

WHERE TO BEGIN FOR HELP

There are many ways to get assistance within your county. The following steps will explain how to find the assistance you qualify for from public agencies as well as where to obtain assistance through organizations in your community.

How to find assistance for Cobb County residents

1) Apply for public assistance

EarnBenefits Online: This website includes information on government and private-based benefits to help make ends meet. It illustrates services that are available, including how you might qualify and how to apply for these programs.

Department of Family and Children Services

325 Fairground St.

Marietta, GA 30060-2355

(770) 528-5000

(770) 528-5154 (fax)

7:30am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday

Cobb County DFCS website

Suggestions:

Call ahead of time to see if you need an appointment to apply for assistance. When you apply take the following:

- 1) photo ID
- 2) Social Security card for all people in your household
- 3) If needed: green card/immigration papers
- 4) Copy of bills:
 - a) Mortgage
 - b) Utilities
 - c) Car payments
 - d) Insurance
 - e) Childcare
- f) Proof of income for household (both spouses if married): pay stubs for at least a month, child support payments, alimony payments, etc.

Temporary assistance for needy families: Based on very low or no income for the household

Food stamps: Based on total income for household and expenses; you may qualify even if employed.

Childcare assistance: Based on total income of household; refer to Department of Family and Children Services

Medicare: Insurance for uninsured children, based on income. If you do not qualify for Medicare, ask about Peachcare.

WIC: Food program for children under four years old. [WIC Program](#)

2) Health Department

770-443-7881

Offers immunizations, WIC

Screening: hearing, vision, dental, etc.

Locations:

Cobb County

1650 County Services Pkwy.

Marietta, GA

30008-4009

(770) 514-2300

(770) 514-2320 (fax)

Fort Hill/Roosevelt Circle Community Health Center

397 Roosevelt Circle

Marietta, GA 30060

(770) 919-0025

Acworth Community Health Center

4489 Acworth Industrial Dr, SW

Acworth, GA 30101

(770) 974-3330

Austell Community Health Center

6133 Love St., SW

Austell, Georgia 30168

(770) 739-3200

Marietta Community Health Center

1650 County Services Pkwy.

Marietta, Georgia 30008-4009

(770) 514-2300

Hours of Operation:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00am-5:00pm

Tuesday, Thursday: 8:00am-7:00pm

Smyrna Community Health Center

3830 South Cobb Dr.

Suite 200

Smyrna, Georgia 30080

(770) 438-5105

East Cobb Community Health Center

4938 Lower Roswell Rd.

Marietta, GA 30068

(678) 784 2180

Rose Garden Hills/Davenport Town Community Health Center

1861 Teasley Drive
Smyrna, Georgia 30080
(770) 432-0112

3) Free school lunch

If you have children in public schools, obtain an application from your school or cafeteria manager to apply for the free lunch program. (ex: family of 4 can have a salary up to \$34,873/yr - \$2,907/mo - or \$671 per week to qualify). If on food stamps, you automatically qualify for the free lunch program. Be sure to fill in your case number on the form to expedite the process.

4) Bills

It is very important to contact your creditors and utility companies BEFORE you get behind on payments. Often they will work out partial payment arrangements with you if you are proactive and contact them before you become delinquent.

- Call your mortgage company and ask if one payment can be added to the end of the mortgage, if you can pay interest only payments for a specified time, or if they will spread any past due amounts over the next few months.
- Contact your bank concerning any loans you have. Ask if a payment can be added to the end of the loan, if a grace period can be extended, or if a lower payment can be made until you are able to make full payments.
- Contact utility companies BEFORE they become overdue and see if a payment plan can be arranged. Also inquire about agencies that might assist you in paying your bill. Pay your bills with cash on hand; you can get assistance for food easier than for money. Trim excess expenses: go to standard cable, basic phone services, free or low-cost internet services and basic cell phone services or disconnect until you can afford it. Look into a loan on your 401(k) if necessary.
- Use the online budget calculator at <http://www.crown.org/Tools/budgetguide.asp>. This is good baseline for developing a budget.
- Contact the Consumer Credit Counseling Service at 404-527-7630. They will work with your creditors and work out payment arrangements.
- Contact local churches and ask to speak to their outreach ministry to ask about assistance.