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NEWS
"News You Can Use"

Training Announcements

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Office of Human Resources and Learning, is currently offering virtual trainings. Listed below are those currently scheduled. For more information regarding trainings, [click here](#).



- [DD Participant Direction New Enrollment](#)
- [Positive Behavior Supports Curriculum: Train-the-Trainer Training](#)

If you have any questions, please contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov.

I/DD Nursing Course: Emory Nursing Experience

Next Course Starts July 7, 2022

Intellectual and Developmental Disability Provider Nurses can earn CEU's with in-depth topics presented by seasoned Emory faculty. This hybrid (online/face-to-face) course prepares nurses to sit for the Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association certification exam and improve their clinical competency.

Topics Covered:

- Understanding Developmental Disabilities
- Skilled Body Assessment
- Basic Wound & Ostomy Management
- Respiratory Assessment and Care
- Degenerative Conditions
- School and Learning Issues
- Self-Care
- And more...

To register for this event email Shannon Smith at Shannon.L.Smith@dbhdd.ga.gov.

**EMORY NURSING EXPERIENCE
FLYER**

Featured Article

DBHDD Regional Field Office & State Office Contacts



Please find at the links below updated contact lists for the Divisions of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. These staff are available to assist you as needed when there are questions or issues regarding individuals receiving or in need of services.

For questions related to policies, procedures and community standards as outlined in the DBHDD Community Provider Manuals or PolicyStat, we encourage you to submit those to the Office of Provider Relations via the [Provider Issue Management System](#).

**DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH**

**DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES**

DBHDD Policy Information

Since June 1, 2022 DBHDD updated or developed the following policies:

[Support Coordination Contact Frequency Requirements, 02-433](#)

[Community Behavioral Health Provider Network Structure, 01-199](#)

[Comprehensive Community Provider \(CCP\) Standards for Georgia's Tier 1 Behavioral Health Safety Net, 01-200](#)

[Community Medicaid Provider \(CMP\) Standards for Georgia's Tier 2 Behavioral Health Services, 01-230](#)

[Standards and Key Performance Indicators for Providers of Community Crisis Services, 01-270](#)

As a reminder, all current policies can be found on [PolicyStat](#).

Please direct all policy-related questions to the Office of Provider Relations via the Provider Issue Management System (PIMS). To submit your questions [click here](#).

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Monthly Supported Employment Gardens Meeting

July 20th 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

The DBHDD Division of Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with WISE (Washington Initiative for Supported



Employment), would like to invite you to Georgia's Monthly Supported Employment Gardens Meeting. All Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Supported Employment providers are welcome to attend. If you are not currently a member of the Regional Gardens, this is a great opportunity to join a growing team of providers, state agencies, advocates, and others working together to increase Competitive Integrated Employment in Georgia.

WISE has been instrumental in helping Washington State become number 1 in Supported Employment and is helping Georgia to meet its Big Hairy Audacious Goal to grow to 48.9% in Competitive Integrated Employment by 2025. We hope you will join us!

Gardens meetings will focus on several topics including: I/DD Supported Employment policy, the Gardens transition plan, and planning for the 2nd Annual National Disability Employment Awareness Month Celebration in October.

[Click here to register.](#)



IDD Connects Update

The DBHDD, in partnership with the Georgia Collaborative ASO, continue to work diligently to address outstanding issues and share the updates when they are released into IDD Connects. The most recent enhancement involves a Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST) update.

Reminder, it is important to clear your web browsing history after each of these updates to ensure you see all the enhancements which have been deployed.

HRST Update

- The correct completion date of the HRST is now displayed.

Don't Forget

If you experience issues or **need a password reset for IDD Connects**, contact the IDD Command Center at **855-606-2725** for assistance or log an inquiry within the Provider Connects Portal.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE: *To prevent issues with signing into your account in IDD Connects, it is imperative to update your password every 90 days. DBHDD suggests putting a reminder appointment on your calendar to assist in tracking this.*

Division of Behavioral Health

DBHDD Regional Interpreters

DBHDD Providers, please remember to contact your Regional Interpreters at the contact information below to check availability before sending the request to the Office of Deaf Services.



Lori Erwin
470-599-0549
Lori.Erwin@dbhdd.ga.gov

Erin Salmon
404-450-6736
Erin.Salmon@dbhdd.ga.gov

Region 3
Persis Bristol
404-998-9541
Persis.Bristol@dbhdd.ga.gov

Region 4
VACANT
Interim contact: Debra Walker
404-821-5352
Debra.Walker@dbhdd.ga.gov

Region 5
VACANT
Interim contact: Jasmine Lowe
404-464-0786
Jasmine.Lowe@dbhdd.ga.gov

Region 6
Jasmine Lowe
470-464-0786
Jasmine.Lowe@dbhdd.ga.gov

DBHDD Announcements

9-8-8 Available In Georgia Beginning July 16, 2022



What is 9-8-8?

9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is one of the largest federally mandated crisis response transformations in decades. It is designed to meet the rising needs of mental health, substance abuse disorders and suicide interventions across the country. 9-8-8 will, over an extended period of time, become as commonly used as 9-1-1, providing appropriate mental health crisis response for all Georgians.

9-1-1 began in the 1960s. It took thirty years to have 93% of the US population covered by 9-1-1 and it continues to evolve. We will take lessons learned from the 9-1-1 implementation: build capacity and staffing over time, with a focus on technology and infrastructure.

When does the rollout begin?

Starting on July 16, 2022, in Georgia, anyone will be able to call 9-8-8. Callers will be connected to a trained staff member who can help address immediate needs and connect the callers to resources. We expect volumes to be higher than ever before and we are working hard to prepare to meet this demand. We are focused on strategies that will help us build capacity to serve this increased demand at a time of workforce shortages and other unprecedented challenges.

For more information on 9-8-8 nationally, you can check out the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) FAQs: <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988/faqs>

Behavioral Health Providers: How can you begin to prepare for 9-8-8?

- Begin the conversations with your staff on how you use the existing system and how you will use 9-8-8 in the future.
- Continue to provide the 10-digit number (1-800-715-4225) to clients and other individuals ahead of the 9-8-8 rollout on July 16th
- Continue to emphasize the importance of early treatment/interventions and NOT waiting for a crisis
- Sign up for the 9-8-8 Rollout Readiness Newsletter at 988ga.org/newsletter

Where can you get more information and resources?

Georgia's DBHDD has partnered with a coalition of organizations to

create 988ga.org which hosts extensive FAQs, logos, assets as well as downloadable one-sheets. You can also reach out to the 988ga.org team with specific questions at questions@988ga.org



Georgia's COVID-19 Emotional Support Line is Here to Help!

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is operating the Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line to assist people who have been emotionally, physically, or financially impacted by COVID-19. The Emotional Support Line is free, confidential, and anonymous. Trained mental health professionals are available to provide a "listening ear" to Georgians who need emotional support and referrals to resources in their communities.

This service is made possible through funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as a component of DBHDD's Georgia Recovery Project for COVID-19. The Georgia Recovery Project began on May 1, 2020, and, in addition to the Emotional Support Line, the program funds outreach through teams based in DBHDD's six regions.

The Emotional Support Line is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and can be reached by calling or texting (866) 399-8938.

Office of Provider Relations & ASO Coordination

JUST A REMINDER... Question for your Provider Relations Team?

The Provider Issues Management System (PIMS) is your online source to have your questions answered in a consistent, reliable and timely way! In addition to providing a timely response, the information we gather from PIMS will assist DBHDD in trending common concerns, developing FAQs, and informing policy reviews. You can access the PIMS site directly by using the link below.

[PROVIDER ISSUES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM](#)

PIMS is also accessible through the [DBHDD website](#) by hovering over the **"For Provider"** tab located across the top of the page. When the drop-down menu appears, click on **"Questions for your Provider Relations Team"**.

Director
Anna Bourque

Senior Provider Relations Managers

Carole Crowley
Sharon Pyles

For Provider Relations inquiries,
please contact us at
DBHDD.Provider@dbhdd.ga.gov.



BE WELL



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities | 2 Peachtree St, NW,
Atlanta, GA 30303

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