

# Community Outreach NEWS

April 2020

Greetings!

Gwinnett Community Outreach promotes strategic communications and outreach with diverse constituencies, cultural events, and programs to engage and empower residents to be more informed and involved with Gwinnett County Government. Community Outreach News is one way we are able to stay vibrantly connected with our diverse community.

## Community Outreach highlights



So far this year, we've been able to gather with great community organizations and residents alike to celebrate the unique spirit of Gwinnett.

On January 25, Community Outreach participated in the [20<sup>th</sup> annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade](#) in downtown Lawrenceville. Gwinnett Youth Commissioners carried banners celebrating the occasion and remind parade goers about the importance of participating in the 2020 Census.

On January 27, Gwinnett Youth Commissioners hosted a **Youth Leaders Breakfast** and facilitated conversation with elected officials and community leaders across Gwinnett County.

On February 12, Chairman Nash gave her final [State of the County address](#) at the Infinite Energy Center. During her address, she issued several challenges to the future leaders of Gwinnett and emphasized the importance of early childhood literacy.



On February 25, Community Outreach, in partnership with the United Ebony Society and many other organizations, hosted a [Black History Month reception](#) honoring the contributions of African-American leaders at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center.

On February 29, Community Outreach attended the **MLK Unity Breakfast** hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. – The RKL Chapter.

On March 10, Community Outreach and Gwinnett Transit **co-presented to Georgia Contractors Association** about business opportunities in Gwinnett.

On March 12, Community Outreach attended the **Gwinnett Coalition Census Town Hall** event.

We are grateful that we had these opportunities to gather with our residents and fellow organizations, and we look forward to future opportunities to celebrate our vibrant community.

## #GwinnettCounts Census Update

The 2020 Census is here, and we are encouraging everyone to respond! Even though it's past Census Day, April 1, **it's not too late to respond**. In fact, you can complete your questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail any time before

August 14.

It's our goal to support the U.S. Census Bureau's mission of making sure every resident is counted once, only once, and in the right place. Mailers have been sent in the last few weeks that include instructions on how to complete the census. You can also visit [My2020Census.gov](https://www.my2020census.gov) to answer the questionnaire online. It takes less 10 minutes to complete, but it makes a huge impact on our future. Your responses help determine funding for hospitals, schools, and more for our community.



Follow Gwinnett's response rate in real time by visiting [2020Census.gov/response-rates](https://2020Census.gov/response-rates).

## Engagement Opportunities



**Gwinnett Youth Commission application deadline extended**  
Gwinnett County needs future youth leaders in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades who want to serve their county on behalf of their peers and learn how to impact decisions that affect youth in our community. **The application deadline has been extended to April 17.**

Sponsored by the Board of Commissioners and coordinated through the Community Outreach office, the Gwinnett County Youth Commission is a leadership and service oriented program

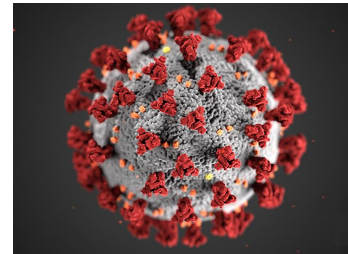
that empowers young people to become knowledgeable and involved in the local governmental process. We aim to inspire the next generation of civic leaders! For more information or to download an application, [click here](#).

## News Worth Sharing

We are aware of the many hardships our community is facing during this unprecedented time. Below are some resources related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

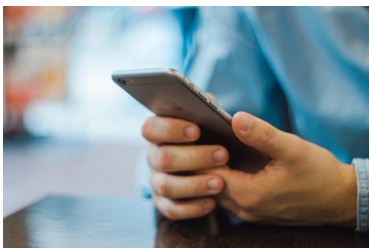
### Find accurate information about COVID-19

You can find the latest information about COVID-19 from trusted resources like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the local health department. The Georgia Department of Public Health also has a hotline, **844.442.2681**, available to answer questions.



For information about COVID-19, see these resources:

- [COVID-19 information from the Gwinnett-Newton-Rockdale County Health Departments](#)
- [COVID-19 information from the Georgia Department of Public Health](#)
- [COVID-19 information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [The President's coronavirus guidelines for America: 30 days to slow the spread of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)



### COVID-19 resources for the community

Learn the latest information about how County services are being impacted by COVID-19 at [GwinnettCounty.com](https://www.gwinnettcountry.com).

Gwinnett County has joined a partnership of community organizations to provide residents with the latest information about finding help, donating food and supplies, volunteering, and giving to local nonprofits during the pandemic. Visit [GwinnettCares.org](https://www.gwinnettcare.org) to find these resources and more.

If you are struggling with your mental health and need assistance you can call the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities' COVID-19 Emotional Support Line at **866.399.8938**. The line offers 24/7 free and confidential assistance to callers needing emotional support or resource information as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is staffed by volunteers, including mental health professionals and others who have received training in crisis counseling.

### COVID-19 resources for businesses

For information about whether your business should stay open during the statewide Shelter-in-Place order, visit [Georgia.org/COVID19](https://www.Georgia.org/COVID19).

Get other helpful information and assistance here:

- [Gwinnett County Office of Economic Development](#)
- [Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [UGA – Small Business Development Center](#)
- [Small business guidance from the U.S. Small Business Administration](#)



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