

# Attendance Awareness Month Resources

Factors Contributing to Chronic Absences			
BARRIERS	NEGATIVE SCHOOL EXPERIENCES	LACK OF ENGAGEMENT	MISCONCEPTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illness, both chronic and acute</li> <li>• Lack of health, mental health, vision, or dental care</li> <li>• Trauma</li> <li>• Unsafe path to/from school</li> <li>• Poor Transportation</li> <li>• Frequent moves or school changes</li> <li>• Involvement with child welfare or juvenile justice systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Struggling academically or socially</li> <li>• Bullying</li> <li>• Suspensions and expulsions</li> <li>• Negative attitudes of parents due to their own school experience</li> <li>• Undiagnosed disability</li> <li>• Lack of appropriate accommodations for disability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of culturally relevant, engaging instruction</li> <li>• No meaningful relationships with adults in school</li> <li>• Stronger ties with peers out of school than in school</li> <li>• Unwelcoming school climate</li> <li>• Failure to earn credits/no future plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absences are only a problem if they are unexcused</li> <li>• Missing 2 days per month does not affect learning</li> <li>• Sporadic absences are not a problem</li> <li>• Attendance only matters in the older grades</li> </ul>

When people think of school attendance, they immediately think of truant students, students who skip school, or have unexcused absences. Instead, there is a need to focus on total absences as a whole, both excused and unexcused, as the impact of missing school can be universally observed in all grade levels in a student's academic achievement and overall adjustment to school. Below are resources available to support students based on contributing factors for chronic absences.

## Gwinnett County Community Resources

- Gwinnett Cares Helpline  
770-995-3339  
<https://gwinnettcare.org/>

- United Way 211  
<http://211online.unitedwayatlanta.org/>

- HomeFirst Gwinnett  
770-847-6765  
<http://www.homefirstgwinnett.org/>

## Medical Resources

- Good Samaritan Health Centers of Gwinnett  
678-280-6630 or 770-806-0162  
<https://goodsamgwinnett.org/>

- Hope Clinic  
770-685-1300  
<https://www.hopeclinicgwinnett.info/>

- Truth's Community Clinic  
770-277-4675  
<https://www.truthsclinic.org/>

## Mental Health Resources

- Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL)  
1-800-715-4225  
<https://www.georgiacollaborative.com/providers/georgia-crisis-and-access-line-gcal/>

- View Point Health  
678-209-2411  
<https://www.myviewpointhealth.org/>

- Georgia Parent Support Network  
770-545-4298  
<http://gpsn.org/>

## GCPS Resources

- Community-Based Mentoring Programs  
<https://www.gcpsk12.org/Page/23308>

- Parent Mentor Program  
<https://www.gcpsk12.org/Page/23896>

- School Social Workers  
<https://www.gcpsk12.org/Page/25052>