Bridges From School to Work
Susanne Stockton, Employer Representative
Established in 1989 by the Marriott Foundation for People with Disabilities, Bridges from School to Work engages employers, schools, community resources, youth and their families to help businesses meet their workforce needs while offering young people with disabilities the opportunity to learn, grow and succeed through employment. Each year, Bridges helps more than a thousand young people-most of whom are transitioning out of high school special education-prepare for the workplace and find a job with an employer in need of qualified, entry-level applicants. Creating and supporting mutually beneficial competitive employment relationships, the program creates opportunities for employment for youth while driving bottom-line results for business.

Cobb & Douglas County Community Services Board
Amy Hines, MA, PP, DDP, Supported Employment Supervisor
The Cobb County Community Services Board and the Douglas County Community Services Board (CSB) are public agencies created by state law to provide mental health, developmental disability, and/or substance abuse services. Our service areas are Cobb, Douglas, and Cherokee Counties, Georgia.
The Supported Employment Department of the Cobb and Douglas County Community Services Boards is committed to customizing employment for persons with developmental disabilities, mental health, and/or addictive diseases. The staff assists persons in entering and maintaining competitive employment based on the needs of the job seeker and employer. The job coaches in the Supported Employment Program are certified by the Human Services Management Institute at the University of Georgia. Our Employment Program is the first to have all of its job coaches certified, ensuring competent staff well-versed in the latest in employment services, especially customized employment. Our goal is to guide people toward a positive work experience.

Cave Spring Center
Gola Burton
The mission of Cave Spring Center (CSC) is to help individuals with disabilities develop good attitudes, self-discipline, work ethics, and marketable job skills so they can become successfully employed, contributing members of their communities. CSC serves Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) clients ages 18 years and older who are referred by their VR counselors to receive residential services to assist them to go to work. Most are young adults who need additional services to transition from high school to further post-secondary training or education and become employed. CSC staff have the skills needed to serve individuals with all types of disabilities, plus some are specially trained and skilled in the use of American Sign Language in working with deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind consumers. GVRA and CSC provide vocational rehabilitation services without regard to age, gender, race, color, creed or national origin.

Georgia Highlands College
Kim Linek, M.S.W., Disability Specialist & Career Counselor, Student Support Services Department
Since 1970, Georgia Highlands College has served the citizens of Northwest Georgia and Northeast Alabama. Founded as Floyd Junior College, it now serves more than 5,300 students in the region. It became a limited-mission, four-year state college in May 2011.
GHC has added other teaching sites over the years, and now provides instruction at the founding campus in Floyd County; Heritage Hall in downtown Rome, which houses health sciences; the Cartersville campus, the largest of all
the campuses; a site in Marietta on the campus of Southern Polytechnic State University; a campus in Paulding County, on the square in Dallas; and an instructional site in Douglas on Stewart Parkway in Douglasville.

To maximize convenience, Georgia Highlands has also expanded its offerings of online, DVD and hybrid courses.

**Georgia Institute of Technology Inclusive Postsecondary Academy**

Marnie Williams, Peer Support Program Coordinator

The Inclusive Postsecondary Academy at Georgia Tech (IPA) is a four-year program for students with mild intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) leading to two separate certificates.

**Years 1 - 2:** Social Growth with Academic Enrichment Certificate

**Years 3 - 4:** Social Growth, Academic Enrichment and Career Exploration Certificate

IPA courses are specialized sessions designed to provide essential academic career and personal success. Through the IPA, students have the opportunity to engage in a college experience at Georgia Tech including participating in traditional college classes, getting involved in campus clubs and organizations, and working in professional internships.

**Georgia State University**

Michell L. Temple, CRC, LPC

Director, Office of Disability Services

The Office of Disability Services within the Division of Student Affairs provides resources for students, faculty and staff with permanent disabilities. Our vision is to create an accessible community where people are assessed on their ability, not their disability. Disability Services strives to provide individuals with the tools by which they can accomplish their educational and career goals. Our number one priority is providing equal access to students with disabilities.

**Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency**

Tiffany Brown, VR Counselor, Marietta High School

Tana Register, VR Counselor, Cobb County School District

The Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency operates five integrated and interdependent statutory programs that share a primary goal - to help people with disabilities to become fully productive members of society by achieving independence and meaningful employment. The largest of the programs are Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program, Disability Adjudication Services, and the Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation. Two other unique programs serve consumers with visual impairments: the Business Enterprise Program and Georgia Industries for the Blind.

We are committed to the principle that people with disabilities are assets, and our efforts emphasize eliminating attitudinal barriers as well as physical ones.

We are a strategic partner in helping to build a diverse, qualified and productive workforce. Our aim is to pursue a comprehensive, coordinated employment agenda.

Our programs impact both employers and job seekers. Our bottom line is to tailor our services to fit your needs. And our promise to you is consistent professional service with responsive and responsible follow-up.

**Goodwill Industries**

Ashia Walker, C3 Navigator

Goodwill Industries provides individuals with the tools they need to find a job which allows them to support themselves and their families. Many go on to successful careers in our communities, while others spend a career with us, helping to change lives for the better. Some program participants even come to us for help starting their own businesses. Goodwill provides all kinds of services and options. Your donations and purchases make these possible. Together, we develop our community and we develop leaders.
**Kennesaw State University Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth**  
Sue Kizer, Ed.S., Academic Advisor  
The Kennesaw State University Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth offers a fully inclusive college experience to students with different intellectual or developmental abilities who do not meet the university requirements for admission as a degree seeking student. The program involves enrollment as non-degree seeking audit students in typical university courses and includes social integration, career exploration and training resulting in a Certificate of Social Growth and Development.  
For information about our ACSE program and ALCD program please see our website: kennesaw.edu/chhs/academy

**Performance Learning Center, Cobb County School District**  
Lugenia Purnell, Director  
The PLC is a partnership between Communities in School and the Cobb County School System. It is a learning center geared towards high school students who are not succeeding in traditional school settings and are at risk of dropping out.

**Roosevelt Warm Springs**  
Scott Buckner, Program Marketing Specialist  
Founded by Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1927, Roosevelt Warm Springs continues a tradition of compassion and quality care that spans over 80 years. In its ninth decade as a comprehensive rehabilitation center dedicated to service, technological advancement, program diversity and continuing education on behalf of persons with disabilities, Roosevelt Warm Springs remains a national treasure and Georgia "point-of-pride."