

Memorandum of Understanding

Victim Service Providers - Cobb County, Georgia

The community of Cobb County is united in its efforts to provide on-going, comprehensive, non-duplicative, healing, consistent, support services to victims of crime in our community. Further, the undersigned agencies have agreed to continue in the existing mutually supportive, formal partnerships as an interactive way of working together to provide services to crime victims. While each agency recognizes that the best services provided to victims of crime are holistic, comprehensive, and collaborative, each agency possesses specific knowledge, expertise and authority in this area.

Further, each agency provides valuable services in the arena of victim's services and to individual crime victims. In recognition of this fact, we agree that we cannot perform our jobs adequately or effectively without assistance, support, and collaboration among us. Therefore, each agency listed below will perform the duties as outlined in its mission and will support, collaborate, and coordinate with each other agency listed herein in providing services to victims of crime at all levels of agency response.

Cobb Judicial Circuit, District Attorney's Office, Victim Witness Unit

The mission of the Victim Witness Unit of the District Attorney's Office is to afford victims of crime certain basic rights as set forth in the *Georgia Crime Victims Bill of Rights*. This mission is achieved through the delivery of direct services including notification of status of the criminal case and education about the court system to victims and witnesses of felony crimes. The VW Unit offers victims of crime emotional support during the aftermath of crime and provides guidance through the maze of the criminal justice system.

SafePath Children's Advocacy Center, Inc.

The mission of SafePath Children's Advocacy Center, Inc. is to reduce the trauma to children and their families by offering a comprehensive, professional and child-friendly approach to allegations of child abuse. The center provides a neutral, child friendly environment where professionals and agencies utilize a multi-disciplinary team approach to alleged child abuse cases. Services are provided to children and adolescents age birth through 18 and their non-offending family members including but not limited to: crisis assessment, treatment, forensic interviews, clinical services, medical evaluations, professional off-site referrals, advocacy services, expert testimony, training and prevention services. All of our services are provided free of charge. Our vision is a community free of child abuse.

liveSAFE Resources, Inc.

liveSAFE Resources' vision is a community free of domestic violence and sexual assault. As the only certified domestic violence shelter in Cobb County with an estimated population of 750,000 residents, we provide emergency and transitional housing, assistance with obtaining Temporary Protective Orders, individual and group counseling at no cost to survivors or their family members, a 24-hours crisis line, access to sexual assault forensic medical exams, accompaniment to medical and legal appointments, elder abuse services, and provide consultation, in-service training and conduct informational presentations as needed.

The Center for Children & Young Adults, Inc.

The Center for Children & Young Adults provides safe & suitable shelter and transitional housing, youth development activities and comprehensive supportive housing services for at-risk homeless and maltreated youth who have been abandoned, abused, neglected and/or commercially sexually exploited.

Cobb and Douglas Public Health

The mission of Cobb and Douglas Public Health is to promote community wellness by providing or helping others provide quality services including assessment, prevention, and treatment in a caring manner. Our vision is to achieve optimal health for our residents and our communities by providing preventive and personal health services for children, adolescents, and adults at our Public Health Centers.

Cobb Collaborative, Inc.

Cobb Collaborative is a membership of non-profit organizations, local government, businesses, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, professional organizations, associations and citizens who share ideas, expertise and resources to meet the needs of Cobb County. The Committees of CC are community partners who provide oversight to the organization. The Councils of CC are structured groups of community partners which carry out the mission, vision, goals and strategies of the councils. They represent topics the members collaboratively address to affect change.

Cobb County Community Services Board

The mission of the Cobb County Community Services Board (CCCSB) is to empower all individuals living with behavioral health challenges and intellectual and other developmental disabilities to achieve and maintain their desired quality of life. CCCSB serves adults, children, and adolescents regardless of their ability to pay while ensuring integrated and high quality care for the whole individual.

Cobb County Division of Family and Children Services

The Georgia Department of Human Services, in partnership with others, will effectively deliver compassionate, innovative, and accountable services to individuals, families and communities to promote Georgians living safe, healthy, and self-reliant lives.

The Center for Family Resources

The mission of The Center for Family Resources is to move people to self-sufficiency through financial stabilization, housing and education. We provide resources and support so that individuals and families can escape the cycle of poverty.

Crime Victims Advocacy Council

The Crime Victims Advocacy Council seeks to help crime victims cope with their suffering and pain. We will aid crime victims throughout the healing process by concentrating our energies and resources in the following areas: providing support groups, community education, crime prevention, raising community consciousness and acting as an advocate for crime victim's rights. CVAC will be the eyes, ears and voice for the restorative healing and justice for victims of crime.

Solicitor General's Office, Victim Witness Program

The mission of the Victim Witness Unit of the Solicitor General's Office is to afford victims of crime certain basic rights as set forth in the Georgia Crime Victims Bill of Rights. This mission is achieved through the delivery of direct services including notification of status of the criminal case and education about the court system to victims and witnesses of misdemeanor crimes, to offer victims of crime emotional support during the aftermath of crimes, and to provide guidance through the maze of the criminal justice system.

Cobb County Emergency Communications Department

Our mission is to improve the quality of life in our community by providing an effective channel of communications between the public and public safety providers. I am proud of the dedicated men and women in our department who have chosen the telecommunications profession as a career in which to serve the public.

State of the art radio and communications systems, along with the extensive training program ensure the integrity of 9-1-1 services delivered to the City of Marietta, the City of Powder Springs, the City of Acworth, the City of Kennesaw, and unincorporated Cobb County.

We are embracing the challenges brought about by the needs of the growing and progressive county we serve. As a leader in our profession, we are committed to providing the highest standard of vital emergency communications service. By implementing new technology to integrate wireless phone systems and eliminating cultural and language barriers we believe we can achieve this goal.

Cobb County Police Department

The mission of the Cobb County Police Department is to enforce all laws in unincorporated Cobb County in an impartial manner; act affirmatively to improve the quality of life in Cobb County by serving and protecting Cobb County Citizens, with a sense of community cooperation and solution based police efforts; and enhance the lives of Cobb County citizens through professional application of specialized functions including: Community Oriented Police Enforcement (COPE), Tactical Response (SWAT), dive rescue, bomb squad, ranger services, crime prevention, and citizen education. The Police Department designates specialty units to investigate crimes related to domestic violence and stalking, child sexual assault and child physical abuse.

Cobb County Sheriff's Office

The mission of the Cobb County Sheriff's Office is to provide professional law enforcement services to all citizens of Cobb County through a trained, motivated and focused workforce of men and women dedicated to public service. Services are exemplified through victim notification of an inmate's release from custody, the priority execution and enforcement of all arrest warrants, court orders and civil processes that are domestic and/or family violence related.

City of Acworth Police Department

It is the mission of the Acworth Police Department to provide fair, impartial, and excellent law enforcement service to our community. To that end, we pledge to pursue the highest levels of training and education available, and to offer our community the highest levels of professionalism to the best of our ability.

City of Austell Police Department

The mission of the Austell Police Department is to provide fair, impartial, and professional law enforcement services to all citizens of, and visitors to, the City of Austell. To attain this, the Austell Police Department provides professional up to date training for all employees and recognizes the constitutional rights of all persons. This agency acknowledges that no law enforcement agency can operate at its maximum potential without supportive input from the citizens it serves, and in having dedicated officers who go beyond the call of duty by involving themselves in community programs.

City of Kennesaw Police Department

The mission of the Kennesaw Police Department to assure that our community is safe from crime and public disorder by focusing on the prevention of crime along with reducing the fear of crime.

City of Marietta Police Department

The mission of the Marietta Police Department is to provide professional law enforcement services to the City of Marietta without bias. The Marietta Police Department will be diligent in its efforts to ensure a safe environment for all individuals and businesses within the city of Marietta. The department will also provide assistance to other federal, state, or local agencies in a manner that will reflect a most positive image of our city and department.

City of Powder Springs Police Department

The Powder Springs Police Department exists to enhance the quality of life for the citizen's of Powder Springs by implementing integrity based, progressive policing. To attain this, the Department enforces the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police and the constitutional rights of all persons. The Department recognizes that no law enforcement agency can operate at its maximum potential without supportive input from the citizens it serves. The Department actively solicits and encourages cooperation of all citizens to decrease the opportunity for crime and maximize use of resources.

City of Smyrna Police Department

The mission of the City of Smyrna Police Department is to provide the highest quality of police services to the community while at the same time maintaining respect for individual rights and human dignity; to maintain social order within prescribed ethical and constitutional limits, while providing professional law enforcement services to all. To attain this the Department enforces the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the constitutional rights of all persons. The Department recognizes that no law enforcement agency can operate at its maximum potential without supportive input from the citizens it serves. The Department actively solicits and encourages the cooperation of all citizens to decrease the opportunities for crime and to facilitate the maximum use of resources.

Kennesaw State University Department of Public Safety

The mission of the Department of Public safety is to ensure that Kennesaw State University remains a safe and secure community, conducive to the free exchange of ideas within an academic setting by providing protection, security and services to the campus community at large and specifically to victims of crime.

Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services

Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services (CCFES) is a professional organization always striving to lead the way in setting a standard of excellence. We exist to provide superior fire, rescue, and emergency services to the citizens and visitors of Cobb County in a proficient, professional, and compassionate manner. They continuously promote life safety within the county by practicing prevention, planning, education, and training.

Cobb County School District

The Cobb County School District exists to provide a quality educational program for all students in a challenging, secure environment. We, as professional, caring educators, provide a relevant, integrated curriculum in order for our students to become critical thinkers who are knowledgeable, skillful and responsible, and who can succeed as life-long learners in a richly diverse society.

Cobb County Government

The mission of Cobb County Government is to help make Cobb County the best place to live and work through efficient, effective and responsive government that delivers quality services.

Cobb County Juvenile Court

The Juvenile Court of Cobb County is dedicated to serving the residents of Cobb County by hearing cases involving allegations of dependency and delinquency concerning children found within the Court's jurisdiction. In doing so, the Juvenile Court of Cobb County utilizes judicial and community based interventions to provide an effective response to the children and their families. The services provided by the Juvenile Court of Cobb County are provided with the goal of creating a safer community by strengthening families and reducing crime.

Cobb County Public Safety

The mission of the Department of Public Safety for Cobb County is to provide Law Enforcement Services, Fire & Emergency Services, Enhanced 911 Services, Animal Control Services, Emergency Management Services, and Safety Education Programs in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner to both citizens and visitors of Cobb County. Ingrained in that philosophy of services is a commitment to teamwork and excellence combined with a responsive, problem-solving philosophy that fosters daily interaction with the citizens we serve in a compassionate, positive manner that encourages public involvement and leads to public confidence in the county's Public Safety Departments.

WellStar Health System

WellStar Health System, the largest health system in Georgia, is known nationally for its innovative care models, focused on improving quality and access to healthcare. WellStar consists of WellStar Medical Group, 240 medical office locations, outpatient centers, health parks, a pediatric center, nursing centers, hospice, homecare, as well as 11 inpatient hospitals: WellStar Atlanta Medical Center, WellStar Atlanta Medical Center South, WellStar Kennestone Regional Medical Center (anchored by WellStar

Kennestone Hospital), WellStar West Georgia Medical Center, WellStar Cobb, Douglas, North Fulton, Paulding, Spalding Regional, Sylvan Grove and Windy Hill Hospitals. As a not-for-profit, WellStar continues to reinvest in the health of the communities it serves with new technologies and treatments.

This Memorandum of Understanding is in effect for the service delivery period of April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023. Should agency heads change during this time, an addendum page with the appropriate signature only will be added as this document will stand as the original.

The signing of this Memorandum of Understanding signifies the collaborative continued support and involvement of each agency listed in providing comprehensive services to victims of crime in the community of Cobb County.

Memorandum of Understanding
April 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023
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Flynn D. Broady, Jr., District Attorney
Cobb Judicial Circuit, Victim Witness Unit

Date: _____

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Jinger Robins, CEO
SafePath Children's Advocacy Center

Date: _____

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Tracey B. Atwater, Executive Director
liveSAFE Resources, Inc.

Date: _____

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Kimberley A. Borna, J.D., CEO
The Center for Children and Young Adults

Date: _____

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Irene Barton, Executive Director
Cobb Collaborative

Date: _____

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Janet Memark, MD, MPH, FACP
District Health Director
Cobb & Douglas Public Health

Date: _____

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LaSondra Howard-Boddie, Director
Cobb County Division of Family and Children's Services

Date: _____

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Melanie Dallas, Interim CEO
Cobb County Community Services Board

Date: _____

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Candace Sims, CEO
Crime Victims Advocacy Council

Date: _____

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Melanie Kagan, CEO
The Center for Family Resources

Date: _____

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Barry Morgan, Solicitor General
Solicitor General's Office, Cobb County

Date: _____

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_____, Director
Cobb County Emergency Communications Department

Date: _____

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Craig Owens, Sheriff
Cobb County Sheriff's Office

Date: _____

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Tim Cox, Chief
Cobb County Police Department

Date: _____

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Wayne Dennard, Chief
City of Acworth Police Department

Date: _____

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Robert Starrett, Chief
City of Austell Police Department

Date: _____

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William Westenberger, Chief
City of Kennesaw Police Department

Date: _____

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Dan Flynn, Chief
City of Marietta Police Department

Date: _____

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Lane Cadwell, Acting Chief
City of Powder Springs Police Department

Date: _____

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Robert Harvey, Acting Chief
City of Smyrna Police Department

Date: _____

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Edward Stephens, Chief
Kennesaw State University
Department of Public Safety

Date: _____

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Randy Crider, Director
Cobb County Department of Public Safety

Date: _____

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William T. Johnson, Chief
Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services

Date: _____

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Chris Ragsdale, Superintendent
Cobb County School District

Date: _____

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Lisa N. Cupid, Chairman
Cobb County Board of Commissioners

Date: _____

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Wayne E. Grannis, Presiding Judge
Cobb County Juvenile Court

Date: _____

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Dr. John Brennan, CVP
Chief Clinical Intergration Officer
WellStar Health System

Date: _____