



Gaston County Resource Guide

Table of Contents

Emergency Phone Numbers (Gaston County) -----	2
Gaston County Health Department -----	3
Gaston County Department of Social Services -----	6
Community Relief Organization of Mount Holly (CRO) -----	10
Crisis Assistance Ministry of Christians and Jews of Greater Gastonia, Inc. (CAM) ---	10
Cherryville Area Ministries -----	10
Belmont Community Organization -----	11
Bessemer City Crisis Center -----	11
American Red Cross-Gaston County Chapter -----	11
Dallas / High Shoals Christian Social Ministry -----	12
Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. -----	12
The Compassionate Friends -----	13
Cramerton Ministerial Relief Association -----	13
Gaston Baptist Association -----	13
Gaston College -----	14
Employment Security Commission of North Carolina -----	14
The Salvation Army -----	15
Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club -----	15
Serving Our Community with Kindness (SOCKS), Inc. -----	16
Gastonia Housing Authority -----	16
Belmont Housing Authority -----	17
Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, Inc. -----	17
New Hope Career Center -----	17
Arc of Gaston County, Inc. (The Association for Retarded Citizens) -----	18
Piedmont Council, Boy Scouts of America -----	18
City of Gastonia Parks & Recreation Department -----	19
Gaston Community Action, Inc. -----	20
Gaston Comprehensive Day Center -----	20
TEACCH: South Central Center -----	21
Consumer Service Bureau -----	21
Better Business Bureau of Southern Piedmont, Inc. -----	21
Gaston County Schools -----	22
Gaston County Public Library -----	22
Gaston Literacy Council, Inc. -----	24
North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service -----	25
Family Service, Inc. -----	26
Pathways Mental Health Development Disabilities/Substance Abuse Area Authority --	27
Alcohol & Drug Abuse Treatment Center -----	30
Gaston Comprehensive Day Center -----	30
Camp Sertoma of Gaston County, Inc. -----	31
Cancer Information Service -----	31

Table of Contents (con't)

Catherine's House	31
Cherryville Chamber of Commerce	32
Social Security Disability Information Office (Disability Hotline)	32
Employee Assistance Program (EAP)-Division of Pathways MH/DD/SS Authority	33
Gaston Memorial Hospital	33
Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont, Inc.	34
Grief Recovery Carothers Funeral Home	35
Habitat for Humanity of Gastonia, Inc.	35
Pioneer Council, Girl Scouts of the USA	36
New Life Pregnancy Services	36
Narcotic Anonymous	37
Mediation Center of the Southern Piedmont, Inc.	37
Hospice of Gaston County	37
House of Mercy, Inc.	38
Insights to Recovery	38
Families Against Drugs & Abuse	38

Emergency Phone Numbers

Sheriff.....	Gaston County	911/(704) 869-6880
Police.....	Gaston County & City	911/(704) 866-3300
Fire	Gaston Volunteer	911/(704) 866-6890
Fire	Gaston City.....	(704) 866-6890
Rescue Squad	Gaston/Lincoln County	911
Ambulance	Gaston County	911/(704) 865-6077
Hospital	Gaston County	911/(704) 333-9033
Poison Control Mercy Hospital		(704) 379-5827
Mental Health 24 Hour Crisis	Gaston County	(704) 867-4357
Mental Health Lincoln	Same as Gaston County	(704) 867-4357
Rape Crisis Line.....	Gaston/Lincoln County 24 Hour	(704) 864-0060
Battered Spouse Shelter	Gaston County	(704) 866-3613
NC Center for Missing Children.....		1-800-522-5437
United Way Information & Referral		(704) 864-5788
State Highway Patrol		1-800-445-1779

Agency: Gaston County Health Department

Address: 991 W. Hudson Blvd.
Gastonia, NC 28052
Phone: (704) 853-5000
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Monday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Tuesday - Friday
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: To improve the health of Gaston County's citizens through the provision of health examinations, immunizations, episodic sick care, environmental services, and education.
Services:

Administration (704) 853-5260

Billing (704) 853-5118

Personal Health Services Division: (704) 853-5085

Gastonia Health Center (704) 853-5000

991 W. Hudson Blvd.

Gastonia, NC 28052

Cherryville Health Center (704) 435-6411

108 S. Jacob Street

Cherryville, NC 28021

East Gaston Health Center (704) 827-1351

122 South Main St.

Mt. Holly, NC 28021

Sexually Transmitted Disease/HIV Program (704) 853-5006

Provides confidential diagnosis, treatment, counseling, education, & follow-up services for sexually transmitted diseases. Anonymous and confidential HIV testing, counseling, and case management are also available. These services are available to anyone who believes he/she has been exposed to a sexually transmitted disease or HIV.

HIV Well Clinic: (704) 853-5006

Coordinates support and medical services between Gaston Family Health Services and the Health Department for HIV positive clients.

Communicable Disease Program: (704) 853-5002

Receives reports on suspected cases of communicable diseases, provides education and follow-up on communicable disease.

Child Health Clinic: (704) 853-5010

Offers appointments for nurse screening clinic, physical exams, referrals, follow-up of high risk and other medical problems, hospital care, and counseling.

Child Service Coordination: (704) 853-5000

A case management program that focuses on families with infants or children who are at risk for developmental problems. A registered nurse is assigned to the family to assist with identifying concerns and available resources.

Services Continued:

- Family Planning Clinic:** (704) 853-5009
Provides education, counseling, laboratory studies, medical exams, contraceptive devices, and sterilization services.
- Maternity Health Clinic:** (704) 853-5009
Provides prenatal care and delivery for any Gaston County pregnant woman who is unable to secure private obstetrical care.
- Pregnancy Counseling:** (704) 853-5009
Provides all options for entry point for all maternity services in counseling, assessment and referrals.
- Cancer Screening Services:** (704) 853-5009
Provides comprehensive screening services for clinical breast exam, pelvic exam, Pap smear, instruction in self-breast exam and mammogram for women 50 and over who qualify.
- General Clinic:** (704) 853-5003
Provides immunizations for adults, children, and international travelers, tuberculin skin tests, and blood pressure screening and monitoring. Treats conditions such as lice, rashes, impetigo, ringworm, and scabies. Animal bite reporting and rabies follow-up is also provided.
- Tuberculosis Control Clinic:** (704) 853-5007
Provides testing, x-ray's, physical assessments, drug therapy, counseling, education, and case management.
- School Health Program:** (704) 853-5000
Works in collaboration with the Gaston County school system to foster a safe environment for Gaston County school age population by providing communicable disease control.
- Gaston Family Health Services, Inc.:** (704) 853-5079
(Located at Health Department but not a Health Department Division)
Provides primary care appointments for patients without a physician.
- Dental Health Program:** (704) 853-5191
Provides referrals, education on dental health for adults and children, dental screening for children in grades 2,4,6 and self-contained special education classes, and fluoride mouth rinse in elementary schools.
- WIC Program:** (704) 853-5100
Provides nutrition education and vouchers for nutritious foods for women who are pregnant, breast feeding or have infants less than six months of age, and children up to age five who meet medical and income guidelines.
- Breast Feeding Services:** (704) 853-5181
Provides breast feeding information, counseling and classes for pregnant women and visits breast feeding mothers at Gaston Memorial Hospital before they are discharged.

Services Continued:**Nutrition Services:**

(704) 853-5102

Provides nutritional counseling and follow-up to high-risk pregnant women who have been referred for assessment or medical/nutritional therapy. Provides medical/nutritional therapy to Gaston Family Health Services' patients diagnosed with weight problems or chronic diseases and HIV infections. Accepts referrals from private physicians in the country.

HIV Outreach Services:

Provides direct HIV/AIDS risk reduction education and counseling to individuals and groups and serves as a source of reference on HIV/AIDS.

Gaston Good Life:

Provides small businesses in Gaston County with quality health promotion services at the work site.

AIDS Council:

Works to stop the spread of HIV and promotes a compassionate community response to persons affected by HIV/AIDS by offering support groups for persons with HIV and their families, AIDS Hot line, an emergency relief program, and community education programs.

Health Education Program:

(704) 853-5118

Provides technical assistance and support to Health Department staff, and helps community groups develop and conduct health-related programs.

Environmental Health Services Division:

(704) 853-5200

On-site Sewage Disposal:

Site evaluations, including soil evaluations, issuance of septic tank improvement and installation, repair permits for loan letters and investigations of complaints about failing septic systems. Permits are issued 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday-Friday. To make appointments for inspections, evaluations and analysis of water samples, call between 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Monday-Friday.

Well Water Supplies:

Site evaluation, issuance of well installation, repair, and abandonment permits, inspections of well installation, repairs, and abandonment, analysis of water samples investigations of complaints, and inspections for loan letters.

Subdivision Plan Review:

Evaluations of lots in new subdivisions as requested by county Planning Department to determine suitability for on-site sewage disposal.

Eligibility:

Gaston County Residents

How To Apply:

Call for an appointment

Fees:

Personal Health Services Division charges for services on a sliding fee scale based upon a person's income and family size. There are no fees charged for WIC Services. Environmental Health Services Division has various set fees for services. Call for more information.

Funding:

County, state and federal funding

Agency: Gaston County Department of Social Services

Address: 330 N. Marietta St.
Gastonia, NC 28052
Phone: (704) 862-7540
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: DSS exists to alleviate emotional and economic distress among the people of the county through the delivery of preventive and restorative programs. The agency's staff seeks to assist and to protect the vulnerable: children, adults, the blind, disabled and the sick.
Eligibility: Eligibility for services is dependent upon the specific program. Guidelines are based upon state and federal policies. Determination is made on a case by case basis depending upon the individual's or family's situation.
How to apply: Applications for services are made by contacting DSS. General information concerning eligibility for services may be obtained by telephone; however, a signed application is required for most programs.
Fees: Fees, if applicable, are determined by DSS
Funding: County, state and federal funds, grants, donations and United Way of Gaston County

Medicaid and Day Care	(704) 862-7515
Food Stamps	(704) 862-7510
Child Support	(704) 862-7520
Work First Employment	(704) 862-7525
Children and Family Services	(704) 862-7530
Adult Services	(704) 862-7540
Administration	(704) 862-7240
Personnel	(704) 862-7540
The Shelter of Gaston County	(704) 852-6000
Food Stamps	(704) 862-7510

Services:

Children and Family Medical Assistance (704) 862-7530
Assists low-income families and their minor children with medical care costs.

Carolina Access
Provides HMO type medical plan to aid Medicaid recipients in obtaining primary care physicians and recruits primary care physicians into the Medicaid Program.

Child Support (704) 862-7520
Provides services to caregivers of minor children to ensure support for their children.

Food Stamps (704) 862-7510
A program designed to raise nutritional levels in low-income households by issuing food stamps allotments to supplement a household's food dollars.

Investigative/Overpayment Services
Examines public assistance cases for suspected overpayment or fraud and prepares cases for administrative hearings or for court action.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

[TANF] (formerly AFDC). Provides monthly financial assistance to minor children deprived of parental support and/or care and to the relative caregiver of such children.

Work Permits

Issues work permits for minors from ages 14 – 17.

Work Release

Investigations from Department of Corrections for persons assigned to work release.

Adolescent Parenting

Helps adolescent parents to continue school, postpone a second pregnancy, and develop life management skills and plan for employment and self-sufficiency.

Adoptions

Provides the legal work of clearing children for adoption, emotional preparation of children to be adopted, placement in appropriate homes and the supervision of the placement.

Children and Family Services Intake

(704) 862-7530

Assesses the applicant's situation, makes referrals to appropriate services within the department and to other agencies and initiates applications for those seeking family and children services.

Day Care for Children

(704) 862-7515

Provides day care services for children of low income working parents, parents in training or for abused or neglected children. Provides transportation to child care on a limited basis.

Family Planning Services

Includes counseling, education and other services to enable individuals or families to voluntarily limit family size, to plan for and space children and to reduce the incidence of unplanned pregnancies.

Family Preservation Services

Provides home-based crisis intervention services to families in an effort to prevent breakup of the family unit and to provide an alternative to out-of-home placement of children.

Foster Care for Children

Meets the needs of children who are separated from their families due to a crisis in the home. Also, recruits, trains, licenses, and supervises foster homes for children.

Home Investigations

Completes court ordered home studies and studies requested by other agencies to assist in making decisions concerning custody and placement of children.

Independent Living Program

Gives teens between the ages of 16 and 21 years, who are in DSS legal custody, the skills they need to move from DSS placement to a home of their own.

In-Home Aide - Case Management

Teaches and provides assistance with managing household budgets, planning nutritious meals, teaching sound child rearing practices to parents and providing supportive help in the areas of good health practices, maintaining adequate housing and child care.

Problem Pregnancy Services

Informs clients of alternatives such as adoption and maternity home placements.

Protective Services for Children

(704) 862-7555

Investigates complaints of child neglect, abuse or exploitation and provides services to protect children at risk.

Psychological Services

Provides diagnostic evaluations of children and adults to assist social workers in rendering appropriate services and provides clinical direction to treatment workers.

Adult Services:

(704) 862-7540

Medicaid/Special Assistance

(704) 862-7505

Provides medical expenses for disabled/aged adults and a monthly payment to help pay the cost of rest home care.

Adult Services Intake

Assesses needs and links individuals with the most appropriate services within the Department or within the community and initiates applications for clients for any service requested.

Adult Social Work Services

Allows social workers to assess an individual's situation, develop a plan of service and work with an individual until stabilization takes place.

Aid to the Blind Services

Provides services to the visually impaired to maximize their functioning, independence and self-sufficiency.

Congregate Meals

Serves weekday meals to individuals age 60+ in group settings. Individuals also receive structured activities and fellowship.

Day Care for Adults

Provides supervised week day care for older adults.

Placement Services

Provides placement services for disabled and elderly adults in need of adult care home, intermediate or skilled nursing care.

Adult Care Home Licenser

Involves the activities to license, supervise and monitor adult care homes elderly and disabled adults.

Guardianship Services

Provides legal guardianships for elderly/disabled individuals who are deemed mentally incompetent by the court system.

Home Delivered Meals

Serves meals to individuals age 60+ who are medically homebound, unable to prepare meals and have no one available to prepare meals for them.

In-Home Aide Services

Provides services to enable elderly and disabled individuals to remain in their homes for as long as possible.

Protective Services for Adults

(704) 862-7575

Evaluates concerns regarding abuse, neglect, self-neglect or exploitation of elderly and/or disabled adults.

Title V Employment Program

Provides part-time employment and training for financially eligible adults age 55+.

Transportation Services

Provides transportation to Medicaid recipients for medical purposes and to older adults attending day care, nutrition sites or requiring transportation to doctor, grocery stores and other agencies.

Emergency Assistance

Provides short term financial assistance to families with children under the age of 21 who are in an emergency situation.

Commodity Distribution

Provides USDA surplus food items to low income households on a quarterly basis.

CIP**Crisis Intervention Program**

Provides financial assistance to low income families who are faced with a heating or cooling related crisis.

LIEAP**Low Income Energy Assistance Program**

Assists low income families with heating expenses through a once a year payment.

The Shelter of Gaston County

(704) 852-6000

Provides a "safe house" to victims of domestic violence and their children, plus supportive services in preparation to leaving the shelter.

Website: www.co.gaston.nc.us/shelter

Work First

(704) 862-7525

Cash Assistance and Employment Program

Provides education, job training and work activities for recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), and support services, such as child care and transportation.

JTPA**Job Training and Partnership Act**

Provides job opportunities for youth and adults, including displaced older workers. Work with companies in lay-off situations.

Agency: Community Relief Organization of Mount Holly [CRO]

Address: PO Box 831
Mount Holly, NC 28120
Phone: (704) 827-0450
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Thursday & Friday
Closed Tuesday and Wednesday
Area: Greater Mount Holly area plus Lucia & Catawba Heights
Purpose: Emergency relief to families in accordance to needs.
Services: Provides food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, heat, electrical bills, and medicine according to the need.
Eligibility: Residents of greater Mount Holly area with crisis needs and proper identification.
How to Apply: Call or come by the office at the back basement entrance of the Municipal Building (turn off Central Avenue onto Municipal Lane to get to the back of the building).
Fees: None
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County and local churches, businesses, individuals, and the City of Mount Holly.

Agency: Crisis Assistance Ministry of Christians and Jews of Greater Gastonia, Inc. [CAM]

Address: 805 W. Airline Ave.
Gastonia, NC 28052
Phone: (704) 867-8901
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Greater Gastonia
Purpose: Through direct assistance, counseling and referral to other agencies, this organization serves as an extension of the ministries of its member congregations and seeks to enable those who are in need not only to resolve their immediate crisis, but also to move toward relative independence and wholeness of life.
Services: Work with families facing emergency situations related to basic life support needs of food, shelter, utilities, heat, and medicine. Maintains a food pantry, provides limited financial assistance, and makes referrals which will encourage the clients to work toward a permanent solution to his/her problems and move towards relative independence. Funds are sent directly to the vendor providing utilities, rent, medicine, etc.
Eligibility: Low income individuals and families who have found themselves in a crisis situation and are unable to pay for the basic needs of food, heat, shelter, utilities, and medicine.
How to Apply: Anyone requesting assistance must apply in person (with the exception of individuals who are bed ridden or handicapped) at CAM office.
Fees: None
Funded By: 42 Member Congregations

Agency: Cherryville Area Ministries and Thrift Shop

Address: 212 N. Mountain St.
PO Box 611
Cherryville, NC 28021
Phone: (704) 435-3816
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday (no assistance given on Thursday or Saturday)

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday
Area: Northwest Area of Gaston County
Purpose: To assist those in need of emergency help with clothing, food, vouchers for rent, fuel, electricity, medicine, and gas.
Service: Clothing program, food boxes, financial assistance for utilities, medicine, rent, etc.
Eligibility: Based on need and funds available
How to Apply: Call or come by for an application
Fees: None
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, churches, individuals, businesses, and sale of thrift store items.

Agency: Belmont Community Organization

Address: 91 Catawba Street
 PO Box 1248
 Belmont, NC 28012
Phone: (704) 825-4526
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Greater Belmont area
Purpose: To provide assistance to individuals and families needing help in crisis or emergency situations.
Services: Food, clothing, medicine, hospital equipment, furniture and household items, utility bills, heat and Christmas funds.
Eligibility: Those in an emergency situation or hardship due to unavoidable or unforeseen circumstances.
How to Apply: Call during office hours to talk to a contact person or leave message after hours.
Fees: None
Funded By: United Way of Gaston county, the Belmont Community, including individuals, & churches.

Agency: Bessemer City Crisis Center

Address: 111 N. 12th St.
 PO Box 921
 Bessemer City, NC 28016
Phone: (704) 629-2147
Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Monday – Friday
 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday (Thrift Shop)
Area: Bessemer City area
Purpose: To provide assistance to individuals and families requesting help.
Services: Provides food, help with rent, utilities, medicines, fuel, & clothing.
Eligibility: Based on verified information.
How to Apply: Come by the office or call for an appointment.
Fees: None
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, private donations, and area churches.

Agency: American Red Cross-Gaston County Chapter

Address: 190 S. Oakland St.
 Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone: (704) 864-2623
Fax: (704) 864-7904
Website: www.redcross.org
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
 Emergency services 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: The American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization led by volunteers that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.
Services: Disaster preparedness training, disaster response (locally and nationally), single family disaster program, Armed Forces Emergency Services, blood services, health and safety training (CPR, First Aid, baby-sitting classes, water safety training, back injury prevention), AIDS education, youth and volunteer services.
Eligibility: Gaston County residents
How to Apply: Call
Fees: None, Except for Health and Safety classes (cost recovery)
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, McAdenville Community Chest, and private donations.

Agency: Dallas/High Shoals Christian Social Ministry

Address: 214 N. Holland St.
 Dallas, NC 28034
Phone: (704) 922-1236
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Monday - Friday
Area: Dallas, High Shoals, and Hardin areas
Purpose: Aids residents who are in need of financial and spiritual help.
Services: Help pay power bills, heating bills, and assist with food, clothing, and medicine.
Eligibility: Those out of work, experiencing sickness in family, mental illness, and large or low income families.
How to Apply: Call for interview or leave a message on answering machine. No appointment necessary
Fees: None
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, area churches, and private donations.

Agency: Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc.

Address: 3303 Union Rd.
 Gastonia, NC 28056
Phone: (704) 868-4636
Help-line: (704) 867-3706
Website: www.cpcgaston.org
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
 3:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: Designed to help any woman facing an unplanned pregnancy, regardless of her age, marital status, race, religion, and financial situation.
Services: Offers free pregnancy tests, peer counseling, education and information, maternity home placement, maternity clothes, baby clothes, furniture and car seats, provides classes in childbirth, parenting, and abstinence, single parent support groups, post-abortion peer counseling for males and females, and a 24-hour Help-line. All services are confidential.

Eligibility: Anyone
How to Apply: Call hot-line to schedule an appointment.
Fees: None
Funded By: Individuals, churches, grants and fund-raisers (Walk for Life)

Agency: The Compassionate Friends

Address: 1642 Heatherloch Dr.
 Gastonia, NC 28054
Phone: (704) 865-7229
 (704) 865-9847
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Days
 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Evenings
Area: Gaston, Cleveland, and Lincoln Counties, and Clover, SC
Purpose: The Compassionate Friends is a self-help organization offering friendship, support, and understanding to bereaved families, most especially bereaved parents. The purpose is to assist bereaved parents in the positive resolution of grief experienced upon the death of a child, regardless of the age of the child.
Services: Offers monthly meetings, monthly newsletter, a grief-related lending library of books and tapes, and a listing of telephone friends (bereaved parents at least a year distant from the death of their child) for additional support to newly bereaved.
Eligibility: Those who have experienced the death of a child or sibling, regardless of child's age at death or the cause of death. Professionals interested in hearing and learning of our grief processes are welcome to attend.
How to Apply: Attend a meeting. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church on Garrison Boulevard, Gastonia, NC.
Fees: None
Funded By: Gifts and Donations of Interested Parties. A grant from the Community Foundation purchased the books and tapes for the library.

Agency: Cramerton Ministerial Relief Association

Address: 501 Cramer Mtn. Rd.
 Cramerton, NC 28032
Phone: (704) 824-4286
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday
Area: City of Cramerton
Purpose: To provide financial assistance and food to Cramerton residents.
Services: To provide financial assistance for rent, utilities, medicine, gas for transients, and food through a community food pantry.
Eligibility: People living in the Cramerton community as well as transients.
How to Apply: Call or leave message.
Fees: None
Funded By: Area churches and grant money from Duke Power.

Agency: Gaston Baptist Association

Address: 1607 Rankin Lake Rd.
 Gastonia, NC 28052
Phone: (704) 867-0905

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: To share with those in the community, who are less fortunate, express Christian love and provide a Christian witness. To provide physical, financial and material help to persons who are in a crisis situation. Seeks to discover the needs and match the resources to meet the needs, keeping in mind the person, their dignity and their spiritual condition.
Services: Provides food, clothing, medicine, utilities and transportation on a limited basis and wood for heating.
Eligibility: Residents of Gaston County
How to Apply: Clients must call and schedule an appointment.
Fees: None
Funded By: Southern Baptist churches of Gaston County.

Agency: Gaston College

Address: 201 Highway 321 South
Dallas, NC 28034
Phone: (704) 922-6200
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Friday
Area: Gaston, Lincoln, and surrounding Counties
Purpose: Gaston College is publicly supported, open door community college organized and chartered to be of service to the people of Gaston and Lincoln Counties and the State of North Carolina. The mission is to provide wisdom, leadership, resources, and educational opportunities, which enable individuals to achieve their personal and career goals and to contribute to an enriched climate of intellectual, cultural, and economic growth. Gaston College aspires to teaching and academic excellence.
Services: Allied Health Technology, Business Technologies, Liberal Arts and Science, College Transfer Programs, Trade and Industrial Technologies, diploma Programs, Engineering Technologies, Continuing Education, Counseling, Career Planning and Placement Services, Library Book Store and Student Activities.
Eligibility: Gaston college subscribes to the “open door” admission policy. Applicants are normally required to have a high school diploma or its equivalent. Exceptions are made in the vocational programs based on the age of the applicant (18 years of age or older). Admission to certain degree and diploma programs may be affected by special program requirements.
How to Apply: Complete application forms through Admissions office. Dual enrollment students must request forms from principals’ office with proper signatures required.
Fees: \$39.50 per credit hour, student activity fee \$.75 cents per hour, not to exceed \$6.00, lab fees \$3.00 per lab hours, not to exceed \$30.00, usage fee \$7.00 per semester (\$5.00 for summer). Persons over 65 are not charged a fee.
Funded By: State of North Carolina, Gaston and Lincoln Counties

Agency: Employment Security Commission of North Carolina

Address: 1391 Bessemer City Rd.
Gastonia, NC 28052
Phone: (704) 853-5328
Fax: (704) 853-5303
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Gaston County

Purpose: To promote economic well-being of North Carolina citizens by aiding stabilization growth of state's economy through facilitating the operation of the labor market. The Commission operates in three broad program areas: Employment Services, Unemployment Insurance, and Labor Market Information.

Services: Full service assistance in recruitment, employer agreements, 100 day, no fault referral service, federal contractors job listing, employer services, testing and counseling. Outreach services in institutional training, rapid response program, dislocated workers, summer youth, older workers, handicapped workers, institutional offenders, and veterans. Unemployment insurance rates, responsibilities and benefits are provided. Labor market analysis such as employment trends, state labor summaries, civilian labor forces estimates, employment and wages in North Carolina, employment projections and selected wage rates are available.

Eligibility: None

How to Apply: No appointment necessary, apply at office

Fees: None

Funded By: Federal and state funding

Agency: The Salvation Army

Address: 107 S. Broad St.
Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone: (704) 867-6145

Website: www.salvationarmy.org

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday
Homeless Shelter- check in 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday
Soup Kitchen - Lunch 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday
 Dinner 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday

Area: Gaston and Lincoln Counties

Purpose: The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

Services: Provides assistance to individuals who are facing emergency situations because of a loss of income or a situation beyond their control with food, clothing, rent, utilities, medicine, and travelers aid. Emergency shelter is provided to homeless men, women, and families while they find a job, save their money, and find permanent housing.

Eligibility: All assistance depends upon availability.

How to apply: Call for an appointment and/or come to office.

Fees: None for emergency relief services.

Funding: United Way of Gaston County and public donations.

Agency: Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club

Name: Marietta Unit
PO Box 1094
Gastonia, NC 28053-1094
1001 S. Marietta St.
Gastonia, NC 28054

(704) 865-3410

Joe R. Hudson East Gaston Unit
715 N. Main St.
Lowell, NC 28098

(704) 824-4773

Mountain View Unit
425 Edwin St.
Gastonia, NC 28052

(704) 867-7733

Hours: 2:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (during the school year)
6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (during the summer months)
Purpose: To offer services for boys and girls ages 6-18 based on the principles of behavior and guidance that will aid in social, educational, leadership and character development.
Services: Social recreation, outdoor education, arts and crafts, tutoring, and leadership skills.
Eligibility: No restrictions except the age requirement
How to apply: Call for a membership application
Fees: \$12.00 annual membership dues and some program service fees.
Funding: United Way of Gaston County, membership dues, and public donations.

Agency: Serving Our Community with Kindness (SOCKS), Inc.

Address: PO Box 269
McAdenville, NC 28101
Phone: (704) 827-8780
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Monday - Friday
Area: Springwood and McAdenville area.
Purpose: To give emergency relief to families in the Springwood area and McAdenville areas.
Services: Provides assistance with food, medicine, power, rent, gas, wheelchair, bedside commodes, walkers, lift chairs, tub and commode rails.
Eligibility: Springwood and McAdenville area residents only.
How to Apply: Call or come by office (must have and bring social security number).
Fees: None
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, local churches, and community donations.

Agency: Gastonia Housing Authority

Address: 340 W. Long Ave.
PO Box 2398
Gastonia, NC 28053-2398
Phone: (704) 864-6771
Fax: (704) 861-8545
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: Provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing for low-income people.
Services: Provide housing and tenant related services under two housing programs:

The Public Housing Program consists of 400 units located in four projects in Gastonia. The projects are owned and maintained by the Gastonia Housing Authority.

The Section 8 Housing Assistance Program is similar to a housing allowance or cash assistance program. Eligible families are issued certificates or vouchers and are able to select housing. The selected housing must meet HUD established "Housing Quality Standards" and must be comparable to unassisted units. Rent cannot exceed fair market

Eligibility: rents established by HUD. Applicants for housing assistance must file an application to determine eligibility. Applicant must constitute a family, or be elderly (62) or disabled as defined in section 223 of the Social Security Act. There are maximum income limits. Emergency housing is not available. The process to house a person takes weeks to months.

How to Apply: Apply in person

Fees: None

Funded By: US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Agency: Belmont Housing Authority

Address: 33 W. Myrtle St.
Belmont, NC 28012

Phone: (704) 825-9376

Fax: (704) 825-7357

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Greater Belmont Area

Purpose: To provide housing for families with low and moderate income.

Services: Provide low income housing, rentals are 2, 3, and 4 bedroom units.

Eligibility: Income guidelines as established by Department of Housing and Urban Development.

How to Apply: Call for appointment

Fees: None

Funded By: US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Agency: Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, Inc.

Address: 111 E. 3rd Ave.
Suite 200
Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone: (704) 865-2357

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Gaston County and surrounding counties

Purpose: Provide free civil legal assistance to low income individuals

Services: Representation in domestic violence, public benefits, landlord tenant, consumer fraud, bankruptcy and unemployment compensation cases.

Eligibility: Based on income, resources, and family size.

How to Apply: Call

Fees: None

Funded By: Legal Services Corporation, NC Access to Civil Justice Act, Interest on Lawyer's Trust Account Program of NC State Bar (IOLTA), and United Way of Central Carolinas, Inc.

Agency: New Hope Career Center

Address: 330 N. Marietta St.
Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone: (704) 862-7500

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Gaston County

Purpose: Houses the Work First program of Gaston County Human Services and Department of Social Services and Job Training Partnership Act [JTPA]. Provides referrals and sup-

Services: port to those seeking employment and/or additional training. Summer youth employment, child care, transportation, job referrals, classroom training, motivational training, books and supplies.

Eligibility: Based on different requirements for the different programs and availability of funds. Work First: Work First Family Assistance [WFFA] recipient whose youngest child is one year of age or older. JTPA: based on family income, provides services to displaced workers.

How to Apply: Call for an appointment or walk in.

Fees: Usually none. Child care partially funded by client according to ability to pay.

Funded By: Federal, state, and county funds, and occasionally grant funds.

**Agency: Arc of Gaston County, Inc.
(The Association for Retarded Citizens)**

Address: 200 East Franklin Ave.
Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone: (704) 861-1036

Fax: (704) 864-9464

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Gaston County

Purpose: To help persons with developmental disabilities access resources in the community, to provide information and referral, case management and to advocate for persons with mental retardation.

Services: The Arc provides services for people with mental retardation and other related developmental disabilities through education and awareness programs, speakers bureau, *Kids on the Block* puppet program, accessible living projects, socialization events, and information and referral to appropriate services.

Eligibility: Persons with mental retardation, their families and friends

How to Apply: Call

Fees: None

Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, memberships, and donations.

Agency: Piedmont Council, Boy Scouts of America

Address: 1222 E. Franklin Blvd.
PO Box 1059
Gastonia, NC 28053-1059

Phone: (704) 864-2694

Fax: (704) 867-2046

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, McDowell, Polk, and Rutherford counties

Purpose: To serve others by helping to instill values in young people and to prepare them to make ethical choices during their lifetime in order to achieve their full potential. The values instilled are based on the Scout Oath and Law.

Services: Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, venturing, Learning for Life, Exploring, and special needs.

Eligibility: Boy, ages 7 – 15 years and Explorers (boys and girls) ages 15-21 years.

How to Apply: Call the Scout Service Center or register with a local unit chartered by church, school, civic organization, etc.

Fees:	\$7.00 per year		
Funded By:	United Way of Gaston County, 13 regional United Ways, and events with Friends of Scouting (SME)		
Agency:	City of Gastonia Parks and Recreation Department		
Address:	109 W. Second Ave. PO Box 1748 Gastonia, NC 28053-1748		
Phone:	(704) 866-6839		
Hours:	During the school year: 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday During the summer: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday		
Area:	City of Gastonia		
Purpose:	To provide recreational opportunities in Gastonia.		
Services:	Provides recreational lessons, athletic leagues, and senior programs. Maintains and operates parks, pools, tennis courts, picnic areas, and jogging tracks in the city limits of Gastonia.		
Eligibility:	Resident of City of Gastonia		
How to Apply:	Call		
Fees:	Nominal, usually to pay instructors		
Funded By:	City of Gastonia		
Branch Offices:	Organized Programs Division (704) 866-6848 519 W. Franklin Blvd. Gastonia, NC 28052		
	Adult Recreation Center (704) 866-6848 519 W. Franklin Blvd. Gastonia, NC 28052		
	R. Bradley Community Center (704) 866-6847 1200 N. Modena St. Gastonia, NC 28052		
	Erwin Community Center (704) 866-6844 913 N. Pryor St. Gastonia, NC 28052		
	T. Jeffers Community Center (704) 866-6852 Whitner St. Gastonia, NC 28052		
	Phillips Community Center (704) 866-6851 2031 Echo Lane Gastonia, NC 28052		
	Southeast Community Center (704) 866-6850 2100 Robinwood Rd. Gastonia, NC 28054		
	Ferguson Park (704) 866-6961		

Summer Programs & Classes	(704) 866-6842
Athletics	(704) 866-6841
Lineberger Park	(704) 866-6846
Rankin Lake Clubhouse	(704) 866-6849

Agency: Gaston Community Action, Inc.

Address:	223 N. Morris Street PO Box 1653 Gastonia, NC 28053-1653
Phone:	(704) 861-2283 or (704) 866-8721
Fax:	(704) 8668725
Hours:	8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area:	Gaston County with services provided to Cleveland, Lincoln and Stanley Counties
Purpose:	To reduce poverty or lessen its effects through self-sufficiency programs, involvement of the poor in their government, and mobilization of community resources for the poor.
Services:	
Head Start:	Is a comprehensive and educational program providing Head Start to children ages 3 – 4 years of age by providing the highest quality of education.
The Total Family Achievement Program:	Is directed towards making low-income residents self-sufficient and steering them away from poverty.
The Weatherization Program:	Installs permanent insulating materials in homes of the elderly, handicapped, and low-income persons through an agreement with a local contractor.
Eligibility:	Determined by federal poverty guidelines.
How to Apply:	Request services by telephone or apply in person. Staff will take application and obtain verification of income with assistance of clients.
Fees:	None
Funding:	Federal, state and city funding

Agency: Gaston Comprehensive Day Center

Address:	Dallas – Cherryville Hwy. PO Box 577 Dallas, NC 28034
Phone:	(704) 922-5259 (704) 922-5250
Area:	Gaston County
Purpose:	To provide appropriate, individualized services to children and adolescents with and without developmental disabilities.
Services:	The following services are offered: Family involvement and support, screening and assessment, communication/language development, educational/developmental activities, therapeutic recreation, nursing/health care, personal care/self-help, independent living, physical therapy/movement, and preschool inclusion.
Eligibility:	Students between the ages of 3 – 21, with developmental disabilities, if at pre-school age, and severe/profound mental retardation, if at school age.
How to Apply:	Contact the program coordinator

Fees: Preschoolers: \$45.00 per week
 Developmental Day: No Charge
 Summer Camp: \$65.00 per week
 Before Care: \$20.00 per week
 After Care: \$20.00 per week

Funded By: Gaston County, NC Department of Public Instruction, contributions and parents.

Agency: **TEACCH: South Central Center**

Address: 500 W. Trade St.
 3rd floor, Suite 361
 Charlotte, NC 28202-1153

Phone: (704) 342-6346

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday
 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Friday

Services: Diagnostic/developmental assessment, psychological assessment, developmental therapy, support, training and counseling for parents, classroom and agency consultation, vocational training, job placement, supported employment and training of professionals.

Eligibility: Suspected autistic or communication handicapped individuals.

How to apply: Call

Fees: None

Funding: State of North Carolina

Agency: Consumer Service Bureau

Address: PO Box 86
 McAdenville, NC 28101

Phone: (704) 865-1664

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Not Limited

Purpose: To support consumer interest, to offer information and mediation to consumers and businesses.

Services: Provides information, mediation, referral, advocacy, complaint investigation and product testing.

Eligibility: Anyone

How to Apply: Call or write

Fees: None or nominal

Funded By: Members, donations, and Consumer and Commerce Commission

Agency: Better Business Bureau of Southern Piedmont, Inc.

Address: 5200 Park Rd
 Suite 202
 Charlotte, NC 28209

Phone: (704) 527-0012

Fax: (704) 525-7624

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: 20 Counties in Southern Piedmont NC & SC

Purpose: To promote public confidence in business by encouraging ethical behavior in the marketplace by providing marketplace education and dispute resolution services.

Services: Provide means for the public to make inquires about businesses and charitable organizations. The Better Business Bureau provides the inquirer a reliability report on the business or charity if one is on file; provides pamphlets and generates information on more than 100 topics to assist the public to be wise shoppers and wise donors to charity; provides mediation and arbitration services to resolve consumer/business disputes and monitor advertising of area businesses to ensure conformity to regulations. Receives calls 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week.

Eligibility: Anyone may use the services

How to Apply: Call or Write

Fees: None

Funded By: Fees from Better Business Bureau member firms

Agency: Gaston County Schools

Address: 943 Osceola St.
PO Box 1397
Gastonia, NC 28053

Phone: (704) 866-6100

Website: www.gaston.k12.nc.us

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Gaston County

Purpose: To provide public school education for all children in Gaston County, kindergarten through high school.

Services: Provide teachers for all Gaston County children, including all exceptional children, i.e., homebound, emotionally disturbed, mentally handicapped, speech/hearing, visually impaired, and with learning disabilities. Services including guidance counseling, drivers education, ROTC instruction, gifted and talented education, speech therapy, music, vocational, occupational and academic education, citizenship education, and extended day school.

Eligibility: Gaston County Resident

How to Apply: Contact School in Residential Area.

Fees: \$950.00 out-of-town & out-of-state residents

Funded By: County, State, and Federal Government

Agency: Gaston County Public Library

Address: 1555 E. Garrison Blvd.
Gastonia, NC 28054

Phone: (704) 868-2164

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday
2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Sunday (September – May)

Area: Gaston County

Purpose: To make available the recorded knowledge of civilization, in whatever format, to all citizens and promote and foster the free flow of information and ideas.

Services: Assist individuals with self-education and development by offering materials to support a process of life-long learning. Maintain a wide range of books and other materials to make the library an effective information center in the community. Serves as a point of access for those seeking specialized information. Provides materials and programs that will result in rewarding activities to occupy leisure time. Adds to cultural and intellectu-

	al life of the community through lectures, story hours, film, exhibits, etc. Works with other cultural groups in order to publicize their events cosponsor events and assist in locating and using materials for program planning, projects, and education of the members. Maintains collections of large print books, videocassette tapes, audiocassette tapes, and 16-mm films for use by groups and individuals with special needs.	
Eligibility:	Any individual who lives in, works in, goes to school in, or owns property in Gaston County is eligible for a free borrower's card. Anyone may use books in the library when the library is open.	
How to Apply:	Visit any library facility and bring identification that verifies current address to apply for a library card. There are no restrictions on use of materials in the facility, but a card is needed to check out materials.	
Fees:	Out-of-county borrower's card is available for an annual fee of \$10.00.	
Funded By:	Gaston County	
Branch Offices:	Belmont Branch Library	(704) 825-5426
	111 Central Ave. Belmont, NC 28012	
Hours:	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Saturday	
	Bessemer City Branch Library	(704) 629-3321
	207 N. 12 th St. Bessemer City, NC 28016	
Hours:	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday	
	Cherryville Branch Library	(704) 435-6767
	605 E. Main St. Cherryville, NC 28021	
Hours:	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday	
	Dallas Branch Library	(704) 922-3621
	105 S. Holland St. Dallas, NC 28034	
Hours:	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday	
	Erwin Center Branch	(704) 868-8046
	913 N. Pryor St. Gastonia, NC 28052	
Hours:	1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, & Friday 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Saturday	
	Lowell Branch Library	(704) 824-1266
	203 McAdenville Rd. Lowell, NC 28098	
Hours:	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday	
	Mt. Holly Branch Library	(704) 827-3581
	245 W. Catawba Ave. Mt. Holly, NC 28120	

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday

Stanley Branch Library

(704) 236-4166

205 Peterson St.

Stanley, NC 28164

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saturday

Union Rd. Branch Library

(704) 852-4073

5800 Union Rd.

Gastonia, NC 28056

Hours:

10:00 a.m.– 8:00 p.m., Monday & Thursday

10:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m., Tuesday & Friday

10:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m., Wednesday & Saturday

Closed Sunday

Agency: Gaston Literacy Council, Inc.

Address: 116 S. Marietta St.
Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone: (704) 868-4815

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday

Area: Gaston County

Services: One-on-One Tutoring:

Basic literacy skills instruction utilizing instructional styles specific to individual learning styles.

Computer-Based Learning: Extends instructional time and enhances important job skills enabling students to learn independently.

English as a Second Language [ESL] Instruction:

Provides a better understanding of the English language enabling immigrants to communicate in the cohesive, harmonizing and unifying language of America.

GED Preparation:

Small group instruction empowers students to set group goals, make decisions, and take some leadership of their groups while preparing for transition to GED classes at the community college.

Tutor Training:

Laubach Certification workshops in tutoring illiterate adults in basic literacy skills and ESL.

Family Literacy:

1. Offers basic education, life skills, workplace skills, and ESL instruction for adults.
2. Increases a child's developmental skills for academic and social success.
3. Strengthens the learning relationship between child and parent as primary teacher.

4. Support group shares concerns with a trained instructor and peers, helping them learn new parenting strategies and gain support in their efforts to deal more effectively with day-to-day challenges.

Workforce Literacy:

Improves communication, problem solving, and other critical on-the-job skills, as well as basic reading and writing skills.

New Reader Support Group:

Growth opportunities through workshops such as: writing seminars, public speaking, local art programs, etc.

Eligibility:

Adults who live or work in Gaston County and who read below a fourth grade level. Gaston County children ages 4 years through fifth grade are eligible for the Family Literacy Program. Parental participation is required.

How to Apply:

Call or drop in to set up interview.

Fees:

Students who are employed are requested to pay for their books.

Funded By:

United Way of Gaston County, civic groups, & foundations.

Agency: North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service

Address:

1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy.
Dallas, NC 28034
PO Box 1578
Gastonia, NC 28053-1578

Phone:

(704) 922-0301

Fax:

(704) 922-3416

Hours:

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area:

Gaston County

Purpose:

The Cooperative Extension Services is a cooperative program of NC State University, AT State University, US Department of Agriculture, and Gaston County. The purpose is to help people and communities help themselves through many community programs.

Services:

The following programs are offered:

4-H and Youth

(704) 922-0301

4-H helps youth acquire knowledge and develop life skills that will enable them to become contributing members of society. Youth can participate in 4-H through special interest and community clubs, Super Summer program, summer camps and school enrichment.

Agriculture

(704) 922-0303

Assists farmers by providing information and education on increasing livestock and crop production, improving farm and financial management, complying with environmental regulations, reducing use of pesticides, and enhancing marketing skills.

Nutrition and Health

(704) 922-0302

Targets parents, new mothers, day care centers, and businesses with information to improve health. “Noonliting” is a weight reduction and exercise program. Nutrition programs are “Give Your Heart A New Beat” and “Health Choices”.

Nutrition-EFNEP

(704) 922-0302

Targets families with children to improve nutritional levels and improve purchasing skills, particularly with limited resource families.

Consumer Economics

(704) 922-0302

Assists families in developing budgets, planning for home purchases, making consumer choices and understanding financial planning issues.

Natural Resources/Environments

(704) 922-0303

Designs special programs to increase the awareness of citizens to water quality and air quality issues; serves as the lead agency coordinating the County Quality of Natural Resources commission.

Horticulture

(704) 922-0301

Assists gardeners with the latest research to reduce pesticide use, comply with environmental regulations, protect water quality, reduce diseases and insects, as well as marketing methods.

Eligibility:

All citizens of Gaston County

How to Apply:

Call or visit office

Funded By:

NC State University, US Department of Agriculture, and Gaston County

Agency:**Family Service, Inc.****Address:**

214 E. Franklin Blvd.
Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone:

(704) 864-7704

Fax:

(704) 853-8018

Hours:

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Tuesday & Thursday

Area:

Gaston, Lincoln, & Cleveland Counties

Purpose:

To enrich the lives of the families we serve.

Services:**Family Counseling:**

Provides to individuals, couples, and groups, counseling for areas such as parent/child, marital, depression, employee assistance, etc.

Consumer Credit Counseling:

Budget development, debt management plans, community education, and housing counseling.

Assault and Victimization Intervention and Deterrence (AVID):

Provides information and support for victims of sexual assault and community education for sexual assault prevention

Halt Program:

Offers a twenty six-week battered intervention program to assist families affected by domestic violence by providing education classes to address issues of domestic violence, communication skills, conflict resolution, healthy relationships, and parenting skills. The cost is \$520.00 for the 26-week session.

Custody/Visitation Mediation:

Reduces animosity between parties contesting custody and/or visitation and develops agreements that meet the best interest of the children. Must be referred by the courts or attorney.

Eligibility:

Anyone

How to Apply: Phone for an Appointment
Sexual assault-24 hours a day at (704) 864-0060
Fees: For family counseling, sliding fee scale.
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, grants, fees, and contributions
Branch Office:

Family Counseling & Consumer Credit Counseling
206 E. Main St.
Lincolnton, NC 28092
Phone: (704) 864-7704
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Friday – Consumer Credit
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Friday – Family Counseling
Area: Lincoln County
How to Apply: Call Gastonia/Lincolnton Office for an Appointment.

**Agency: Pathways Mental Health Developmental Disabilities/
Substance Abuse Area Authority
(Formerly Gaston/Lincoln/Cleveland Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities/
Substance Abuse Area Authority)**

Address: 2535 Court Dr.
Gastonia, NC 28054
Phone: (704) 854-4861
1-(800)-898-5898
(704) 867-4357 Help line
Pathways Substance Abuse Recovery Center (704) 854-4196
2505 Court Dr.
Gastonia, NC 28054
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Gaston and Lincoln Counties
Purpose: The alleviation of mental health, developmental disabilities and substance abuse needs by a full range of well coordinated services within the limits of available resources.
Services:

Mental Health emergency Services: (704) 854-4204
A 24-hour crisis intervention to those in psychiatric crisis. Program attempts to avoid hospitalization if possible. Face to face and telephone intervention is available.

Adult Mental Health: (704) 867-4411
Services include individual, group, marital and family therapy, and psychological and psychiatric evaluations. Specialized programs include a smoking cessation program, an anxiety disorder treatment program, dual diagnosed mental health/substance abuse treatment program, a medication clinic, psycho-social groups for treatment of severely and persistently mentally ill persons, and a program for the treatment of sexual offenders.

Case Management (704) 867-4411
Case manager is assigned to work with specific individuals with long term mental illness to arrange necessary supports within the community, monitor service delivery, assist client to learn skills necessary to live independently and advocate for client.

Adult Partial Hospital Program

(704) 867-4411

Program operates five hours a day from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., five days a week. Services provided within therapeutic milieu including group therapy, group psycho-education of coping skills, relaxation therapy, medication and mental health, substance abuse treatment and activity therapy.

Laurel Lane Group Home

(704) 864-7068

Six bed coed HUD group home giving individuals with severe and persistent mental illness opportunities to learn household responsibilities, effective interpersonal skills under guidance of a staff person 24 hours-a-day.

Piedmont Pioneer House

(704) 866-8751

A non-institutional setting for individuals diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness designed as a clubhouse operating five hours a day from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Teaches daily living skills and developing good work habits through participation in work units and allowing members to take responsibility for leadership and task completion. Includes Supported and Transitional Employment Programs, promotes competitive employment in the community with support, guidance and coaching provided by staff.

Willie M. Services

(704) 867-4411

Services included: residential settings, group homes, apartments, respite homes, foster and therapeutic homes. Periodic services include outpatient child, outpatient family, in-home professional, recreational and in-home paraprofessional.

GMHC Child Youth

(704) 867-4411

Provides appropriate outpatient treatment, intervention and referral services to emotionally disturbed and mentally ill children, youth and their families. Services include: case management, therapy, parenting classes, groups for with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), sexually abused children and family preservation.

Day Treatment

(704) 867-4411

Intensive extended term treatment program for pre-adolescents and adolescents not currently appropriate for a school environment because of serious emotional disturbance.

Developmental Disabilities

(704) 867-2361

2505 Court Drive
Gastonia, NC 28054

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

Offers home based early intervention services for infants and preschoolers and their families.

Gaston Comprehensive Day Center

Full day developmental and educational services for infants and persons up to age 16.

Expressions in Learning Day Center

An integrated licensed day care program for children 0-5 administered by Gaston Comprehensive Day Center.

Services Continued:**Community Alternatives Program-MR/DD**

Individualized services for a limited number of persons to prevent institutionalization.

Job Training & Placement Program

Job training, coaching and placement for persons with developmental disabilities.

Support Services

A system of support services for persons with developmental disabilities.

Support Services-Thomas S. Program

Offers a multidisciplinary service, which serves persons with dual diagnoses, assisting them with prevocational life skills training.

Support Services-Counterpoint Day Program

A day program which serves persons with dual diagnoses, assisting them with prevocational life skills training.

Support Services-Respite Care Services

A 24-hour temporary care service for children and adults who are developmentally disabled for up to 30 days per year.

Creative Opportunities

Provides comprehensive and structured day program for severe/profound developmentally disabled individuals.

Substance Abuse

(704) 854-4830

2505 Court Dr.

Gastonia, NC 28054

Adult Services

Services range from prevention/education, intervention, treatment programs, family therapy, and aftercare.

Intensive Outpatient Group Program

An extensive six week program involving eight hours per week of treatment spread over three sessions, designed to provide in-depth therapeutic involvement with group therapy, psycho-education and a 12 step program.

Woman's Program

Identifies, educates, and engages women who struggle with chemical dependency either personally or in their relationships. Provides assessments, crisis intervention, case management, counseling, referrals, support groups, domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Child/Youth Substance Abuse

Services range from prevention/education, role modeling to treatment.

Detox Program

A detoxification center to assist in easing the individual's chemical withdrawal in a healthy environment with counseling and support.

Adult Services Continued:**Court Services for Gaston-Lincoln**

Alcohol Drug Education Training Schools [ADETS] for court ordered clients.

Eligibility: Residents of Gaston and Lincoln Counties

How to Apply: Walk-ins, Referrals, and Scheduled Appointments

Fees: Sliding Scale

Funded By: 1st/3rd Party, State, Local and Federal

Agency: Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center

Address: 301 Tabernacle Rd.
PO Box 1441
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Phone: (828) 669-3400

Fax: (828) 669-3451

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: 35 Counties of Western North Carolina

Purpose: To provide a clinically supported education program for citizens and their families suffering from chemical dependency. This 28-day program is based on the principles of AA and Al-anon self help groups and is designed as a beginning program of recovery through continued care services of area MH/DD/SA programs.

Eligibility: The patient must be diagnosed as either suffering from alcohol or drug dependency or both. The patient must possess potential for significant improvement from the rehabilitation program.

How to Apply: Referrals accepted primarily through area MH/DD/SA programs

Fees: Cost of stay is based on actual costs. Third party coverage is accepted. An “ability to pay” method is available if you are without third party coverage.

Funded By: State of North Carolina

Agency: Gaston Comprehensive Day Center

Address: Dallas-Cherryville Highway
PO Box 577
Dallas, NC 28034

Phone: (704) 922-5259
(704) 922-5250

Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday - Regular Day
6:30 a.m. – Before Care
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – After Care

Area: Gaston County

Purpose: To provide appropriate, individualized services to children and adolescents with developmental disabilities.

Services: Family involvement and support, screening and assessment, communication/language development, educational/developmental activities, therapeutic recreation, nursing/health care, personal care/self-help, independent living, physical therapy/movement, and preschool inclusion.

Eligibility: Students between the ages of 3-21 with developmental disabilities, if at preschool age, and severe/profound mental retardation, if at school age.

How to Apply: Contact the program coordinator

Fees: Preschoolers: \$45.00 per week
Developmental Day: No Charge
Summer Camp: \$65.00 per week
Before Care: \$20.00 per week
After Care: \$20.00 per week
Funded By: Gaston County, NC Department of Public Instruction, and contributions and parents.

Agency: Camp Sertoma of Gaston County, Inc.

Address: Dallas-Cherryville Highway
PO Box 343
Dallas, NC 28034
Phone: (704) 861-1036 (ARC)
Hours: Day and residential sessions
Seasonal – June-July
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: Summer recreational and developmental programs for persons with mental retardation and other related developmental disabilities.
Services: Provides camping experience for persons with mental retardation and other related developmental disabilities in Gaston County.
Eligibility: Trainable mentally handicapped and/or physical handicapped persons.
How to Apply: Call, applications sent on request
Fees: \$60.00 residential, \$27.50 day camp
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, civic groups and camp fees

Agency: Cancer Information Service

Address: 2020 W. Main St.
Suite 201
Durham, NC 27705
Phone: 1-800-4-CANCER
1-800-422-6237
Fax: 1-919-286-5515
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: North/South Carolina and Georgia
Purpose: To provide cancer information, send written information and make referrals to all counties in North and South Carolina and Georgia
Services: Information specialists respond to questions on all aspects of cancer, refer patients/families to appropriate services/agencies in their own community. Free materials and community presentations available.
Eligibility: Anyone
How to Apply: Call
Fees: Free
Funded By: National Cancer Institute

Agency: Catherine's House

Address: 400 Mercy Drive
PO Box 1633
Belmont, NC 28012
Phone: (704) 825-9599

Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: To provide a clean, safe and caring environment for women and children and assist in finding solutions to their problems of homelessness.
Services: Programs guide residents toward self-sufficiency and increase responsibility for their own lives. Residents are assisted in seeking employment and permanent housing.
Eligibility: Women and their children who are homeless.
How to Apply: Call
Fees: None
Funded By: Grants & donations

Agency: Cherryville Chamber of Commerce

Address: 220 E. Main St.
 PO Box 305
 Cherryville, NC 28201
Phone: (704) 435-3451
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: City of Cherryville
Purpose: To determine mutual economic needs of business commerce and to assist the residents of Cherryville.
Services: Serves members, assists newcomers in Cherryville and provides demographic information.
Eligibility: Anyone
How to Apply: Call Chamber
Fees: Determined by type of business and number of employees
Funded By: Membership dues

**Agency: Social Security Disability Information Office
 (Disability Hot line)**

Address: 2113 Cameron St.
 Raleigh, NC 27605
Phone: 1-800-772-1213
 1-919-733-4427
Website: www.socialsecurity.gov
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Purpose: The Disability Hot line is a statewide, toll free telephone service that provides information and referrals to disabled North Carolinians who have problems or need information about the Social Security Disability Program, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program or Hyatt vs. Bowen Program.
Services: Provides information about eligibility requirements for Social Security Disability benefits. Provides information about appealing an unfavorable decision on a disability claim and provides information about legal representation if this is required. Provides referrals to other agencies that may help with financial, job rehabilitation needs or medical needs.
Eligibility: North Carolina Resident
How to Apply: Call
Fees: No Charge for the Information
Funded By: NC Department of Administration

**Agency: Employee Assistance Program [EAP]
Division of Pathways Area MH/DD/SS Authority**

Address: 707-C- S. Avon St.
Gastonia, NC 28054

Phone: (704) 867-6947

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
24 Hour Hot line

Area: Gaston and Lincoln County

Purpose: Contracts with businesses and industries in Gaston and Lincoln Counties, provide brief counseling assistance for employees up to a limited number of sessions.

Services: Provides assistance for employees with emotional and substance abuse problems, family, marital, and financial problems, job related issues, stress. Trainings are provided for managers and supervisors on how to detect problems with employees and refer them to an EAP for brief counseling. Further referrals are made as needed for longer-term counseling. Serves as a mechanism to retain employees and assist them to function productively.

Eligibility: Must be employed with the business and/or industry in which a contract has been established.

Fees: Depending on company size

Funded By: Community businesses and industries

Agency: Gaston Memorial Hospital

Address: 2525 Court Dr.
PO Box 1747
Gastonia, NC 28053-1747

Phone: (704) 833-9033

Website: www.caromont.org

Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Area: Gaston, Lincoln, Cleveland, Rutherford, Cherokee, and York Counties

Purpose: Acute Care Hospital

Services: Emergency center, maternity care, coronary care, adolescent, adult and geriatric psychiatry, pediatric service, intensive care units, day surgery, sleep studies laboratory, speech and hearing disorders center, community education, radiation therapy, open heart surgery, volunteer services and home health care, classes in prenatal, sibling readiness, Lamaze and epidural are available.

Eligibility: Admission must be through emergency room or a private physician.

How to Apply: Call for information.

Fees: Varies according to services

Funded By: Fees for service

Support Groups: **“Look Good, Feel Better”** (704) 834-3551
A program for women who have been newly diagnosed with cancer or are undergoing treatment. The program provides cosmetic advice and information on wigs, make-up etc.

Breast Cancer Rehabilitation Program

(704) 834-2932

A 12-week program for oncology wellness with education and rehabilitation is for women newly diagnosed or finishing treatment for breast cancer. Activities include specialized exercises and discussions of sexuality, diet, medication, coping skills, and spir-

ity. Held on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Cardiac Rehab Center, 1840 E. Franklin Blvd. (in the same building with Northern Hydraulics).

Crohn's Disease/Colitis

(704) 834-2251

A program for individuals with inflammatory bowel disease, causing pain, bleeding, and diarrhea. Although remission can be long, reoccurrence can be sudden. The group provides basic information about the conditions and other topics, including stress management and nutrition. The group meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Gaston Medical Arts Building, 2711 X-ray Drive.

Cardiac Connection-Coronary Care

(704) 834-2226

A program to provide fellowship and emotional support for people recovering from cardiac episodes, including heart attacks, bypass surgery, and congestive heart failure. Speakers each month cover topics including anatomy of the heart, diet, depression, and exercise. Meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Cardiac Rehab Center.

Diabetes

(704) 834-2251

A program of education for individuals with diabetes. Members hear speakers discuss topics including diet, foot care, stress management, and new medications. The group meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. No meetings are scheduled in June, July, or August.

Fibromyalgia

(704) 834-2138

A program for individuals with muscle-skeletal pain and fatigue disorder causing discomfort in muscles, ligaments, tendons, and fibrous tissue of the body. Members share their experiences and learn effective coping skills. The group meets every second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Pulmonary

(704) 834-2226

A program to support people suffering from pulmonary diseases. The American Lung Association of NC cosponsors it. The group meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the Cardiac Rehab Center.

Parkinson's Disease

(704) 834-3540

A program featuring discussions on medications, dietary considerations, financial options, and emotional support. Parkinson's Disease affects the central nervous system, causing symptoms including excessive trembling and difficulty with balance and walking. The group meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. No meetings are held in January or July.

Multiple Sclerosis [MS]

(704) 834-5100

Meets the third Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the hospital. A group to learn general information about MS and to receive the special reassurance of relating to others' experiences.

Agency: **Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont, Inc.**

Address: 2122 Freedom Dr.
PO Box 668768
Charlotte, NC 28208
Phone: (704) 372-3434

Fax: (704) 331-9044
Hours: (704) 372-3228
Area: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday
Purpose: Mecklenburg and Surrounding Counties
Services: To provide vocational services to disabled and /or disadvantaged adults, ultimately enabling them to attain employment in the competitive labor market.
Eligibility: Vocational evaluation, work adjustment, work activities center, shelter employment and transportation assistance.
Fees: Documentation of Disability
Funded By: None
Other Services: County, state, United Way and other Goodwill revenues
 ♦ Comprehensive Job Development & Placement Program (704) 372-3434
 ♦ Computer Programmer Training
 ♦ Greater Access to Independence (GAIN) Program
 ♦ Residential Services Program

Agency: Grief Recovery Carothers Funeral Home

Address: 312 W. Second Ave.
 Gastonia, NC 28052
Phone: (704) 867-6337
Hours: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings (gray house at funeral home)
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: Grief therapy for grief recovery
Services: A support group using a step by step process to work through grief.
Eligibility: Anyone
How to Apply: Call Carothers Funeral Home, Ask for Sherman Branch
Fees: None
Funded By: Carothers Funeral Home

Agency: Habitat for Humanity of Gastonia, Inc.

Address: 608 E. 2nd Ave.
 Gastonia, NC 28054
 PO Box 1584
 Gastonia, NC 28053-1584
Phone: (704) 864-6536
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Gastonia and Gaston County
Purpose: To create hope for people in need by building homes in partnership with working families, volunteers and the broader community. To create self-esteem and stability in families and neighborhoods through home ownership.
Services: Provides funding for housing through donations. Housing ranges from \$35,000 and higher for one house (avg. 1,000 sq./ft.-3 bedroom, 1 bath). No interest mortgage payments from \$250.00/month financed by Habitat at no cost to buyer.
Eligibility: Requirements include minimum income, willingness to help self and others, and desire to participate in the Habitat program. Stability at home and work, care of current housing, need for new housing, and commitment to community improvement.
How to Apply: Call office

Fees: None
Funded By: Community donations

Agency: Pioneer Council, Girl Scouts of the USA

Address: 250 S. New Hope Rd.
Gastonia, NC 28054
Phone: (704) 864-3245
1-800-672-6031
Fax: (704) 864-9020
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Gaston, Lincoln, Cleveland, Polk, and Rutherford counties
Purpose: To inspire in girls the highest ideals of conduct, character, patriotism, and service so that they may become caring and resourceful citizens. Girl Scouting is open to all girls regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, county of origin, or level of ability.
Services: Weekly troop and group meetings – September – May.
Summer programs include resident camp at Camp Golden Valley in Rutherford County and day camps in Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, and Rutherford counties. Special activities and interest groups are added throughout the membership year. International and national travel and learning opportunities help girls grow strong.
Eligibility: Girls 5 – 17 (grades K – 12) and adults ages 18 and over
How to Apply: Call the Girl Scout Service Center
Fees: \$7.00 annual membership fee
Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, 3 regional United Ways and the Girl Scout Cookie Sale, the annual giving campaign, “Friends for the Future”, and “Family Partnership”

Agency: New Life Pregnancy Services

Address: PO Box 6253
408 E. Eighth Ave.
Gastonia, NC 28054
Phone: (704) 854-8855
(704) 854-8877
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday
Saturday & evening hours are by appointment only
Area: Gaston, Cleveland, Lincoln, and York Counties
Purpose: To provide abstinence education and to assist pregnant teens and their families.
Services: Abstinence education programs, educational programs on sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS, clinical services/pregnancy testing, parent workshops, counseling for client, boyfriend and parents, education/information on abortion and alternatives, maternity home placement, referral for financial aid and adoption services, maternity clothes and baby items, With Infant and Needing Group Support [WINGS], and support before and after the baby’s birth.
Eligibility: Preteens, teens, and any women in a crisis pregnancy.
Fees: None
Funded By: Donations, churches, corporate/foundation grants and fundraising projects throughout the year.

Agency: Narcotic Anonymous

Address: PO Box 2019
Gastonia, NC 28053-2019
Phone: 1-800-272-6184
Hours: Hot line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Area: York, Gaston, Lincoln, Cleveland and Rutherford counties
Purpose: To provide a fellowship of men and women who share their experiences, strengths and hopes so that they may solve their common problem of drug addition.
Services: Meetings and contact with recovering addicts on an anonymous basis.
Eligibility: Anyone with a desire to stop using drugs.
How to Apply: Call
Fees: None
Funded By: Self Supporting

Agency: Mediation Center of the Southern Piedmont, Inc.

Address: 401 N. Highland St.
Gastonia, NC 28052
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
Area: Gaston, Cleveland, and Lincoln Counties
Phone: (704) 868-9576
Director: Jan Mahannah
Purpose: To provide an alternative method of resolving personal disputes, to eliminate court involvement in personal disputes and to relieve court overcrowding.
Services: Disagreeing parties are offered the opportunity to meet in a neutral setting to discuss their dispute. Trained volunteer mediators meet with the parties to assist them in finding a mutually acceptable solution to their problem. If an agreement is reached and a warrant is involved, the Center will apply for a dismissal of the charges with the district attorney.
Eligibility: Anyone having a disagreement may apply. The District Attorney must approve cases involving warrants. There is no age limit.
How to Apply: Call or Write
Fees: None
Funded By: Grants

Agency: Hospice of Gaston County

Address: 258 E. Garrison Blvd.
PO Box 3984
Gastonia, NC 28054
Phone: (704) 861-8405
Fax: (704) 865-0590
Website: www.gastonhospice.org
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday (Office Hours)
Nursing on call 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week
Area: Gaston County
Purpose: To provide multidisciplinary palliative home care for individuals with terminal illness, professional grief counseling, and support for individuals with HIV/AIDS.

Services: Total Hospice care, New Hope Counseling-bereavement care, therapy for grief and loss, and AWARE-HIV/AIDS management.

Eligibility: Resident of Gaston County with a life-limiting illness and prognosis of six months or less. Patients must have a physician to make referral and to direct care. Any individual (adult or child) experiencing grief or loss. Any individual diagnosed with HIVS/AIDS.

How to Apply: Total Hospice care- have physician or family contact Hospice admission staff. New Hope Counseling- call Hospice. AWARE- call Hospice and ask for AWARE program.

Fees: Hospice Medicare, Hospice Medicaid benefit, and private insurance. May have possible deductions or co-payments depending on insurance plan. No fees for the AWARE program.

Funded By: United Way of Gaston County, donations, private insurance, grants, Medicare, Medicaid and memorials.

Agency: House of Mercy, Inc.

Address: 701 Mercy Dr.
PO Box 808
Belmont, NC 28012

Phone: (704) 825-4711

Fax: (704) 825-9976

Hours: 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week

Area: Regional HIV/AIDS consortium service area

Purpose: To provide housing for up to six persons living with AIDS in the advance stages and to provide case management services for persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Services: Family care home for persons living with AIDS in the advanced stages; responds to the physical, spiritual, psycho-social and emotional needs of residents.

Eligibility: Must be in end-stage AIDS, have no other housing alternative, & be 18 years of age or older.

Fees: Determined on a case by case basis

Funded By: Grants, donations, Medicaid and resident fees

Agency: Insights to Recovery

Address: 359 W. Main Ave. Suite D
Gastonia, NC 28052

Phone: (704) 868-8644

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Monday – Friday

Area: Gaston County and surrounding area

Purpose: To provide Driving While Impaired [DWI] substance abuse assessments & treatment.

Services: Individual and group counseling.

Eligibility: Anyone

How to Apply: Call

Fees: Depends on Services

Funded By: Client fees

Agency: Families Against Drugs & Abuse

Address: PO Box 1205
Belmont, NC 28012

Phone: (704) 825-3767

Hours:	24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week
Area:	Gaston and Mecklenburg Counties
Purpose:	Educate the public about HIV/AIDS and the dangers of drugs and alcohol.
Services:	Publish newspaper, "Family Issues and Answers", brochures, provides seminars and education on drugs and alcohol and offers referrals to helping agencies.
Eligibility:	Must be in need of guidance and help.
Fees:	None
Funded By:	Donations and advertising