



For Immediate Release

March 2, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICE

Georgia Department of Public Health Babies Can't Wait Program Seeks Public Comment *Public Comment Period Until May 2, 2018*

ATLANTA - The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) Babies Can't Wait (BCW) program interested persons to participate in a 60-day public comment period for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018 Annual State Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Stakeholders, early intervention providers, parents and members of the public are encouraged to comment. The [grant application and revised policy](#) may be reviewed online or at locations throughout the state.

Participants can submit comments by mail, email, fax or in person:

1. Written comments will be accepted by mail until May 2, 2018:

Babies Can't Wait
Attn: Lisa Pennington, Deputy Director Early Intervention
2 Peachtree Street NW, 11th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303-13422

2. Email comments will be accepted until May 2, 2018:

DPH-MCHDO@dph.ga.gov (Subject line: Part C or Public Comment)

3. Fax comments will be accepted until May 2, 2018:

State BCW office fax: (404) 657-7307

4. In person comments at a public hearing:

See available locations below.

| District | Date/Time | Location | Contact |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Cobb-Douglas (3-1) | March 15, 2018 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. | Cobb County Board of Health 1738 County Services Road Suite 200 Marietta, GA 30008 | Yvette James Early Intervention Coordinator (770) 319-4717 Yvette.James@dph.ga.gov |
| Rome (1-1) | March 22, 2018 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. | Northwest Health District 1309 Redmond Road, NW Rome, GA 30165 | Scottie Worthington Early Intervention Coordinator (706) 802-5076 Scottie.Worthington@dph.ga.gov |
| Valdosta (8-1) | March 29, 2018 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. | South Health District 206 S. Patterson Street, 3 rd Floor Valdosta, GA 31603 | Judy Threlkeld Early Intervention Coordinator (229) 245-6565 Judy.Threlkeld@dph.ga.gov |

DPH invites interested persons to attend public hearings and present public comments. To allow an opportunity for all to be heard, comments will be limited to five minutes.

About Babies Can't Wait

The Babies Can't Wait (BCW) program is Georgia's statewide early intervention system for infants and toddlers with special needs, from birth to age three, and their families. BCW enhances the capacity of families to meet the special needs of their child to ensure each young child with significant developmental delays achieves his or her maximum developmental potential. To learn more about DPH Babies Can't Wait program, please call (404) 657-2850 or (888) 651-8224 or visit <http://dph.georgia.gov/Babies-Cant-Wait>.

About the Georgia Department of Public Health

The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is the lead agency in preventing disease, injury and disability; promoting health and well-being; and preparing for and responding to disasters from a health perspective. In 2011, the General Assembly restored DPH to its own state agency after more than 30 years of consolidation with other departments. At the state level, DPH functions through numerous divisions, sections, programs and offices. Locally, DPH funds and collaborates with Georgia's 159 county health departments and 18 public health districts. Through the changes, the mission has remained constant – to protect the lives of all Georgians. Today, DPH's main functions include: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Maternal and Child Health, Infectious Disease and Immunization, Environmental Health, Epidemiology, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Emergency Medical Services, Pharmacy, Nursing, Volunteer Health Care, the Office of Health Equity, Vital Records, and the State Public Health Laboratory. For more information about DPH, visit www.dph.georgia.gov.