

GEORGIA RESOURCES FOR VETERANS, MILITARY, FAMILY MEMBERS, AND GA RESIDENTS

Homelessness

- Georgia Homeless Veterans Resources, Inc.: Transitional housing program for female veterans w/ children. Website: <https://www.gahomelessvr.org/>, email: FOC@gahomelessvr.org, phone: 678-284-1099.
- Georgia Department of Community Affairs: Lists programs/resources regarding homeless and special needs housing. Website: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing>.
- VA Homeless Programs: Counselors provide information about VA homeless programs, healthcare, and other services in the veteran's area. Website: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/nationalcallcenter.asp>, phone: 877-424-3838.
- SafeHouse Ministries: Offers several ministries and services, such as transitional housing, clothing, meals, and education, for those experiencing homelessness, addiction, or incarceration. Website: <https://safehouse-ministries.com/>, phone: 706-322-3773.
- United Way of Chattahoochee Valley: Provides resources and a guide to services (community shelters, food pantries, low-cost housing, utility and rent payment assistance, clothing provision, etc.) for those in need. Website: <http://www.211uwcva.org/>.
- Open Door Community House: Assists those in the Columbus area with homelessness and offers resources for moving out of poverty. Website: <https://www.odch.org/>, phone: 706-323-5518.
- Valley Rescue Mission: Provides emergency shelter, meals, substance abuse recovery programs, and community outreach. Website: <https://www.valleyrescuemission.org/>, phone: 706-322-8267.
- Hope Harbour: Provides emergency shelter and other resources for adults and children experiencing domestic violence. Website: <https://www.hopeharbour.org/>, crisis line: 706-324-3850.

Food Assistance

- Feeding the Valley Food Bank: Columbus, GA services include mobile pantry, partner agency food distribution, kids café, buddy pack program, school food pantries, and senior meals. Website: <https://feedingthevalley.org/columbus/>, phone: 706-561-4755.
- Georgia Food Stamp Program: Provides monthly benefits to low-income households to help pay for the cost of food. Website: <https://dfcs.georgia.gov/snap-food-stamps>.

Financial Assistance

- VFW Unmet Needs: Provides active duty service members with grants paid directly to creditors. Financial hardship must be direct result of current deployment, military pay error, or currently pending medical discharge due to service-connected injuries/illnesses received while on active duty. Website: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants>.
- Georgia Assistance Programs Guide: Resource guide for Georgia SNAP, Medicaid, safe and affordable housing, healthcare, childcare, aging services, etc. Website: <https://georgia.gov/assistance-programs-guide>, phone: 800-436-7442.
- Salute, Inc.: Provides one-time financial aid for rent/mortgage, auto expenses, utility bills, and other expenses for veterans/military with a service-connected disability who meet certain eligibility requirements. Website: <https://www.saluteinc.org/get-assistance/>, phone: 847-359-8811.
- VA: Money management resources for veterans. Website: <https://www.va.gov/REACH/challenge/money-challenges/>.

Legal

- Emory School of Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans: Assists low-income veterans with legal issues such as discharge upgrades, disability benefits claims, powers of attorney, wills, advance directives for healthcare, etc. Website: <https://law.emory.edu/academics/clinics/student-led-clinics/volunteer-clinic-for-veterans.html>, phone: 404-727-0983.
- University of Georgia School of Law Veterans Legal Clinic: Assists veterans with VA benefits, changes to military discharge papers, etc. Website: <https://www.law.uga.edu/veterans-legal-clinic>.
- Georgia State University Veterans Legal Assistance Program: Assists veterans with VA disability and pension claims, changes to military discharge, employment law claims, criminal records, domestic matters, consumer issues, landlord/tenant issues, etc. Website: <https://law.gsu.edu/student-experience/pro-bono-service-in-the-community/veterans-legal-assistance-program/>.
- Georgia Legal Aid: Lists legal resources for veterans. Website: <https://www.georgialegalaid.org/search?q=veterans>. Also provides legal aid for low-income Georgians. Website: <https://www.georgialegalaid.org/>.
- State Bar of Georgia Military Legal Assistance: Lists legal assistance options for low-income veterans and service members in Georgia. Website: https://www.gabar.org/publicservice/militarylegalassistance.cfm_.
- Georgia Legal Services Program: Attorneys and paralegals provide civil legal help to low-income Georgians who meet certain eligibility requirements. Website: <https://www.glsp.org/need-help/>.

Medical, Counseling, and Mental Wellness

- Columbus Vet Center: Confidential help for veterans, service members, and their families at no cost in a non-medical setting, including counseling for PTSD, depression, and psychological effects of military sexual trauma. Website: <https://www.va.gov/columbus-ga-vet-center/>, phone: 706-596-7170.
- Veterans Crisis Line: Free, confidential support 24/7, 365 for veterans, service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and those who support them. Website: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>, phone: dial 988 then press 1, text: 838255.
- NAMI Columbus: Assists families struggling with mental health and wellness. Website: <https://namicolumbusga.org/>, non-crisis helpline: 770-408-0625.
- Georgia Crisis and Access Line: Available 24/7, 365 to help those in a crisis involving developmental disabilities, mental health, drugs, alcohol, etc. Phone: 800-715-4225, website: <https://www.georgiacollaborative.com/providers/georgia-crisis-and-access-line-gcal/>.
- Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation: Provides vision services to Georgians in financial need. Website: <https://lionslighthouse.org/about/>.

Domestic Violence

- The Center at 909: Supplies victims of sexual/dating violence, stalking, and human trafficking with financial assistance, medical and legal advocacy, support groups, individual counseling, etc. Website: <https://www.thecenterat909.org/>, crisis line: 706-571-6010.
- Hope Harbour: Provides shelter, safety, crisis intervention, and advocacy for adults and children experiencing domestic violence. Website: <https://www.hopeharbour.org/>, crisis line: 706-324-3850.

Veterans Generally

- Georgia Department of Veterans Service: Advises, counsels, and assists GA veterans and their families in receiving state/federal veteran's benefits, VA appeals support, education and training, burial and memorial benefits, suicide prevention and outreach, information about veteran nursing homes, etc. Website: <https://veterans.georgia.gov/>, phone: 404-656-2300, email: gavetsvc@vs.ga.gov.
- Veterans and Family Assistance Center: Provides VA disability and benefits counseling, military to civilian assistance, veteran support groups, and financial counseling. Website: <https://thevfac.com/>, phone: 706-507-6787, email: admin@thevfac.com.
- Georgia Military and Veterans Help Guide: Resources booklet created by State Bar of Georgia and State Bar of Georgia Pro Bono Center. PDF Link:

<https://www.Benning.army.mil/mcoe/SJA/content/pdf/military-and-veterans-assistance-guide.pdf>.

- State Benefits for Georgia Veterans Booklet: Booklet created by Georgia Department of Veterans Service. PDF Link: <https://www.Benning.army.mil/mcoe/SJA/content/pdf/state-benefits-ga.pdf>.

Education Benefits/Scholarships

- VFW Student Veteran Support: Offers financial assistance for veterans who are retired or honorably discharged, as well as active duty, National Guard, and Reserve service members. Rank E-5 and below. Must demonstrate need for financial assistance and be accepted/enrolled in VA-approved program/school. Website: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support>.
- Georgia Department of Veterans Service Educational Benefits: Discusses education benefits available to Georgia veterans. Website: <https://veterans.georgia.gov/services/education-training/educational-benefits>.
- Georgia Veterans Education Career Transition Resource Center: Provides resources, including assistance with education financing, for Georgia veterans transitioning from military to civilian sector. Website: <https://www.gavectr.org/index.html>.