THE DeKalb CHRONICLE

DEKALB COUNTY GEORGIA

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EMERGENCY HOUSING AND SHELTERS

FOR THE UNHOUSED IN DEKALB COUNTY

by Noah Sanders



FREE GUIDE • dekalbchronicle.com • 678-789-7252

How to Use This Booklet

If you need a bed tonight in DeKalb County, this booklet is where to start. It lists real shelters and day centers — who each one takes, how to get in, and the number to call. Every listing was checked on November 24, 2026.

READ THIS FIRST

- **Beds change daily.** A shelter that has a bed at noon can be full by night. Always call first, and call as early in the day as you can.
- **Start with Coordinated Entry.** In DeKalb County, most shelter placements go through one front door — call (404) 687-3500. See the next page for the exact steps.
- **Never pay anyone for a bed or a spot on a list.** Shelter placement through Coordinated Entry is free. Anyone charging you is scamming you.
- **Domestic-violence shelter addresses are confidential on purpose.** This booklet gives the hotline numbers, not the addresses. Call the hotline first — do not go to a shelter address.

IN IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL 911.

How to Get a Bed Tonight

1. **In DeKalb County, call Coordinated Entry: (404) 687-3500**, Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m. Press 1 if you are already unhoused, press 2 if you are at risk of losing housing. You will get a phone assessment, and the county refers you to the shelter or program that fits. DeKalb County also lists this as “DeKalb County Homeless 311.”

2. **Or dial 2-1-1** (United Way of Greater Atlanta, toll-free, 24 hours). Tell them you are in DeKalb County and need a bed tonight.

3. **If you are in the City of Atlanta, go in person to the Gateway Center, 275 Pryor St SW.** Sign-up starts at 7 a.m., assessments Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–3 p.m., first come first served, about 10 a day. You cannot do the Atlanta assessment by phone.

4. **If you are fleeing domestic violence, call a crisis line first.** International Women’s House: (770) 413-5557 (24/7). Women’s Resource Center: (404) 688-9436 (24/7). PADV: (404) 873-1766 (24/7). Georgia Family Violence Hotline: 1-800-33-HAVEN (1-800-334-2836).

5. **If you are 18–24, call Covenant House Georgia’s youth line: (404) 713-0954** — open 24/7.

WHAT TO HAVE READY

- A photo ID if you have one — some programs require it, some require two forms.
- Proof of custody of your children if you are a family seeking a family shelter.
- Your children’s school enrollment if applicable — some family shelters require children to enroll in school right away.
- Most shelters do a background check on entry.
- Do not bring valuables you cannot keep on you. Many shelters have lockers, but space is limited.

Emergency Shelters in DeKalb County

Frontline Response — DeKalb County Emergency Shelter

2585 Gresham Rd SE, Atlanta, GA 30316 — this is DeKalb County's contracted emergency shelter. (404) 817-3502; transportation dispatch (404) 334-3610. Single men and women. 400 beds, with case management, food, security, transportation, and medical and behavioral health referrals. Placement only through Coordinated Entry — call (404) 687-3500.

Hagar's House — Decatur Cooperative Ministry

115 Church St, Decatur, GA 30030 — (404) 377-5365; Hagar's House program line (404) 370-0914. Women with children who are homeless. 30 beds (5 rooms). Stay at least 30 nights, up to 90 days. Can take very large families and families with teenage boys. Two meals a day, showers, laundry, computer center, MARTA fares, case management. Night hours 5 p.m.–7:30 a.m. weekdays. Guests must be out during the day. Placement through Coordinated Entry.

International Women's House — Decatur

Address CONFIDENTIAL — call the 24-hour hotline first: (770) 413-5557. Immigrant and refugee women and children fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Multilingual staff, translation in 140 languages. Counseling, children's program, legal advocacy, immigration help, job training, ESOL classes. Stay up to 120 days.

Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence — Decatur

Shelter location CONFIDENTIAL. 24-hour crisis line (404) 688-9436; office (404) 370-7670. For people fleeing domestic violence. Call the crisis line for a safety plan and placement. Office: 115 E Maple St, Decatur.

Baitul Salaam Network — Decatur

(770) 255-8500. Emergency shelter for domestic-violence survivors. Address not published — call first. Confirm hours and availability by phone.

Family Promise of North Fulton / DeKalb — Dunwoody

1978 Mt Vernon Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338 — (770) 609-5407. Families with minor children experiencing homelessness. Requires a vehicle and at least one minor child. Call for shelter.

Transitional Housing, Day & Warming Centers

Family House — Decatur Cooperative Ministry (transitional)

Scattered houses and apartments throughout DeKalb County. DCM office: 115 Church St, Decatur — (404) 377-5365, ext. 4. Families with children, including single fathers and families with teenage boys. At least one child under 18. All adults must be employed, job-hunting, or in work training. Stay about 6 months. Call Monday–Friday 9 a.m.–5 p.m. to check for space; the process can take 4–6 weeks.

South DeKalb Day Center at New Life — Decatur

3592 Flat Shoals Rd, Decatur, GA 30034 — (404) 381-6731. Open Monday–Saturday 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Hot meals, restrooms, showers, phone charging, clothing, barber and beauty services, case management, housing navigation, GED program, medical and behavioral health support. Day center only — not an overnight shelter. Holiday hours differ.

The Golden Door Warming Center — Decatur

2944 Ember Dr, Decatur, GA 30032. Open only during freezing weather. Most recent activation: Nov 13–17, 2026. Walk-in from 6:30 p.m. Shelter placement, showers, laundry. Transportation pickup across the county from Frontline Response HQ, 2585 Gresham Rd SE — call Frontline dispatch (404) 334-3610. Activations are announced by the county per forecast — call 2-1-1 or check dekalbcountyga.gov to confirm whether it is open on a given night.

New Life Community Alliance Warming Station — South DeKalb

3592 Flat Shoals Rd, Decatur, GA 30034 — (404) 381-6731. 7-day warming station in winter, with emergency shelter and meals on freezing nights. Confirm current season hours by phone.

Frontline Response Warming Center

2585 Gresham Rd SE, Atlanta, GA 30316 — (404) 817-3502; dispatch (404) 334-3610. Warming center on freezing nights below 38°F, with a meal and case management.

Other warming-center locations from the county’s 2025–26 list — confirm before going, as the 2026–27 list was not published yet: St. Vincent de Paul, 2050-C Chamblee Tucker Rd, Chamblee; Mason Mill Recreation Center, 1340 McConnell Dr, Decatur.

Atlanta Referrals — Outside DeKalb County

When DeKalb beds are full, people are referred to these Atlanta shelters. They are in Fulton County, not DeKalb — but they take DeKalb residents.

Gateway Center — Atlanta (men; City of Atlanta front door)

275 Pryor St SW, Atlanta, GA 30303 — (404) 215-6600. Single men, 330+ live-in places. Women and children use the Engagement Center and are referred onward. In-person assessments only: sign-up from 7 a.m., assessments Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–3 p.m., first come first served, about 10 a day. On nights 35°F or below, city warming shelters open 8 p.m.–6 a.m.

Salvation Army Center of Hope — Atlanta

469 Marietta St NW, Atlanta, GA 30313 — (404) 486-2700. Homeless men, women, and families with children; veterans program; 90-day drug treatment; re-entry program. In-person intake 7 a.m. weekdays, 3 p.m. weekends. Valid ID required. Cold-weather program below 40°F. Also runs a DeKalb rehousing program for deposits after a coordinated assessment.

Atlanta Mission — The Shepherd's Inn (men)

165 Ivan Allen Jr Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30313 — (404) 367-2493. Single men 18+. Show up at the gate by 7:30 a.m.; intake Monday–Friday 8:30–11:30 a.m. Cold-weather beds below 35°F, intake 3–5 p.m.

Atlanta Mission — My Sister's House (women and children)

921 Howell Mill Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30318 — (404) 367-2465. Intake at Restoration House, 655 Ethel St NW — (404) 588-4007. Single women and women with children. Weekday intake screening 8:30–10:30 a.m. Cold-weather beds below 35°F, intake 3–5 p.m.

Nicholas House — Atlanta (families)

830 Boulevard SE, Atlanta, GA 30312 — (404) 622-0793. Families with children — any family composition, up to 12 people in a room. Serves Atlanta, DeKalb, and Fulton. Referral ONLY through Coordinated Entry — no walk-ins. In DeKalb: call (404) 687-3500. Background check on entry.

Our House — Atlanta (families with a newborn)

173 Boulevard NE, Atlanta, GA 30312 — (404) 522-6056. Families with a newborn — call to confirm the current age cutoff. Up to 6 months of shelter, private room, meals, laundry, baby supplies, free childcare, job training. Often full with a waitlist. Decatur office: 711 S Columbia Dr, Decatur — (404) 378-0938.

City of Refuge — Atlanta (single mothers and single women)

1300 Joseph E. Boone Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30314 — (404) 874-2241. Eden Village low-barrier housing, with meals, clinic, job training, and childcare. Call for shelter; best time to call is 9 a.m.

Covenant House Georgia — Atlanta (youth 16–24)

1559 Johnson Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30318 — youth line (404) 713-0954 (24/7); main (404) 589-0163. Crisis shelter beds for ages 18–24; drop-in center for ages 16–24 (food, clothing, showers, laundry, GED and job help). Pregnant and parenting youth and LGBTQ+ youth included. Walk-in, open 24/7. Crisis stays 30–90 days.

Partnership Against Domestic Violence (PADV) — Atlanta

Shelter locations CONFIDENTIAL (Fulton and Gwinnett counties). 24-hour crisis line (404) 873-1766. For domestic-violence survivors — women, men, and children. Call the crisis line any time for a safety plan and shelter placement. Stay up to 90 days.

Atlanta City Baptist Rescue Mission — Atlanta (men only)

316 Peters St SW, Atlanta, GA 30313 — (404) 577-3409. Homeless men only. First come first served; line starts at 4 p.m. Monday–Saturday (3 p.m. Sundays). Must have ID. Overnight shelter 365 nights a year, plus a 6-month recovery program.

Day Help & Related Programs

HOPE Atlanta (housing help, not a shelter)

458 Ponce de Leon Ave NE, Bldg B, Atlanta, GA 30308 — (404) 817-7070. Walk-in Monday–Friday 9 a.m.–5 p.m. (call first). Rapid rehousing, emergency hotel placement, case management, housing search. Veterans and people living with HIV/AIDS served. NOT an overnight shelter — it places people into housing.

SafeHouse Outreach (day services only, no beds)

89 Ellis St NE, Atlanta, GA 30303 — (404) 523-2221. Clothing, hygiene, showers, laundry, lockers, computer lab, phone use. Impact Meals Monday–Friday 5–8 p.m. Street outreach to encampments and warming centers. Call first for hours.

A Home for Everyone in DeKalb

DeKalb County’s rapid-rehousing and homelessness-prevention intake. Intake reopens Dec 1, 2026. Apply through Coordinated Entry, (404) 687-3500.

The Salvation Army — DeKalb County Financial Emergency Services

3500 Sherrydale Ln, Decatur, GA 30032 — (404) 486-2714. Emergency help with rent, mortgage, utilities, food, clothing, school supplies, and furniture. Apply online at SAhelp.org or call 2-1-1. Financial help, not a shelter.

Georgia Family Violence Hotline: 1-800-33-HAVEN (1-800-334-2836). National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233; text START to 88788.

A Final Word

Needing a bed is not a personal failure. One emergency — a lost job, an illness, a car repair — is enough to put a working family outside. The places in this booklet exist for exactly that moment.

If one shelter is full, try the next one. Call Coordinated Entry again. Call 2-1-1 again. And share this booklet with someone who needs it — one share can put a roof over somebody tonight.

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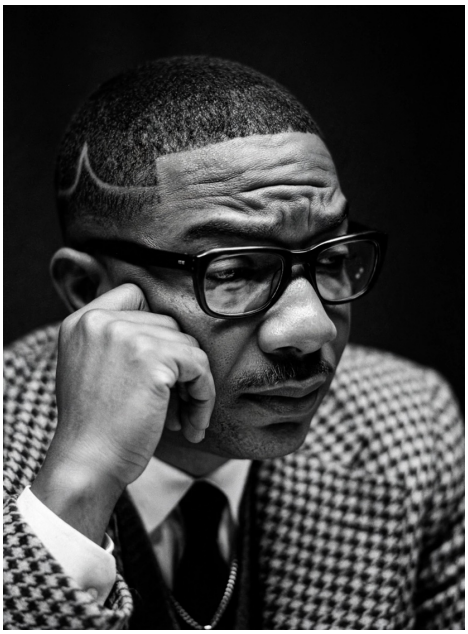
Founder, Noah Sanders

This booklet is general information, not legal advice. Bed availability, hours, and intake rules change daily — always call before you go. Compiled November 24, 2026, by The DeKalb Chronicle. If any listing here is out of date, tell us so we can fix it for the next person that picks this up.

About the Author



Noah Sanders

Founder, The DeKalb Chronicle

Noah Sanders founded The DeKalb Chronicle to cover DeKalb County the way it deserves to be covered — local news, local businesses, jobs, housing, and resources for the people who live here, across all 13 cities in the county. He also runs Noah Sanders Advocacy and The Black Glow Experience, and he puts this guide together so nobody in DeKalb has to face a night outside alone.

Have a shelter to add, a correction, or a story to tell? Reach out.

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