INTRODUCTION

This section contains a high-level organizational chart and general facts about Gwinnett County and its municipalities.
County Administration & Department Directors

**County Administrator**
Glenn P. Stephens

**Deputy County Administrator**
Phil Hoskins

**County Attorney**
Bill Linkous

**Community Services**
Phil Hoskins, Director

**Corrections**
Darrell Johnson, Warden

**Financial Services**
Maria Woods, CFO/Director

**Fire and Emergency Services**
Chief Casey Snyder

**Human Resources**
Scott Fuller, Director

**Information Technology Services**
Abe Kani, Director/CIO

**Planning and Development**
Bryan Lackey, Director

**Police Services**
Chief Butch Ayers

**Support Services**
Angela Parham, Director

**Transportation**
Alan Chapman, Acting Director

**Water Resources**
Ron Seibenhener, Director

Elected Officials

**Clerk of Court**
Richard T. Alexander Jr.

**District Attorney**
Daniel J. Porter

**Chief Magistrate Court Judge**
Kristina H. Blum

**Probate Court Judge**
Christopher A. Ballar

**Sheriff**
R.L. “Butch” Conway

**Solicitor**
Rosanna Szabo

**Tax Commissioner**
Richard Steele

**State Court Judges**
Pamela D. South, Chief Judge
Joseph C. Iannazzone
Carla E. Brown
John F. Doran Jr.
Emily J. Brantley
Shawn F. Bratton
Howard E. Cook, Senior Judge
Robert W. Mock Sr., Senior Judge

**Superior Court Judges**
Melodie Snell-Conner, Chief Judge
Debra K. Turner
R. Timothy Hamil
Ronnie K. Batchelor
Thomas N. Davis Jr.
Warren P. Davis
Karen E. Beyers
Kathryn M. Schrader
George F. Hutchinson III
Randolph G. Rich
K. Dawson Jackson, Senior Judge
Fred A. Bishop Jr., Senior Judge

Judicially Appointed Officials

**Juvenile Court Judges**
Robert V. Rodatus, Presiding Judge
Stephen E. Franzén
Robert Waller

**Recorder’s Court Judges**
Michael Greene, Chief Judge
Rodney S. Harris
Patricia Muise

**Clerk of Recorder’s Court**
Jeff C. West

**Court Administrator**
Philip M. Boudewyns
Government Finance Officers Association Statement

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Gwinnett County, Georgia for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as a communications device.

This award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.
Gwinnett County was created on December 15, 1818, and named for Button Gwinnett, one of the three Georgia signers of the Declaration of Independence. The county was formed from the combination of land that was ceded to the state of Georgia by the Cherokee and Creek Indians and a portion of Jackson County. Gwinnett was the 50th county to be organized in the state. The county currently covers 437 square miles and includes approximately 280,000 acres of land. This makes Gwinnett the 50th largest county in the state in landmass.

The home of Elisha Winn, near what is now Dacula, was the first Gwinnett County courthouse. Winn was chosen to select the site for the first county seat and new courthouse. He paid $200 for a 250-acre lot in the center of the county. Early courthouse business was held in a log cabin until a more permanent structure was built in 1824. The City of Lawrenceville was incorporated and designated the county seat in 1821, when Gwinnett consisted of a cluster of agrarian communities. By 1850, Lawrenceville was a thriving metropolis with a census count of 11,257. In an 1871 fire, the courthouse was burned down, destroying most of the early records and deeds. A new courthouse, built on the square in Lawrenceville, was deemed inadequate after only 12 years, and was replaced by the building now known as the Historic Courthouse for $23,000 in 1885. It served as the center of Gwinnett government operations until 1988.

A railroad line, the Danville and Piedmont Air Line (now Norfolk Southern), was built through the county in 1871. The railroad induced the founding of new cities: Norcross, Duluth, Suwanee, and Buford. A spur line was run from Suwanee to Lawrenceville in 1881, and another main line, the Georgia, Carolina, and Northern Railroad (now CSX), was built in 1891 through Lilburn, Lawrenceville, and Dacula.

The County’s first major industry came in 1868 when the RH Allen Tannery was established. Brother Bona soon followed with the Bona Allen Tannery which later purchased the RH Allen Co. after Robert’s death. Both tanneries made leather goods, harnesses, whips, shoes, and became famous for handmade saddles. During the Depression of the 1930s when a number of farms began to decline, the tannery employed 2,400. The 1930 Census recorded a County population of 29,087.

Gwinnett County moved into the modern era in 1950 when the U.S. Congress authorized the construction of Buford Dam to provide hydroelectric power, flood control, water supply, navigation, and recreational facilities.

The County constructed its major water and sewer main lines in the 1970s, which proved to be an essential step in preparing for the next decade. For three consecutive years, 1986 through 1988, Gwinnett ranked as the fastest growing county in the U.S. among counties with a population greater than 100,000. During that period, voters passed the 1986 bond issue, and the 1985 and 1988 one-percent special purpose local option sales tax programs, mechanisms which provided funds for significant capital investments. The late 1980s witnessed a dramatic increase in the County’s road construction program, the development of a countywide Parks and Recreation program, construction of the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, renovation of the historic courthouse, construction of new public libraries, and other capital improvements.

Growth slowed during the recessions of 1990 and 2007, but the influx of new residents and businesses continued. The County’s population in 2010 stood at 805,321, up more than 216,000 residents from the 2000 count of 588,448 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial population estimates).

According to estimates by the Department of Financial Services and the Department of Planning and Development, the County’s population was estimated at 880,787 in 2014, and its population is expected to reach more than one million by the year 2020.
Public Safety

Gwinnett County’s Department of Police Services is a nationally-accredited agency with an authorized strength of 758 sworn officers, supported by 308 non-sworn employees providing law enforcement services to the County. The department has attained accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) since 1993. Approximately 5 percent of over 18,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide enjoy this prestigious recognition. Additionally, in 2013, the Gwinnett County Police Department became one of the few police agencies nationwide to receive the “Accreditation with Excellence Award,” the highest level of accreditation. The department’s goals in 2015 are to continue to meet the needs of the increasing population and its changing demographics, and to ensure fiscal responsibility while providing the latest technology, facilities, training, and equipment.

Gwinnett County’s Department of Fire and Emergency Services covers the largest fire district in the state of Georgia and responded to 71,084 calls for assistance in 2014. The department has 847 personnel and operates 30 strategically located fire stations including 30 engine companies, 10 ladder trucks, and 25 advanced life-support (ALS) medical units. Specialty teams are trained to respond to situations involving hazardous materials, technical, and/or swift-water rescue. Gwinnett County’s Department of Fire and Emergency Services provides an integrated fire suppression and emergency medical response to all emergencies.

Transportation

Gwinnett County’s infrastructure includes more than 2,750 miles of roads, with more than 700 signalized intersections. The 2015 Capital Budget and 2016 – 2020 Transportation Capital Improvement Program (CIP) totals approximately $376 million.

In 2013, the County began construction on the widening of SR 20 from Peachtree Industrial Boulevard to Burnette Trail, the last remaining two-lane section of SR 20 in Gwinnett County. The County purchased right of way and easements using state and federal dollars and is also managing the state-funded construction. The project includes widening from two lanes to four lanes with a depressed median. The project is expected to open to traffic in 2016.

In 2015, the County will increase the roadside mowing frequency on 350 shoulder miles from four to six times per year and will increase the landscape mowing of 101 miles of major roads from six to twelve times per year. The County will re-implement roadway sweeping of approximately 100 intersections, 50 miles of center turn lanes, and 500 miles of curb/bike lanes on a quarterly basis.

The fourth busiest airport in the state, Briscoe Field, is located on approximately 500 acres in Lawrenceville. The airport is capable of handling all light, general aviation, and most corporate jet aircraft. Two fixed-base operators and three flight schools provide service and instruction at the airport.

Gwinnett County Transit operates seven express bus routes during morning and afternoon peak travel times and five local bus routes all day Monday through Friday. The express routes allow transit customers to park their cars at County Park-and-Ride lots and take transit to destinations in downtown and midtown Atlanta. The local routes are complemented by door-to-door Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit service for ADA-eligible customers unable to use the local bus. In 2015, Saturday local service will be restored to all five local bus routes along with two express bus trips from Indian Trail Park and Ride lot. The transit system is operated using 60 express coaches, 28 local buses, and 10 paratransit vehicles. In 2014, the transit system transported more than 1.7 million riders on express and local buses.
Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) is the largest school system in Georgia, and it continues to grow. In the 2014 – 2015 school year, the district is serving more than 173,000 students. The district’s enrollment grew by more than 4,300 students compared to the previous year. With more than 20,000 employees, GCPS is the largest employer in Gwinnett County and one of the largest in the state of Georgia.

GCPS is made up of 134 schools, including 77 elementary schools, 27 middle schools, 19 high schools, five charter schools and six other special schools. The average cost to educate one student is $7,804 per year. For 2014 – 2015, Gwinnett County operates more than 1,900 school buses that transport more than 127,000 students twice daily and travel more than 23.3 million miles annually.

The vision of GCPS is to become a “system of world-class schools.” The school system is pursuing this vision through the following initiatives: the Gwinnett Teacher Effectiveness System, the Academic Knowledge and Skills Curriculum, the eCLASS online portal, and the Quality-Plus Leader Academy leadership development program.

The academic achievements of GCPS are numerous. In 2012 – 2013, the average SAT score of GCPS students was 1513, which is 15 points higher than the national average and 61 points higher than the state average. GCPS also topped both state and national ACT averages with an average score of 21.9.

GCPS was the 2010 recipient of the Broad Prize, the largest education award in the country. The annual Broad Prize honors large urban school districts that demonstrate the strongest student achievement and improvement while narrowing achievement gaps between income and ethnic groups. As the recipient of the 2010 Broad Prize, GCPS received $1 million in college scholarships for graduating high school seniors. In 2014 the Gwinnett school district once again captured the award for urban education along with co-winner Orange County Public Schools in Orlando, Florida. In 2014 the co-winners will split the $1 million prize in scholarships.

In fiscal year 2015, the total budget adopted by the Board of Education is $1.86 billion. GCPS is one of only two large school systems in the nation with a triple-A bond rating. For more information on Gwinnett County Public Schools, go to www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us.

Gwinnett is also home to several colleges and universities, such as Georgia Gwinnett College, Gwinnett Technical College, the University of Georgia Gwinnett campus, DeVry University Duluth Center, Shorter University – Gwinnett campus, and the Georgia campus of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In May 2008, the University of Georgia moved its Gwinnett programs from the campus it shared with Georgia Gwinnett College to its new location near Sugarloaf Parkway and I-85, and changed its curriculum to graduate programs and continuing education only. The University of Georgia’s Gwinnett Campus offers graduate credit programs, professional development opportunities, and a small business development center.

Georgia Gwinnett College (GGC) opened its doors as a four-year college in fall 2006. In fall 2014, approximately 11,000 students were enrolled at the college. Almost 70 percent of GGC students are from Gwinnett and almost 100 nations are represented by the student body. Georgia Gwinnett College ranked fifth in U.S. News & World Report magazine’s Southern Public Regional Colleges in 2014. In 2015 U.S. News & World Report reported the college as the most diverse public or private college in the Southern region.

Gwinnett Technical College opened in 1984 as Gwinnett Area Technical School. The school has significantly expanded its course offerings and made two name changes since then. Today, Gwinnett Technical College serves approximately 20,000 students, making it one of Georgia’s largest technical colleges. More than 50 programs and nearly 150 associate degrees are offered. To its credit, Gwinnett Technical College was one of the first technical schools to earn accreditation.

The Gwinnett County Public Library System, established in 1935, has grown to 15 full-service branches and has the largest circulation in the state with approximately 6.4 million items borrowed and more than 6.3 million visits to the website and mobile site in fiscal year 2014. The Gwinnett County Public Library system has identified the following goals in its Fiscal Year 2013 – 2015 Strategic Plan: 1) maximize funding efforts that most efficiently leverage library and community resources, 2) be a leader in creating an engaging customer experience through exceptional staff and innovative expanded access to facilities, programs and services, and 3) have the library perceived as the central building block in establishing lifelong learning as an enriching feature of community life in Gwinnett County.
Business Environment

During the past decade, Gwinnett County has been a top job creator in metro Atlanta and is home to Fortune 500 and 1,000 companies. In 2014, the County issued 16,665 occupation tax certificates (business licenses). The County’s infrastructure, skilled workforce and business environment is a draw for many companies. Gwinnett County also offers easy access to major interstate highways and international airports and ports. In August 2013, CNN Money Magazine recognized Gwinnett County on its Where the Jobs Are list, ranking the County ninth on a national list of the top 25 counties where prospects for employment are promising. The report recognized the County for its role as a global leader, home to companies from Japan, China, and Germany, to name a few. The listing points to the recent expansions of Mitsubishi Electric US Cooling & Heating and Primerica, Inc. as two firms that are growing in the community. Mitsubishi Electric celebrated the opening of its division headquarters in April 2013, while Primerica opened the doors of its global headquarters in May 2013. Dasan Machineries announced in May 2014 that over the next three years the Korean-based manufacturer will move to Gwinnett County and open its first U.S. headquarters in Duluth. More than 60 international companies have chosen the County for their U.S. or global headquarters operations.

Gwinnett County caters to domestic and international businesses of all sizes and works to promote the industries of advanced communications, information technology, manufacturing/supply chain management, healthcare and life sciences, and corporate headquarters/professional services. Gwinnett’s assets in these related sectors are strong, and efforts are made to ensure companies continue to be satisfied with their Gwinnett location, expand their presence in the County, and grow additional local economic opportunities.

Gwinnett’s hospitality and international sophistication, along with affordable real estate and a well-educated labor pool, continues to attract a comprehensive array of diverse companies. In February 2015, Comcast, one of Georgia’s largest employers, announced the expansion and relocation of its regional headquarters to Peachtree Corners, which will create 150 new jobs in the County. In addition to Gwinnett County’s success in attracting businesses to the area, the County has also thrived as a major retail center for nearly 30 years. It became home to Gwinnett Place Mall in 1984, the Mall of Georgia in 1999, Sugarloaf Mills (formerly Discover Mills) in 2001, The Forum on Peachtree Parkway in 2002, and The Avenue Webb Gin (now The Shoppes at Webb Gin) in 2006. Gwinnett’s charming towns also offer a vast array of antique stores, boutiques, gift shops, art galleries, consignment stores, and specialty retail establishments.

Tourism appears to be a growing business in Gwinnett. Occupancy at the more than 100 hotels located in the county is at an all-time high. In 2013, tourism generated more than $1 billion in direct spending locally and 2014 promised to be even better. The County is likely to see additional tourism growth as a result of the emerging film industry. Gwinnett will soon be home to the largest movie studio lot in the state. The new development is slated for the OFS site along the I-85 corridor in Norcross.
Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation (GCPR) offers award-winning parks and leisure activities year-round to the young and young-at-heart residents of Gwinnett County. Residents can choose to stroll on a trail, play a sport, learn to swim, take a fitness or pottery class, go on a horseback or bike ride, or explore the County’s rich history. There is something for everyone. GCPR offers facility rentals and partners with 28 volunteer youth athletic associations to offer sports such as baseball/softball, basketball, cheerleading, football, soccer, roller hockey, and lacrosse. In 2014, the division offered more than 7,030 classes, summer camps, and special events.

Currently GCPR operates 46 parks and facilities that include 175 sports fields, 51 tennis courts, 40 outdoor basketball courts, five year-round and seven seasonal aquatic facilities, seven dog park areas, seven cultural/historic sites, more than 125 miles of trails, seven skate complexes, 69 playgrounds, picnic areas, pavilions, fishing lakes, and more. In 2013, Harbins Park and Rabbit Hill Park opened expanded youth sports facilities with the assistance of volunteer-based youth athletic associations. Parks and Recreation also developed partnerships with healthcare providers to promote community health and wellness programs, including the Park Rx program and Live Healthy Gwinnett. New for 2015 is the scheduled opening of Level Creek Park at Suwanee Dam Road. The facility will include a multipurpose complex covering 18 acres.

In 2014, GCPR was named the top park agency in Georgia serving populations of 150,001 and greater. It was also recognized for outstanding minority programming for Kidsplosion, a program to provide underserved areas with creative summer camp programs. Four trails in the Gwinnett County park system were announced as national recreation trails by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. These four include Harbins Park in Dacula, Little Mulberry Park in Dacula, McDaniel Farm Park in Duluth, and Settles Bridge Park in Suwanee.

Gwinnett County continues to place a high priority on greenspace, as well as active and passive park land. As of 2014, Gwinnett parkland totaled 9,413 acres for both passive and active parks.

The Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center (EHC) is a unique partnership between the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners, the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center Foundation, the University of Georgia, and the Gwinnett County Public School system. The 66,000 square-foot educational center is a multi-use history, culture, heritage, and environment facility. As of fall 2014, center patrons can access the Ivy Creek Greenway by foot or bike and experience a seven-mile trail between the EHC and George Pierce Park. The center was Gwinnett County’s first LEED-certified green building and has one of the nation’s largest sloped vegetated roofs. The center staff also coordinates heritage programming at other County historic sites.

ArtWorks! Gwinnett is a nonprofit organization designed to cultivate arts opportunities in Gwinnett that enhance cultural and economic capital and enrich the County’s residents and the business community. The organization is an independent branch of the Partnership Gwinnett community and economic development initiative and supports the County’s 2030 Unified Plan. ArtWorks! Gwinnett held its third annual Fusion awards program in February 2014 at the Aurora Theatre in Lawrenceville.
The Gwinnett Center complex consists of a convention center, a performing arts center, an arena, and an arts center. Beautiful landscaping and complimentary onsite parking make a visit to any of these facilities an enjoyable one. The complex is operated by the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau under an operating agreement with Gwinnett County; the Convention and Visitors Bureau is the official tourism, hospitality sales, and marketing arm for the County.

The Gwinnett Convention Center is anchored by a 50,000 square foot Exhibit Hall, which is an ideal venue for trade shows, conventions, consumer shows, and corporate meetings. With 28-foot ceilings and column-free exhibit space, up to 300 exhibitors can use the Exhibit Hall at one time. The Convention Center also has 24 fully adaptable meeting rooms accommodating any size group from two to 2,000. The Grand Ballroom consists of 21,600 square feet of space, with banquet seating for up to 1,500.

The Gwinnett Performing Arts Center is a 708-seat performing arts theater with superior visibility and acoustics, and a high-tech sound system. The theater has fully-equipped production capabilities and is ideal to showcase stage productions, musical performances, corporate meetings, and civic events.

The Jacqueline Casey Hudgens Center for the Arts provides a setting with casual elegance or an artistic flair, with outdoor gardens, an art gallery, and a variety of beautiful spaces for receptions, weddings, or other special events. The Al Weeks Sculpture Garden offers 28,000 square feet of enclosed, private outdoor space with a lily pond, waterfalls, koi, and garden seating.

The Arena at Gwinnett Center seats up to 13,000 attendees for concerts, sporting events, religious conventions, corporate meetings, and family shows. Since 2003, the Arena has been the home of the Gwinnett Gladiators of the East Coast Hockey League. With 36 corporate suites, high-end sound, and versatile lighting, the venue has a top reputation in the industry among promoters and planners. In 2009, a parking deck was added, providing an additional 950 covered spaces for patrons.

The Arena at Gwinnett Center has been nationally and internationally ranked as a top venue based on gross ticket sales and attendance. The facility is consistently listed as a Best of Gwinnett recipient, which is voted on by consumers and honors Gwinnett County companies. In addition, the Gwinnett Convention Center received an award in 2013 and 2014 as one of ConventionSouth’s Readers’ Choice winners, which is voted on by more than 6,500 meeting professionals and venue fans.

In 2009, the Atlanta Braves’ Triple-A affiliate, the Gwinnett Braves, moved to Lawrenceville and began playing at Coolray Field. This state-of-the-art stadium seats more than 10,000 fans and plays host to 72 regular season home games and other events such as concerts, charity events, baseball clinics, and public safety exhibitions. The 2014 season marked the sixth season of play since the stadium opened. Coolray Field has provided the community with hundreds of new jobs, and the Braves have been active with donations and fundraising for local nonprofit organizations.
Gwinnett Medical Center (GMC) is a 553-bed, not-for-profit healthcare network comprised of two hospitals, a long-term care facility, and a full spectrum of outpatient services. In 2013, GMC served approximately 400,000 patients (ER discharges, inpatient and outpatient surgical patients, and outpatient visits).

With more than 4,800 associates and approximately 800 affiliated physicians, GMC is comprised of the following licensed facilities: Gwinnett Medical Center-Lawrenceville with 353 acute care beds, Gwinnett Medical Center-Duluth with 81 acute medical/surgical beds and 30 acute physical rehabilitation beds, and the Gwinnett Extended Care Center on the Lawrenceville campus with 89 nursing home beds. Serving the county for more than 70 years, Gwinnett Medical Center has received national recognition for clinical excellence and ranks in the top 5 percent in the nation for clinical quality.

GMC-Lawrenceville, the system’s flagship hospital, provides inpatient and outpatient services as well as 24-hour emergency care including the Children’s Emergency Center and Level II trauma care. The North Tower features the most advanced technology in healthcare, and the Strickland Heart Center provides advanced cardiac services, including open-heart surgery. The Lawrenceville campus is recognized as a national leader in single incision laparoscopic surgery, advanced cardiovascular service and operates as a Level II trauma center.

GMC-Lawrenceville’s comprehensive array of medical specialty services includes the Center for Orthopedics, Center for Neuroscience, Brain & Spine Institute, and Center for Sleep Disorders. The hospital is also the site of Gwinnett Day Surgery, Gwinnett Extended Care Center, Gwinnett Sports Rehab, and the Gwinnett Women’s Pavilion. The Women’s Pavilion offers a Level III neonatal intensive care unit and a high-risk pregnancy unit.

GMC-Duluth offers 24-hour emergency care and is best known for its Sports Medicine Program, Concussion Institute, Center for Weight Management, robotic surgery, and Glancy Rehabilitation Center, which offers inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services for individuals with orthopedic or neurologic conditions.

To meet the growing need for primary care in Gwinnett County, GMC established a graduate medical education program that will offer family medicine and internal medicine residency programs. The hospital system welcomed its first family medicine residents in July 2014, and the internal medicine residents will join the system in July 2015.

Recognized as a top-performing hospital in the state of Georgia for patient safety by the Leapfrog Group’s latest safety report, Eastside Medical Center has a team of 1,200 medical professionals. Last year, Eastside’s team served thousands of patients — performing more than 5,700 surgeries, bringing more than 1,500 babies into the world, and handling nearly 62,000 emergency room visits. Serving the area since 1980, Eastside Medical Center has three locations. A 310-bed, acute-care hospital offering cardiac care, women’s services, and comprehensive cancer treatment is located in Snellville. The second location, Eastside Medical Center – South Campus, is just 10 minutes away and provides psychiatric treatment, rehabilitation services, and wound care. Additionally, the Loganville Imaging Center offers an array of imaging services including MRI, CT, mammography, ultrasound, and more. In 2011, the hospital received the American Heart Association’s Gold-Plus Stroke Performance Achievement Award for implementing high standards for stroke care. Through a partnership with the Piedmont Heart Institute, the hospital expanded its cardiac care services in 2012. The following year, a new patient tower opened that features advanced technology including a hybrid operating suite and 48 surgical beds. Eastside Medical Center also offers a spine center and a center for surgical weight loss.

In July 2014, a new health care provider focused on transitional care and short term recovery opened in Suwanee. The facility named Salude offers 64 private rooms and bathrooms. In addition, offerings at Salude include a 2,800 plus square foot therapy space, 24/7 in room dining, grab-and-go café, and walking paths.

The goal of Salude is to provide an option to short-term and transitional recovery care that focuses on patient comfort and experience. State-of-the-art rehabilitation and medication delivery systems are key to perfecting the recovery process. Patients are likely to recover there for two weeks with the maximum stay at 20 days.

High-quality healthcare is a focus of Gwinnett County. Having Salude’s first transitional care model located in our county is an asset to our citizens’ patient care and recovery.

Gwinnett County Health and Human Services supports the needs of residents through coordination with private and public organizations. It participates in the planning of the Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services, provides services to Gwinnett’s senior citizens, develops and manages one-stop service centers, and manages County funding for nonprofit and other governmental organizations. Numerous health centers throughout Gwinnett County offer medical care to residents who meet income and eligibility requirements.
Governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners, Gwinnett’s local government is comprised of a chairman elected at-large and four commissioners elected by district for four-year terms. The Board of Commissioners appoints the County Administrator. To implement the Board’s directives, the County Administrator uses a management team consisting of members of his immediate staff and 12 department directors. The 12 departments that make up the executive side of the county government are Police Services, Fire and Emergency Services, Corrections, Support Services, Financial Services, Community Services, Human Resources, Information Technology Services, Law, Planning and Development, Water Resources, and Transportation. Each department is run by a director who is charged with managing departmental operations in a manner which stresses efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and customer service.

In addition to the internal departments that comprise the executive side of County government, certain services are provided to citizens through constitutional officers and independent elected officials. These external offices are created by the Georgia Constitution or through state law. In Gwinnett County, they include the Sheriff, Tax Commissioner, District Attorney, Probate Court Judge, and Chief Magistrate. These independently-elected officials exercise authority assigned to them by the Georgia Constitution or by state law.

While most administrative County government operations and courts are located in the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center, some departments are located in the Annex Building, One Justice Square, and the Recorder’s/Juvenile Court facility. As relocations and additions occur, the existing facilities undergo reconfigurations to better meet residents’ needs.
Auburn: Located on U.S. Highway 29 between Lawrenceville and Athens, Auburn became a part of Gwinnett County in 1988, annexing 2,500 acres. (Population = 220*)

Berkeley Lake: Established in 1956, Berkeley Lake is located near the Chattahoochee River and is mostly residential with wooded lots and rolling hills. (Population = 1,947)

Braselton: Settled in 1876, part of this municipality is located within Gwinnett where property was annexed in 1989. It also extends into Barrow, Hall, and Jackson Counties. (Population = 3,245*)

Buford: Buford is Gwinnett’s northern most city, with a small portion of the city in Hall County. It was founded in 1872 and originally developed as a railroad town. (Population = 11,968*)

Dacula: Founded in 1891, a branch of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad was constructed from Dacula through Lawrenceville to Duluth. Elisha Winn is one of Gwinnett’s early leaders, and his home served as a temporary first courthouse. (Population = 4,698)

Duluth: In the early 1800s, this town was part of Cherokee Indian territory. In 1821, it developed as the town of Howell Crossing, and in 1873 the town name was changed to Duluth following completion of the railroad. (Population = 28,404)

Grayson: Founded in 1880, Grayson is another city given birth by the railroad. The city was previously known as Berkel. (Population = 2,710)

Lawrenceville: Incorporated in 1821, Lawrenceville is the second oldest city in metro Atlanta and is the county seat. (Population = 29,868)

Lilburn: In 1892, a railroad stop known as the town of McDaniel developed. Renamed Liburn in the early 1900s, this city is named after Lilburn Trigg Myers who was the general superintendent for the Seaboard Airline Railway. (Population = 12,425)

Loganville: This town also started as a branch of the railroad in 1898 and is another city that Gwinnett shares with an adjoining county. (Population = 2,625*)

Norcross: The second oldest city in Gwinnett, Norcross was founded as a resort town for wealthy Atlantans. Chartered in 1870, Norcross has an area of 112 acres listed in the U.S. Register of Historic Places. (Population = 16,131)

Peachtree Corners: Peachtree Corners is the newest city in Gwinnett County. The Georgia General Assembly passed legislation on March 16, 2011, to hold a referendum for voters to consider the incorporation of the City of Peachtree Corners. The referendum passed on November 8, 2011. (Population = 40,059)

Rest Haven: Incorporated in 1940, Rest Haven is one mile and a half wide. (Population = 34*)

Snellville: In 1885, Snellville was founded by Thomas Snell and James Sawyer. It is located on U.S. Highway 78 in the southeastern corner of the County. (Population = 19,245)

Sugar Hill: This town’s name is said to have come from an incident in the 1800s when a freight wagon traveling down a steep hill spilled its load of sugar. The city was chartered in 1939. (Population = 20,153)

Suwanee: Beginning as an Indian village and later developed as a railroad stop, Suwanee was officially founded in 1837 with the establishment of the post office. (Population = 17,688)

* Population within Gwinnett County

Source: U.S. Census Bureau’s July 1, 2013 population estimates