



CHINS UNIT MONTHLY BULLETIN

Child in Need of Services (CHINS)

The CHINS Unit offers resources and services to children and families involved with the court for low-risk behaviors. The CHINS staff specifically works with the following cases prior to formal court involvement:

- ◆ Truancy / Educational Neglect
- ◆ Ungovernable/Unruly Behavior
- ◆ Runaways

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Vision

To proactively eliminate and reduce court-involvement through an individualized approach that is designed to maximize the impact to every child.

~Announcements~

Truancy and Educational Neglect:

⇒ The deadline to submit truancy and educational neglect referrals for the 2019-2020 school year has ended. Currently, CHINS Social Service Coordinators are following up, monitoring, and closing cases that were accepted by the February 28th deadline. Fulton County Juvenile Court will start accepting new referrals for the 2020-2021 school year on **September 14, 2020**. The deadline to have completed referrals submitted for case assignment to the CHINS Unit is **February 26, 2021**.

Ungovernable:

⇒ Parents/guardians seeking to complete ungovernable referrals must contact the designated Behavioral Health Clinician at shelly.spizouco@fultoncountyga.gov or 404.613.4637 to schedule a clinical interview before a coordinator is assigned. The regular CHINS intake process begins at the start of the scheduled clinical interview.

Runaway:

⇒ Parents/legal guardians file runaway complaints in person at Fulton County Juvenile Court's Complaint Office. Once the complaint is filed, the case is assigned to a Social Service Coordinator for an interview, referral to services, follow-up and monitoring.



OUR Response To COVID-19

The CHINS Unit is diligently working with families, internal/external service providers, community leaders, and partners to reduce the impact of the coronavirus. The following are some ways we're dedicating our time and resources to make a difference:

Updates

- * There will be **NO** in-person interviews or meetings with current or new youth and families seeking CHINS support services.
- * Intake interviews and meetings will be held virtually using ZOOM or other video-conferencing platforms and by telephone only.
- * Parents/guardians will have access to complete un-governable intake forms online through the Fulton County Juvenile Court's website.
- * An assigned Social Service Coordinator will assist with completing CHINS intake forms on behalf of their youth and family to begin CHINS services.



Helpful Resources & Links

- * CHINS Electronic Intake Forms
www.fultonjuvenilecourt.org
- * Georgia Crisis & Access Line (GCAL)
Phone: 1-800-715-4225, available 24/7
Website: Mygcal.com
- * Center for Disease Control & Prevention: Child Development Stages
Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/index.html>
- * DFCS 24/7 Abuse and Neglect
Phone: 1-855-422-4453, available 24/7

Contact US:

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