

# Community Outreach

*Helping parents support their children.*

## Fatherhood Program

The Georgia Department of Human Services' (DHS) Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) offers the Fatherhood program to assist parents who are unemployed or underemployed and are, as a result, unable to pay their full child support obligations.

The program connects parents to resources that can help them secure jobs above the minimum wage and promotes greater self-sufficiency. Parents can also achieve more emotional, parental, and financial involvement in the lives of their child(ren). Georgia was the first state in the U.S. to implement a statewide Fatherhood program.

### Services Offered to Participants

- Job placement
- Soft skills training
- GED referral
- Short-term training referral
- Prison paternity testing
- Prison re-entry
- Resume writing
- Federal bonding
- Referrals to access and visitation services
- Coaching and mentoring
- Emotional wellness training

### By the Numbers

In Federal Fiscal Year 2024:

- 92%** of noncustodial parents owing child support in Georgia were fathers
- 39** Fatherhood outreach specialists administered the program across Georgia
- 1,524** participants were offered or referred to GED/short-term job training resources
- 68,338** cases were considered hard-to-serve and potentially eligible for an outreach program
- 5,485** parents were enrolled in the Fatherhood program
- 1,924** successfully completed the program
- 11,036** children were served

### Fatherhood Outreach Activities

To raise awareness of the Fatherhood program's role in helping parents meet their child support obligations, DCSS works collaboratively on outreach efforts across the state. These initiatives connect parents to resources that support their journey toward self-sufficiency. Key activities include prison paternity programs, employer engagement, educational opportunities, emotional wellness support, community collaboration, and relationship-building efforts—all aimed at promoting greater parental involvement and improving access to their child(ren).

### Fatherhood Conversations

Each event allows the community to learn more about DCSS processes, the Fatherhood program, community employment opportunities, and community support services. The virtual events also offer a chance to address questions and concerns directly with local DCSS staff members, businesses, and community support resources.

Six conversations were held in Federal Fiscal Year 2024 in Gainesville, Adel, Newnan, Brunswick, Dublin, and Statesboro.

### Did You Know?

#### DRIVER'S LICENSES

Fatherhood participants who have had their driver's licenses suspended or who are subject to license suspension for nonpayment of child support have the opportunity to regain driving privileges. Noncustodial parents can complete a deferral agreement in the DCSS mobile app.

### Contact Information

For information about the Fatherhood program and other outreach services, call **1-877-GADHSGO (1-877-423-4746)**. Custodial and noncustodial parents can apply for services, enter and receive information about their cases, make a payment online or check payment information by using the Customer Online Services portal at **childsupport.ga.gov**. Users must establish a password to protect confidentiality. Customers can connect to the Fatherhood program directly by emailing **fatherhoodinquiry@dhs.ga.gov**.

**Candice L. Broce**, DHS Commissioner | **Breanna Sims**, Deputy Commissioner of State Programs | **Sarah Hurst**, Assistant Deputy Commissioner of Child Support Services | **Ashley Forbes**, Deputy Director of Administration | **Kristi Stone**, Deputy Director of Operations | **Dana Jones**, Deputy Director of Systems. Revised 01/2025; FFY 24 data