlement Agreement mandates that employment services be provided to MFP participants returning to the community from nursing homes and institutions. Under the MIG, MFP and other partners will work to increase the availability of quality employment options for MFP participants. Activities under the initiative include training and assistance on Person-Centered Career Planning; coordination of employment systems and services that will provide customized employment support, benefits planning, job search and job development services to MFP participants; and documenting the path to employment of MFP participant(s). Ask your Transition Coordinator for more information about this important opportunity.

Volunteering, part-time/occasional employment or taking classes at your local community college or recreation center will help you:

- Overcome the isolation you may experience after leaving the nursing facility or ICF. These activities offer a number of benefits including connecting with people in your community, building new skills and increasing your independence
- Develop your skills and abilities. With the growth of technology, working is possible, even with a significant disability. Working from home or telecommuting may be an option. MFP Equipment and Supplies funds up to \$5,000 and can be used for things that you need that are work-related

- Qualify for employment opportunities. Improving your skills and abilities opens the door to a variety of supports and services offered through a number of different employment services. For information about the Georgia Division of Rehabilitation Services, the Workforce Investment Act, employment services



through the Georgia Department of Labor, and/or training available through the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education, see Training and Employment Resources page 115, in the **Quick Reference Guide to Resources**

- Earn income to spend on things you want. When considering income as part of your eligibility for MFP and waiver services through Georgia Medicaid, income you earn is treated differently, generally in ways that benefit you.

Training, school and employment can enrich your wallet or purse, your budget/spending plan and your life.

If you decide to work or go to school, don't forget to let your MFP Transition Coordinator and your Waiver Case Manager know about your plans. You are responsible for reporting changes in your circumstances. You must also report changes in your circumstances to the Social Security Administration within 10 days.

In the space below, write down your vocational goals. What kind of work do you want to do? What are you good at? What do you enjoy doing that could make you some part-time income? What are some of the barriers to achieving your employment goals? Discuss these questions with your transition team, MFP Transition Coordinator, peer supporter and Waiver Case Manager.

Notes:

Moving Day (Discharge Day) and Beyond



My Discharge Date is set for: _____

Once you receive notification that your qualified residence is ready for you to occupy within 30 days, your MFP Transition Coordinator will review the documents and information needed for you to change your status from a nursing facility (or ICF) resident to a waiver participant/community resident.

Your Transition Coordinator will assist you to visit the Social Security Administration office and provide them with a discharge date and evidence of your move to the community. If you are moving into an apartment or house and will be paying rent, you will need to open a bank account. Your Transition Coordinator will help you set up a bank account and set up direct deposit of your Social Security check (or other resources).

On your discharge date, the nursing facility/ICF will provide you with the following:

- Case information from the nursing home/ICF record, discharge documents
- The remaining supply of your current medications and remaining supplies in the medication unit
- Personal clothing
- A current financial statement
- Contact information for the nursing facility/ICF discharge planner/social worker and contact information for the doctor who provided your medical care in the nursing facility/ICF

When possible, your circle of friends/family, your Transition Coordinator, your peer supporter and your Waiver Case Manager should be available to assist you on moving day. Your Transition Coordinator will assist you to arrange for a moving service or help from your circle of friends/family to move your belongings and any furniture you have to your qualified residence. If your qualified residence needs to be modified, your Transition Coordinator will coordinate these services with contractors and will let you know when these will be completed.

Once your community Medicaid is established, you should ask either your peer supporter or your Transition Coordinator to accompany you to your local pharmacy to get your prescriptions filled.

Your First Year in the Community

During your first year in the community, your MFP Transition Coordinator will arrange monthly check-ins (e.g., phone calls, visits, etc.) with you to see how you are doing. Your Transition Coordinator will work with you to resolve any problems or remove any barriers that you may have encountered. If you find that you need additional MFP services, such as additional modifications to your qualified residence, you should ask your Transition Coordinator and/or Waiver Case Manager for help.

They can work with you to obtain additional equipment and/or services that are needed so you can use your qualified residence as safely and independently as possible.

During your first year in the community, your Waiver Case Manager and your Transition Coordinator work together with you to refine your waiver service plan and your 24/7 emergency backup plan.

On discharge day, your Waiver Case Manager will discuss your waiver service plan and waiver services with you and help you test your 24/7 emergency backup system. Your Transition Coordinator will make sure you have her/his contact information and your Waiver Case Manager will provide you with her/his contact information. Your Transition Coordinator will establish telephone communication with you once you have moved to your new place.

Moving Day (Discharge Day) and Beyond

Your Transition Coordinator will arrange for a surveyor to complete the follow-up Quality of Life (QOL) survey with you at about the same time your 365 days of MFP are ending. The surveyor will call you to complete the follow-up QOL survey sometime during your 12th month and sometime during the 24th month of living in the community. Your Transition Coordinator is responsible for informing you 30 days before your MFP services are set to end. You will receive a letter from your Transition Coordinator as a reminder that your MFP services are ending.

Your Waiver Services Continue After MFP

Your waiver services, state-plan and other community services will continue unless you do not need these services any longer. Your Waiver Case Manager will continue to contact you periodically to see how you are doing and ask you if your situation has changed.

Once each year, your Waiver Case Manager will meet with you to update your waiver service plan. This can be done more often if changes in your circumstances require it. Be sure to contact your Waiver Case Manager if your income, resources, living arrangements, family size or other circumstances change. These changes could affect your eligibility for waiver services.

Assignment: Complete Discharge Day Planning Worksheet



Use the Discharge Day Planning Worksheet to plan for your discharge and moving day activities.

These tasks should be completed in the 30 days before you are scheduled to be discharged.

Tasks are listed in the 1st column. Use the 2nd column to describe what you will do, the date of the activity and where you will go. Use the 3rd column to indicate the assistance you need to complete the activity. Depending on the type of qualified residence you choose, some of these tasks may not apply.

Discharge task	What? When? Where?	Who will assist?
You have arranged transportation to review housing options and/or your qualified residence is leased; the security deposit has been made; utilities turned on and deposits made.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
You have set up a bank account ; you have notified Social Security of discharge date and change of address.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
The Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) in your new county of residence has been notified of your new address ; status change to waiver status.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Moving Day (Discharge Day) and Beyond

Discharge task	What? When? Where?	Who will assist?
Modifications to your qualified residence are complete or complete enough to allow you to move in safely.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Household items and furniture for kitchen, bath and bedroom have been obtained.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
You have enough food for at least 10 days to 2 weeks and/or you have home delivered meals set up.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Friends/family members have agreed to help you on moving day or the services of a mover have been scheduled.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
You have the remaining supply of your medications and the remaining supplies from the medication unit; you know where/how to get additional supplies.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Discharge task	What? When? Where?	Who will assist?
Your prescriptions have been called for refill into the pharmacy in your new community; you know the location.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
The durable medical equipment and/or assistive technology devices you need have been delivered or ordered and will be delivered; you have the contact information for the equipment vendors.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Transportation you need in your new community has been tested and you know how to use it.		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
You know what waiver you are entering , the waiver services you will be receiving, and you have tested your 24/7 emergency backup system (ask Transition Coordinator for assistance).		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member <input type="checkbox"/> Friend(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supporter <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Moving Day (Discharge Day) and Beyond

Short-Term Hospitalizations or Nursing Facility/Rehab Stays

During your MFP period (for 365 days after your discharge date), if you need to be hospitalized for any reason for less than 30 days, you would not be considered an institutional resident. As soon as your condition is stable and you are able to return to your qualified residence, you will resume MFP and waiver services.

If your hospital stay was 30 days or longer, you would be discharged from MFP and would then be considered an institutional resident. If this happens and you are re-admitted to a nursing facility or hospital and had to stay for more than 30 days, you would NOT need to meet another MFP three-month institutional residency requirement, but you would be re-evaluated for discharge to the community and re-enrolled in MFP. Your Transition Coordinator and Waiver Case Manager would work with you to determine if any changes in your service plan were needed to prevent a re-admission to the hospital. If you need to return to the nursing facility or hospital for a stay of longer than six months, institutional residency requirements would apply and you would need to be re-evaluated like a "new" MFP participant.

MFP staff, your Transition Coordinator, peer supporter, Waiver Case Manager and your transition team are all dedicated to helping you live successfully in the community.

My MFP Transition Coordinator's Contact Information:

My MFP Peer Supporter's Contact Information:

My Waiver Case Manager's Contact Information:

My 24/7 Emergency Backup Contact Information:

My Long-Term Care Ombudsman's Contact Info:

Notes:

Quick Reference Guide to Resources



Centers for Independent Living

Center	Counties served	
Southwest Georgia: BAIN (Bainbridge Advocacy Individual Network) 316 West Shotwell Street PO Box 1674 Bainbridge, GA 39818 Phone: 229-246-0150 TTY: call GA Relay 711 Toll Free: 800-255-0135 (V/TTY) FAX: 229-246-1715	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calhoun • Clay • Baker • Decatur • Early • Grady 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miller • Mitchell • Thomas • Randolph • Seminole • Thomas
Central Georgia: Disability Connections 170 College Street Macon, GA 31201 Phone: 478-741-1425 Toll Free TTY/Voice: 800-743-2117 FAX: 478-755-1571 www.disabilityconnections.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baldwin • Bibb • Crawford • Houston • Jasper • Jones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monroe • Peach • Pulaski • Putnam • Twiggs • Wilkinson
North Georgia: Disability Resource Center 470-A Woods Mill Road Gainesville, GA 30501 Phone: 770-534-6656 TTY: call GA Relay 711 Toll Free: TTY/Voice: 800-255-0135 FAX: 770-534-6626 www.disabilityresourcecenter.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banks • Dawson • Forsyth • Franklin • Habersham • Hall • Hart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lumpkin • Rabun • Stephens • Towns • Union • White

Centers for Independent Living

Center	Counties served	
Metro Atlanta: disABILITY LINK 755 Commerce Drive, Suite 105 Decatur, GA 30030 Phone: 404-687-8890 TTY: 404-687-9175 Toll Free Voice/TTY: 800-239-2507 FAX: 404-687-8298 Web site: www.disabilitylink.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cherokee • Clayton • Cobb • Coweta • DeKalb • Douglas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fayette • Fulton • Gwinnett • Henry • Newton • Rockdale
Northwest Georgia: disABILITY LINK – Northwest 410 Tribune St. Rome, GA 30161 Phone: 706-314-0008 Toll Free: 866-888-7845 TTY: 706-802-0280 Fax: 706-314-0011 Web site: www.disabilitylink.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bartow • Catoosa • Chattooga • Dade • Fannin • Floyd • Gilmer • Gordon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haralson • Murray • Paulding • Pickens • Polk • Walker • Whitfield
Southeast Georgia: LIFE (Living Independence for Everyone) 12020 Abercorn Street Savannah, GA 31419 Phone: 912-920-2414 TTY: 912-920-2419 FAX: 912-920-0007 Web site: www.lifecil.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan • Bulloch • Camden • Chatham • Effingham • Evans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glynn • Liberty • McIntosh • Tattnall • Toombs

Quick Reference Guide to Resources



Centers for Independent Living

Center	Counties served	
Northeast Georgia: Multiple Choices 850 Gaines School Rd Athens, GA 30605 Phone: 706-549-1020 Toll Free: 877-549-1020 FAX/TTY: 706-549-1060 Web site: www.multiplechoices.us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrow • Clarke • Elbert • Greene • Jackson 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madison • Morgan • Oconee • Oglethorpe • Walton
East Georgia: Walton Options for Independent Living PO Box 519 Augusta, GA 30903-5019 Voice: 706-724-6262 TTY: 706-261-0199 Toll Free: 877-821-8400 FAX: 706- 724-6729 Web site: www.waltonoptions.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burke • Columbia • Emanuel • Jefferson • Jenkins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johnson • Lincoln • Richmond • Screven • Washington
East Georgia: Warrenton Satellite Office Phone: 706-465-1148 FAX: 706-465-1168	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glascock • Hancock • McDuffie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taliaferro • Warren • Wilkes
West Georgia: Columbus Satellite Office Columbus Center for Independent Living Phone: 706-405-2393	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muscogee 	

Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

To apply for Community Care Services Program (CCSP), call the number for the program serving your area:

AAA Contact Information	Counties served	
Atlanta Region Atlanta Regional AAA 40 Courtland Street, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30303-2538 Phone: 404-463-3100 Aging Connection: 800-676-2433 Or 404-463-3333 Fax: 404-463-3264 Web site: www.atlantaregional.com/aging-resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cherokee • Clayton • Cobb • DeKalb • Douglas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fayette • Fulton • Gwinnett • Henry • Rockdale
Central Savannah River Central Savannah River AAA 3023 Riverwatch Parkway Suite A, Bldg 200 Augusta, GA 30907-2016 Director Direct Line: 706-210-2013 Aging Program: 706-210-2000 Aging Connection: 888-922-4464 Fax: 706-210-2006 Web site: www.csrarc.ga.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burke • Richmond • Columbia • Screven • Glascock • Taliaferro • Hancock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warren • Jefferson • Washington • Jenkins • Wilkes • Lincoln • McDuffie
Coastal Georgia Coastal Georgia AAA 127 F Street Brunswick, GA 31520 Phone: 912-262-2822 Information Link: 800-580-6860 Fax: 912-262-2313 Web site: www.crc.ga.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan • Bulloch • Camden • Chatham • Effingham 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glynn • Liberty • Long • McIntosh

Quick Reference Guide to Resources



Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

Center	Counties served
<p>Georgia Mountains Legacy Link AAA Physical Address: 508 Oak St., Ste 1 Gainesville, GA 30501 Mailing Address: PO Box 2534 Gainesville, GA 30503-2534 Phone: 770-538-2650 Fax: 770-538-2660 Intake Screening: 800-845-5465 Web site: www.legacylink.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banks • Dawson • Forsyth • Franklin • Habersham • Hall • Hart • Lumpkin • Rabun • Stephens • Towns • Union • White
<p>Heart of Georgia Altamaha: Heart of Georgia Altamaha AAA 331 West Parker Street Baxley, GA 31513-0674 Phone: 912-367-3648 Toll Free: 888-367-9913 Fax: 912-367-3640 or 912-367-3707 Web site: www.hogarc.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appling • Bleckley • Candler • Dodge • Emanuel • Evans • Jeff Davis • Johnson • Laurens • Montgomery • Tattnall • Telfair • Toombs • Treutlen • Wayne • Wheeler • Wilcox
<p>Middle Georgia: Middle Georgia AAA 175 Emery Highway, Suite C Macon, GA 31217-3679 Phone: 478-751-6466 Toll free: 888-548-1456 Fax: 478-752-3243 Web site: www.mg-rc.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baldwin • Bibb • Crawford • Houston • Jones • Monroe • Peach • Pulaski • Putnam • Twiggs • Wilkinson

Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

Center	Counties served
<p>Northeast Georgia: Northeast Georgia AAA 305 Research Drive Athens, GA 30610 Phone: 706-369-5650 Toll free: 800-474-7540 Fax: 706-425-3370</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrow • Newton • Clarke • Oconee • Elbert • Oglethorpe • Greene • Walton • Jackson • Jasper • Madison • Morgan
<p>Northwest Georgia: Northwest Georgia AAA Physical Address: 1 Jackson Hill Dr. Rome, GA 30161 Mailing Address: PO Box 1798 Rome, GA 30162-1798 Phone: 706-295-6485 Fax: 706-295-6126 Screening Fax: 706-802-5506 Web site: www.nwgrc.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bartow • Murray • Catoosa • Paulding • Chattooga • Pickens • Dade • Polk • Fannin • Walker • Floyd • Whitfield • Gilmer • Gordon • Haralson
<p>River Valley: River Valley AAA 1428 Second Avenue PO Box 1908 Columbus, GA 31902-1908 Phone: 706-256-2910 Toll Free: 800-615-4379 Fax: 706-256-2908 Web site: www.rivervalleyrc.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chattahoochee • Quitman • Clay • Randolph • Crisp • Schley • Dooley • Stewart • Harris • Sumter • Macon • Talbot • Marion • Taylor • Muscogee • Webster

Quick Reference Guide to Resources



Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

Center	Counties served	
Southern Georgia: Southern Georgia AAA 1725 South Georgia Parkway, West Waycross, GA 31503-8958 Phone: 912-285-6097 Toll Free: 888-732-4464 Fax: 912-285-6126 Web site: www.sgrc.us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atkinson • Cook • Bacon • Echols • Ben Hill • Irwin • Berrien • Lanier • Brantley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowndes • Brooks • Pierce • Charlton • Tift • Clinch • Turner • Coffee • Ware
Southwest Georgia: SOWEGA AAA 1105 Palmyra Road Albany, GA 31701-1933 Phone: 229-432-1124 Toll free: 800-282-6612 Fax: 229-483-0995 Web site: www.sowegacoa.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baker • Lee • Calhoun • Miller • Colquitt • Mitchell • Decatur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminole • Dougherty • Terrell • Early • Thomas • Grady • Worth
Three Rivers: Southern Crescent AAA Physical Address: 13273 Hwy. 34 East Franklin, GA 30217 Mailing Address: PO Box 1600 Franklin, GA 30217-1600 Phone: 706-407-0016 or 678-552-2853 Toll Free: 866-854-5652 Fax: 706-675-9210 or 770-854-5402 Web site: www.scaaa.net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Butts • Pike • Carroll • Spalding • Coweta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Troup • Heard • Upson • Lamar • Meriwether

Aging and Disability Resource Connections



Georgia's Aging and Disability Resource Connection is not a place or a program. It is a coordinated system of partnering organizations that are dedicated to:

- Providing accurate information about publicly and privately financed long-term support and services
- Offering a consumer-oriented approach to learning about the availability of services in the home and community
- Alleviating the need for multiple calls and/or visits to receive services.
- Supporting individuals and family members who are aging or living with a disability

For assistance, contact the Aging and Disability Resource Connection that serves your area:

ADRC Contact Information	Counties Served	
Division of Aging Services Department of Human Services 2 Peachtree Street 9.202 Atlanta, GA 30303 Email: charris@dhr.state.ga.us Phone: 404-656-1705		
Atlanta Region: Atlanta Regional Commission 40 Courtland Street, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30303-2538 Phone: 404-463-3100 Toll Free: 800-676-2433 or 404-463-3333 Web site: aginginfo@atlantaregional.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cherokee • Clayton • Cobb • DeKalb • Douglas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fayette • Fulton • Gwinnett • Henry • Rockdale
Central Savannah River Area: Central Savannah ADRC 3023 Riverwatch Parkway Suite A, Bldg 200 Augusta, GA 30907-2016 Phone: 706-210-2000 Toll Free: 888-922-4464 Web site: www.csrarc.ga.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burke • Richmond • Columbia • Screven • Glascock • Taliaferro • Hancock • Warren 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jefferson • Washington • Jenkins • Wilkes • Lincoln • McDuffie

Aging and Disability Resource Connections



Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRC)

ADRC Contact Information	Counties Served	
Coastal Area: Coastal ADRC 127 F Street Brunswick, GA 31520 Phone: 912-262-2862 Toll Free: 800-580-6860 Web site: www.crc.ga.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan • Bulloch • Camden • Chatham 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effingham • Glynn • Liberty • Long
Georgia Mountains Legacy Link ADRC Physical Address: 508 Oak St., Ste 1, 30501 P. O. Box 2534 Gainesville, GA 30503-2534 Phone: 770-538-2650 Toll Free: 800-845-5465 Web site: www.legacylink.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banks • Dawson • Forsyth • Franklin • Habersham • Hall • Hart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lumpkin • Rabun • Stephens • Towns • Union
Heart of Georgia Altamaha Heart of Georgia Altamaha ADRC 331 West Parker Street Baxley, GA 31513-0674 Phone: 912-367-3648 Toll Free: 888-367-9913 Web site: www.hogarc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appling • Bleckley • Candler • Dodge • Emanuel • Evans • Jeff Davis • Johnson • Laurens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery • Tattnall • Telfair • Toombs • Treutlen • Wayne • Wheeler • Wilcox
Middle Georgia Middle Georgia ADRC 175 Emery Highway, Suite C Macon, GA 31217-3679 Phone: 478-751-6466 Toll free: 888-548-1456 Web site: www.mg-rc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baldwin • Bibb • Crawford • Houston • Jones • Monroe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peach • Pulaski • Putnam • Twiggs • Wilkinson

Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRC)

ADRC Contact Information	Counties Served	
Northeast Georgia: Northeast Georgia ADRC 305 Research Drive Athens, GA 30610 Phone: 706-369-5650 Toll free: 800-474-7540 Web site: www.negrc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrow • Newton • Clarke • Oconee • Elbert • Oglethorpe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greene • Walton • Jackson • Jasper • Madison • Morgan
Northwest Georgia: Northwest Georgia ADRC Physical Address: 1 Jackson Hill Dr. 30161 P.O. Box 1798 Rome, GA 30162-1798 Phone: 706-295-6485 Toll Free: 800-759-2963 Web site: www.nwgrc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bartow • Murray • Catoosa • Paulding • Chattooga • Pickens • Dade • Polk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fannin • Walker • Floyd • Whitfield • Gilmer • Gordon • Haralson
River Valley: River Valley ADRC 1428 Second Avenue PO Box 1908 Columbus, GA 31902-1908 Phone: 706-256-2910 Toll Free: 800-615-4379 Web site: www.rivervalleyrc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chattahoochee • Quitman • Clay • Randolph • Crisp • Schley • Dooley • Stewart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harris • Sumter • Macon • Talbot • Marion • Taylor • Muscogee • Webster



Aging and Disability Resource Connections

ADRC Contact Information	Counties Served	
<p>Southern Georgia: Southern Georgia ADRC 1725 South Georgia Parkway, West Waycross, GA 31503-8958 Phone: 912-285-6097 Toll Free: 888-732-4464 Web site: www.sgrc.us</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atkinson • Cook • Bacon • Echols • Ben Hill • Irwin • Berrien • Lanier • Brantley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowndes • Brooks • Pierce • Charlton • Tift • Clinch • Turner • Coffee • Ware
<p>Southwest Georgia: SOWEGA ADRC 1105 Palmyra Road Albany, GA 31701-1933 Phone: 229-432-1124 Toll free: 800-282-6612 Web site: www.sowegacoa.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baker • Lee • Calhoun • Miller • Colquitt • Mitchell • Decatur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminole • Dougherty • Terrell • Early • Thomas • Grady • Worth
<p>Southern Crescent: Southern Crescent ADRC Physical Address: 13273 Hwy. 34 East P.O. Box 1600 Franklin, GA 30217-1600 Phone: 706-407-0016 or 678-552-2853 Toll Free: 866-854-5652 Web site: www.scaaa.net</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Butts • Pike • Carroll • Spalding • Coweta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Troup • Heard • Upson • Lamar • Meriwether

Call the number for the program serving your county to apply for SOURCE:

Albany ARC

Phone: **229-883-2334** Fax: 229-431-8534

Counties: Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell Thomas, Worth

Columbus Regional Healthcare System

Phone: **706-660-6356** Fax: 706-660-6279

Counties: Chattahoochee, Harris, Marion, Muscogee, Talbot

Crisp Regional Health Services, Inc. d/b/a

Crisp Care Management

Phone: **229-273-6282** Fax: 229-273-5990

Counties: Crisp, Dooley, Macon, Pulaski, Sumter, Wilcox

Diversified Resources Inc.

Phone: **912-285-3089** or **800-283-0041** Fax: 912-285-0367

Counties: Atkinson, Clinch, Coffee, Pierce, Ware

Nahunta Office

Phone: **912-462-8449** or **866-903-7473**

Counties: Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn

Tifton Office

Phone: **229-386-9296** or **800-575-7004**

Counties: Ben Hill, Irwin, Tift, Turner, Wilcox

Valdosta Office

Phone: **229-253-9995** or **800-706-9674**

Counties: Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes

SOURCE Providers



Faith Health Services

Phone: **678-624-1646** Fax: 770-442-3320

Counties: Fulton, Cobb, Clayton, DeKalb, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Rockdale

Wesley Woods (Atlanta SOURCE)

Phone: **404-728-6555** Fax: 404-728-4973

Counties: DeKalb, Fulton

Source Care Management LLC

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext. **2871** or ext. **2872**

Alt Number: **888-762-2420**

Fax: 478-862-9111

E-mail: info@source-ga.org

Source Care Management Offices:

Americus

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2981** Fax: 229-928-4485

Counties: Crisp, Dodge, Dooly, Lee, Pulaski, Sumter, Terrell, Turner, Wilcox, Worth

Augusta

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2731** Fax: 706-737-0205

Counties: Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Taliaferro, Warren

Athens

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2882** Fax: 706-543-8293

Counties: Banks, Barrow, Clark, Elbert, Franklin, Greene, Hart, Jackson, Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Stephens, Wilkes

Butler

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2832** Fax: 478-862-4844

Counties: Macon, Marion, Schley, Talbot, Taylor, Upson

Source Care Management Offices, continued:

Columbus

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2861** Fax: 706-562-2342

Counties: Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, Webster

Douglas

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2627** Fax: 912-592-4630

Counties: Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Tift, Ware

Duluth

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2651** Fax: 770-717-2692

Counties: Dawson, DeKalb, Fannin, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Lumpkin, Newton, Rabun, Rockdale, Towns, Union, Walton, White

Eatonton

Phone: **706-485-4128**

Counties: Baldwin, Greene, Hancock, Jasper, Lincoln, McDuffie, Morgan, Putnam, Taliaferro, Warren, Wilkes

Jesup

Phone: **478-621-2070** Fax: 912-427-2672

Counties: Appling, Brantley, Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Pierce, Wayne

Macon

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2777** Fax: 478-471-0751

Counties: Bibb, Bleckley, Butts, Crawford, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Monroe, Peach, Putnam, Twiggs

SOURCE Providers



Metter

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2601** Fax: 912-685-7640

Counties: Bulloch, Candler, Emanuel, Evans, Jeff Davis, Jenkins, Montgomery, Screven, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Wheeler

Newnan

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2812** Fax: 770-304-9521

Counties: Carroll, Clayton, Coweta, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Heard, Henry, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup

Rome

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2757** Fax: 706-378-1330

Counties: Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Cobb, Dade, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, Whitfield

Thomasville

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2902** Fax: 229-227-6157

Counties: Baker, Brooks, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas,

Wrightsville

Phone: **478-621-2070** ext **2926** Fax: 478-864-9423

Counties: Baldwin, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Johnson, Laurens, Washington, Wilkinson

Legacy Link, Inc.

Phone: **770-538-2650** Fax: 770-538-2660

Counties: Banks, Barrow, Cherokee, Clark, Dawson, Elbert, Forsyth, Franklin, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Jackson, Lumpkin, Madison, Rabun, , Stephens, Towns, Union, White

St. Joseph's/Candler Health System

Phone: **912-819-1520** or **866-218-2259** Fax 912-819-1548

Counties: Bryan, Bulloch, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Evans

Baxley Office

Phone: **866-835-0709** or **912-367-6108**

Fax 912-367-0392

Counties: Appling, Bacon, Jeff Davis, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Montgomery, Tattnall, Toombs, Wayne

UniHealth Solutions SOURCE-Corporate Office

Phone: **770-925-4788**

UniHealth Solutions Athens

Phone: **706-549-3315** Fax: 706-543-3841

Counties: Banks, Barrow, Clark, Elbert, Franklin, Greene, Habersham, Hart, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Stephens, Walton

UniHealth Solutions Atlanta

Phone: **678-533-6200** Fax: 678-533-6488

Counties: Clayton, Dekalb, Fulton, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Newton, Rockdale, Spalding

UniHealth Solutions Augusta

Counties: Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington, Wilkes

UniHealth Solutions North GA Mountain/Blueridge

Phone: **706-258-5300** Fax 706-632-0028

Counties: Cherokee, Dawson, Fannin, Gilmer, Lumpkin, Pickens, Rabun, Towns, White

SOURCE Providers



UniHealth Solutions Cobb

Phone: **770-916-4502** Fax: 770-916-4505
Counties: Carroll, Cobb, Douglas, Paulding

UniHealth Solutions Columbus

Phone: **706-322-7713** Fax: 706-322-7716
Counties: Chattahoochee, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Stewart, Webster

UniHealth Solutions Cordele

Phone: **229-273-2570** Fax: 229-273-4750
Counties: Ben Hill, Bleckley, Clay, Crisp, Dodge, Dooly, Dougherty, Irwin, Lee, Macon, Marion, Pulaski, Randolph, Schley, Sumter, Telfair, Tift, Turner, Wilcox, Worth

UniHealth Solutions Jesup

Phone: **912-530 7359** Fax: 912-530-7362
Counties: Appling, Bacon, Brantley, Camden, Charleston, Glynn, Pierce, Wayne

UniHealth Solutions Macon

Phone: **478-474-0979** or **800-913-0134**
Fax: 478-474-2068
Counties: Baldwin, Bibb, Butts, Crawford, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Laurens, Monroe, Peach, Pike, Putnam, Taylor, Twiggs, Upson, Wilkinson

UniHealth Solutions Newnan

Phone: **770-254-1545** Fax: 770-254-8605
Counties: Coweta, Fayette, Fulton (Zip Code 30291), Harris, Heard, Meriwether, Pike, Spaulding, Talbot, Troup

UniHealth Solutions, continued:

UniHealth Solutions Savannah

Phone: **912-925-9181** Fax: 912-925-9340
Counties: Bryan, Chatham, Effingham, Liberty, Long, McIntosh

UniHealth Solutions Rome

Phone: **706-236-4705** Fax: 706-232-5912
Counties: Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson Murray, Polk, Walker, Whitfield

UniHealth Solutions of Swainsboro

Phone: **478-237-7270** Fax 770-237-7290
Counties: Bulloch, Chandler, Emmanuel, Evans, Johnson, Montgomery, Tattnall, Tombs, Treutlen, and Wheeler

UniHealth Solutions Valdosta

Phone: **229-241-8750** Fax: 229-241-8940
Counties: Atkinson, Berrien, Brooks, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Cook, Echols, Jeff Davis, Lanier, Lowndes, Thomas, Ware

Georgia Corner of Care

Phone: **706-496-3901** Fax: 706-496-3890
County: Richmond

SOURCE Partners Atlanta

Phone: **404-463-3248** Fax: 404-463-3264
Counties: Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Rockdale

Startup Household Goods and Supplies

Startup Household Goods and Supplies Worksheet



Agencies and distributors offering low-cost furniture and housewares:

■ **Furniture Bank of Metro Atlanta**

The bank guarantees a sofa and a mattress to each client, who is referred from a participating agency. "Shop" for basic home furnishings including tables, chairs, dressers and beds.

Address: 538 Permalume Place, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

Phone: **404-355-8530**

Web site: www.furniturebankatlanta.org

■ **Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC)**

The FODAC Thrift Store has low-cost used furniture and housewares. Visit the FODAC Thrift Store, conveniently located on Lewis Road, just south of Highway 78 in Stone Mountain.

Address: 4900 Lewis Road, Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Phone: **770-491-9014**

Web site: www.fodac.org/gallery/7/FODAC-Thrift-Store

■ **Goodwill Industries, Inc.**

Goodwill Thrift stores offer a variety of low-cost furniture and housewares. For locations in Georgia:

Address: 3906 Roswell Road #A, Atlanta, GA 30342

Phone: **404-869-3112**

Web site: www.locator.goodwill.org

■ **Salvation Army Thrift Stores**

Salvation Army Thrift Stores offer a variety of low-cost used furniture and housewares. For locations in Georgia:

Address: 1000 Center Place, Norcross, GA 30093

Phone: **770-441-6200**

Web site: www.salvationarmy-georgia.org/Search.asp

ITEMS	I Own/ Family Owns	Cost at Discount Store	Cost at Other Store
Kitchen			
Dishes			
Silverware/ Kitchen Knives			
Glasses			
Cups			
Tea Pitcher			
Plastic Food Containers			
Pots/Pans			
Cookie Sheet			
Cooking Utensils			
Can Opener			
Measuring Cups			
Salt/Pepper Shakers			
Pot Holders/Mitt			
Kitchen Trash Can			
Kitchen Towels			
Dish Cloths			
Dish Drainer			
Ice Trays			
Cleaning			
Paper Towels			
Laundry Detergent			
Laundry Basket			

Startup Household Goods and Supplies Worksheet

ITEMS	I Own/ Family Owns	Cost at Discount Store	Cost at Other Store
Cleaning, continued			
Bleach			
All Purpose Cleaner			
Pine Cleaner			
Glass Cleaner			
Dish Liquid			
Room Deodorizer			
Disinfectant			
Broom			
Mop			
Mop Bucket			
Dust Pan			
Dust Cloths			
Toilet Brush			
Trash Bags			
Light Bulbs			
Bedroom			
Blanket(s)			
Sheet Set			
Pillow			
Alarm Clock			
Toilet Tissue			
Tissues			

ITEMS	I Own/ Family Owns	Cost at Discount Store	Cost at Other Store
Bathroom			
Bath Towels			
Hand Towels			
Wash Cloths			
Shower Curtain			
Shower Hooks			
Small Trash Can			
Toiletries			
Shampoo			
Soap			
Lotion			
Toothpaste			
Mouthwash			
Razors			
Hand Soap (Pump)			
Other			
Speaker Phone or Phone with large numbers			
Coasters			
Hangers			
Iron/Ironing Board			
Toaster			
Total Cost for Items			

Documents Needed for Housing Searches



You will need to gather and organize documentation needed to complete rental applications, including:

- State-issued ID (must be current)
 - Contact: Department of Driver Services
 - Phone: **678-413-8400**
 - Website: www.dds.ga.gov/drivers
- Birth Certificate
 - Contact: Vital Records
 - Phone: **404-679-4702**
 - Website: health.state.ga.us/programs/vitalrecords
- Social Security card
 - Contact: Social Security Administration
 - Phone: **800-772-1213**
 - Website: www.ssa.gov
- Proof of Income (e.g., bank statements, SSI/SSD award letter)

When searching for subsidized housing and/or submitting applications for rental assistance programs, you will most likely have to do the following with assistance from your Transition Coordinator:

- Obtain and review your credit reports, correcting incomplete and inaccurate information
- Find assistance to pay past unpaid utility bills
- Obtain and review criminal history/background reports
- Obtain and organize documents needed to complete rent-controlled and subsidized housing applications
- Obtain utility information and connect utilities

As you do your housing search, you will see the following terms used:

- **Area Median Income (AMI)** – refers to the middle or midpoint income for a particular area. The term is used to estimate the “average” income for a particular area
- **Affordable Housing** – is a vague term generally defined as housing where the occupant pays no more than 30% of gross income for total housing costs, including utilities
- **Public Housing** – is housing that a Public Housing Authority operates. A criminal background check is required for all Public Housing rental applications
- **Public Housing Authority (PHA)** – is a public agency created by state or local government to finance or operate low-income housing
- **Housing Choice Vouchers (formerly Section 8)** – is a federally funded rent subsidy program for low income persons. Local public housing authorities (PHA) receive funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to administer the Housing Choice Voucher program. PHAs determine eligibility for the program and the amount of the rental assistance. The renter is required to pay 30% of her/his adjusted income for rent. If the PHA determines that the renter/family is eligible, it will issue a rental voucher or certificate. The renter is responsible for finding a suitable rental unit. The rental unit must meet minimum standards for health and safety, as determined by the PHA
- **Based On Income (BOI)** – means that rent will be (in most cases) 30% of adjusted gross monthly income
- **Single Room Occupancy (SRO)** – is a building in which tenants occupy single private spaces, but share cooking facilities and/or bathrooms. Generally known as a boarding house. This type of housing does **not** meet MFP qualified-residence requirement

Benefits and Services for MFP Participants by Waiver



Community Care Services Program (CCSP) and Service Options Using Resources in Community Environments (SOURCE)	Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Day Health • Alternative Living Services • Emergency Response Services • Enhanced Case Management • Financial Management Services • Home-Delivered Meals • Home-Delivered Services • Out-of-Home Respite • Personal Support Services (PSS)/ (PSSX)/ Consumer-Directed • Skilled Nursing Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Day Care • Behavior Management • Case Management • Consumer-Directed PSS • Counseling • Enhanced Case Management • Environment Modification • Fiscal Intermediary • Personal Emergency Monitoring • Personal Emergency Response • Personal Emergency Response Installation • Personal Support Services • Respite Services • Skilled Nursing • Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies • Vehicle Adaptation
Other Non-Medicaid Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Protective Services • Caregiver Support • Older Americans Act Services • Social Services Block Grant Services • State-Funded Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Protective Services • Social Services Block Grant Services • State-Funded Services

New Options Waiver	Comprehensive Waiver (COMP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Occupational Therapy Services • Adult Physical Therapy Services • Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services • Behavioral Support Consultation • Community Access • Community Guide • Community Living Support • Environmental Access Adaptation • Financial Support Services • Individual Directed Goods and Services • Natural Support Training • Pre-vocational Services • Respite Services • Specialized Medical Equipment • Specialized Medical Supplies • Support Coordination • Supported Employment • Transportation • Vehicle Adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Occupational Therapy Services • Adult Physical Therapy Services • Adult Speech and Language Therapy Services • Behavioral Support Consultation • Community Access • Community Guide • Community Living Support • Community Residential Alternative • Environmental Access Adaptation • Financial Support Services • Pre-vocational Services • Specialized Medical Equipment • Specialized Medical Supplies • Support Coordination • Supported Employment • Transportation • Vehicle Adaptation
Other Non-Medicaid Services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Protective Services • State-Funded Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Protective Services • State-Funded Services

Health and Emergency Resources



2 – 1 – 1

Call **2-1-1** from anywhere in the 404, 770 or 678 area codes to speak with a trained referral specialist who can help you locate programs or services in your community:

- Child and elder care
- Counseling
- Donate goods
- Emergency shelter
- Food and more
- Internships
- Job training
- Substance abuse counseling
- Volunteer

Phone: **2-1-1**

Web site: **211online.unitedwayatlanta.org**

Adult Protective Services (APS)

APS handles reports of abuse, neglect, and or/exploitation of disabled adults (18 to 64 years of age) and older adults (65+) who reside in the community.

Contact: Division of Aging Services

Phone: **404-657-5250**

Toll Free: **888-774-0152**

Submit a fax referral: **770-408-3001**

Community Action Agencies

There are 20 Community Action Agencies in the State of Georgia, serving 159 counties. Agencies manage a variety of Federal, State and local resources including Head Start, employability services, emergency assistance, transportation, weatherization, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and case management.

Web site: **www.fullcirclegrp1.com/GCAA/ps.htm**

Division of Aging Services (DAS)

DAS administers a statewide system of services for older adults, their families and caregivers. These services include Adult Protective Services and waiver services through the Community Care Services Program (CCSP).

Contact: **Division of Aging Services**

Phone: **866-55AGING** or **866-552-4464**

Web site: **aging.dhr.georgia.gov**

Family Violence Agencies

A statewide, toll-free 24-hour crisis line **800-33-HAVEN** (334-2836) will connect you to the nearest family violence agency. Georgia certifies 45 non-profits throughout the state that provide 24-hour crisis lines: legal advocacy; parenting and children's programs; and emergency safe shelter. All services are free and confidential.

Contact: **Division of Family and Children Services**

Phone: **800-33-HAVEN (800-334-2836)**

Web site: **dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS**

Energy Assistance Program

The Energy Crisis Program is provided to low income households with disconnection notices or already disconnected utility service. Regular home energy assistance is available to households meeting certain income and other requirements.

Weatherization programs provide low-cost home energy conservation improvements.

Contact: **Division of Family and Children Services**

Phone: **800-869-1150**

Toll Free: **800-869-1150** or **404-656-2323**

Web site: **dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS**

Federally Qualified Health Centers

FQHCs provide primary care services for all age groups. FQHCs use a sliding fee scale with discounts based on patient family size and income in accordance with federal poverty guidelines. FQHCs must be open to all, regardless of their ability to pay.

Contact: **US Department of Health and Human Services**

Web site: **findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov**

Georgia Relay

Dial **7-1-1** to reach Georgia Relay, a Telecommunications Relay Service for customers with hearing and speech disabilities. Georgia Relay helps those who are deaf, hard of hearing or those with speech disabilities to communicate with family, friends or business contacts by telephone.

Phone: **7-1-1**

Web site: **www.GeorgiaRelay.org**

Health and Emergency Resources



General Assistance

Fulton and DeKalb Counties offer cash assistance programs for individuals who have an SSI application pending with Social Security. Applications are processed at the Fulton and DeKalb DFCS offices. Eligibility and disability determinations are made in approximately 45 days. General Assistance benefits must be repaid when your Social Security benefit check arrives.

Contact: **Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS)**

DeKalb County Phone: **404-370-5251**

Fulton County Phone: **404-206-5600**

Web site: dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS

Georgia Crisis and Access Line

Help is available 24/7 for people with mental health, drugs or alcohol problems. Behavioral health link staff will help schedule appointments statewide for mental health and addictive disease services or dispatch crisis response teams when necessary.

Contact: **Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)**

Phone: **800-715-4225**

Web site: www.behavioralhealthlink.com

Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Assistance Services

To identify adult community-based mental health service providers in your area:

Phone: **800-715-4225**

Web site: www.mygcal.com

The HEALing Community Center

The HEALing Community Center is located within the nonprofit City of Refuge and provides free healthcare to Atlanta's homeless, uninsured and low-income residents.

Contact: **The HEALing Community Center**

Address: 1300 Joseph E. Boone Blvd - Atlanta, GA. 30314

Phone: **404-564-7749**

Fax: **678-945-0452**

Web site: healingourcommunities.org

Emergency Food Resources



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

TANF provides cash help to eligible people with dependent children on limited income.

Contact: **Division of Family and Children Services**

Phone: **800-869-1150**

Web site: dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS

Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

A federal program that supplements the diets of older adults, persons with disabilities and low-income families by providing emergency food assistance at no cost.

Contact: **Division of Family and Children Services**

Phone: **800-869-1150**

Web site: dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS

Food Stamps Program

Provides a debit card that can be used to purchase food at most grocery stores.

Contact: **Division of Family and Children Services**

Phone: **800-869-1150**

Web site: dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS-DFCS

Food Banks

A list of food banks in Georgia can be found at: dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/DHR-DFCS/DHR-DFCS_CommonFiles/5060625Food_Banks_in_Georgia.pdf

Durable Medical Equipment and Assistive Technology Equipment and Services



Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC)

FODAC is a statewide and national provider of home health care equipment — mobility aids and daily living devices for people with disabilities and the newly injured. Programs and services include home health care for children, adults; repair service for durable medical equipment; Ramps for Champs; Re-mount Vehicle Adaptations services and disposable medical supplies.

Phone: **770-491-9014** or **866-977-1204**

Web site: **www.fodac.org**

Georgia Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (GATEDP)

The Georgia Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (GATEDP) is a Georgia Public Service Commission program that provides, subject to eligibility requirements, specialized telecommunications equipment to state residents with physical impairments, such as hearing and speech that prevent them from using ordinary telephones.

Phone: **888.297.9461**

Web site: **www.psc.state.ga.us**

Tools for Life

Provides access to appropriate assistive technology devices and services for all Georgians with disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently in communities of their choice.

Phone: **800-497-8665**

Web site: **www.gatfl.org**

Touch the Future, Inc.

Touch the Future is dedicated to providing affordable computer and assistive technology access to individuals with disabilities, disadvantaged communities and healthy seniors.

Touch the Future's expertise and services are as affordable as they are vital to successful independence within the community. Services include:

- Equipment Demonstration and Loan Library (try-before-you-buy) with over 1,000 AT devices
- Expert AT needs assessments and AT device training

- Skilled computer training with AT applications
- Complete AT products store and resource expertise
- STAR Network extends reuse services to underserved southeastern communities
- LINK: Opportunities Appraisal for Autonomy at Home
- Reboot™ device and computer refurbishment

Phone: **770-934-8432**

Web site: **www.touchthefuture.us**

Reboot™ Services

ReBoot™ is a regional, nonprofit, collaborative organization committed to computer access for people with disabilities. Through donations, ReBoot™ acquires computer equipment and other Assistive Technology equipment.

ReBoot™ evaluates the equipment, makes needed repairs, loads licensed software and distributes the equipment, thus providing availability to people with disabilities as well as healthy seniors and disadvantaged communities.

Phone: **770-934-8432**

Web site: **www.touchthefuture.us/reboot.htm**

The Center for the Visually Impaired (CVI)

The Center for the Visually Impaired is Georgia's largest comprehensive, fully accredited, private facility providing rehabilitation services for individuals of all ages who are blind or visually impaired.

Phone: **404-875-9011**

Web site: **www.cviatlanta.org**

Georgia Assistive Technology Equipment Exchange Program (gTRADE)

gTRADE is designed to make assistive technology (AT) devices and services more available and accessible to ALL Georgians with disabilities.

Phone: **800-497-8665**

Web site: **www.gtradeonline.org**

Environmental Modification Services



Adapted Living Spaces

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North GA
Phone: **404-734-7343**

All in One Accessibility

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North GA
Phone: **678-766-1066**

Amramp

Specialty: Ramps
Coverage Area:
Athens and North GA
Athens Phone: **706-255-5374**;
North GA Phone: **404-401-7339**

B&G Construction

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North GA
Phone: **678-925-5301**

Barrow's Masonry

Specialty: Concrete
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **770-631-8929**

BOSS Construction

Specialty: Concrete
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **770-599-3800**

D.V. Enterprises

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: Augusta Area
Phone: **706-394-1618**

Denison Construction

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: Southeast Georgia
Phone: **912-221-1449**

Deveale Construction

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **678-365-7890**

Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC)

Specialty: Ramps
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **770-491-9014**

Georgia Crete

Specialty: Concrete
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **404-569-7866**

Handicap Solutions

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage: Statewide
Phone: **678-858-0540**

Home Remedies

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **678-344-5136**

Johnny's Grandson

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **404-354-0669**

Kerby Enterprises

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: Southeast Georgia
Phone: **912-655-4593**

Mobility Center

Specialty: Stair Lifts
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **770-833-1411**

Mt. Paran Homes

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: Augusta Area
Phone: **706-860-3050**

PJC Home Improvement

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **404-626-8367**

Rover's Home Improvement

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: Augusta Area
Phone: **706-364-8493**

Environmental Modification Services



Stetson Builders

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: Southeast Georgia
Phone: **912-285-8635**

Thornton Brothers

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: Southeast Georgia
Phone: **912-285-4739**

ThyssenKrupp

Specialty: Stair Lifts
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **404-909-5558**

Tri/Septem Developers

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **678-887-2448**

Trivest Construction

Specialty: General Contractor
Coverage Area: North Georgia
Phone: **678-772-7732**

The Center for Financial Independence & Innovation

Credit-Able provides low-interest loans through participating credit unions to enable Georgians with disabilities access to affordable financing for Assistive Technology and Home & Vehicle Modifications.
Phone: **404-541-9005**
Web site: **www.thecfii.org**
www.thecfii.org/creditable

Legal Services



Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc. (ALAS), Mental Health and Disability Rights Unit

The Atlanta Legal Aid Society has represented Atlanta's poor and disabled in civil legal cases since 1924. Our work helps our clients deal with some of life's most basic needs – a safe home, enough food to eat, a decent education, protection against fraud and personal safety. Our clients come from Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton and Gwinnett Counties in Georgia.
Contact: Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc. (ALAS)
Phone: **404-377-0705** ext. 278
Web site: **www.legalaid-ga.org/GA/index.cfm**
Web site: **www.atlantalegalaid.org**

Georgia Advocacy Office (GAO)

150 East Ponce De Leon Avenue
Decatur, GA 30030-2596
Phone: **404-885-1234**
Web site: **thegao.org**

Georgia Legal Services

GLS provides access to legal assistance for the most critical legal needs experienced by persons with low-incomes.
Contact: Georgia Legal Services
Phone: **404-206-5175**
Web site: **www.legalaid-ga.org/GA/index.cfm**
Web site: **www.glsp.org**

Additional Transportation Resources



Transportation may be available from different sources, public and private, groups and individuals. Some suggested resources to contact are listed below:

- Local transit provider, see www.publictransportation.org for information on local systems
- National 211 (United Way): www.211.org
- Eldercare Locator: www.eldercare.gov, or call **800-677-1116**
- Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) for possible volunteer drivers: www.seniorcorps.gov/about/programs/rsvp.asp
- Area Agency on Aging, see list pages 81 – 84
- Aging and Disability Resource Center, see list pages 85 – 88
- A Center for Independent Living, see list pages 78 – 80 for a directory of centers
- Service clubs such as Kiwanis, Rotary, local business and charity associations
- Hospitals
- Faith-based charities or churches
- Dial-A-Ride Transportation for Seniors (DARTS). Check with your county for service

Online resources

- Search engines and Google Transit
- Local transit trip planners or regional transportation planning organizations.

Training and Employment Resources



Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)

DRS operates five integrated and interdependent programs that share a common goal—to help people with disabilities become fully productive members of society by achieving independence and employment.

Contact: Department of Labor

Phone: **404-232-3910**

Web site: www.vocrehabga.org

Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

WIA provides career assessment and training services at no cost to you. It prepares you for the workforce, for jobs that are in demand. Services are provided through 20 local workforce areas called 'One-Stops' around the state. Each One-Stop career development center is physically accessible and is equipped with computers, faxes and phones that you can use in your job search.

Contact: Career Development Services

Phone: **404-232-3775**

Web site: www.dol.state.ga.us/wp/wia_services.htm

Employment Services

Employment services and resources are available at no charge to help you develop your resume, learn how to interview and find a job. Listings of part-time and full-time jobs are available.

Contact: Department of Labor, Field Services

Phone: **404-232-340**

Web site: www.dol.state.ga.us/find_career_centers.htm

Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education (DTAE)

DTAE provides workforce development programs including technical and adult education, adult literacy classes, GED classes and more.

Contact: Technical College System of Georgia

Phone: **404-679-1660**

Website: www.tcsg.edu



R. L. Grubbs, M.A., M.Ed.
Specialist, Money Follows the Person

Georgia Department of Community Health
Medicaid Division, Aging and Special Populations
37th Floor
2 Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: **404-657-9323**
Fax: **770-357-8857**



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