

REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL – REGION 3

County Board of Health Representative

Recommended by the Association County Commissioners of Georgia

Marcello Banes

Chairman
Newton County



Chairman Marcello Banes was elected to the Board of Commissioners in 2016. Banes is a life-long resident of Newton County and a graduate of Newton County High School. He is an ordained minister, active member of Springfield Baptist Church and was the Operations Manager of Banes Transport, LLC until 2017 when he joined the Newton County Board of Commissioners. He has been a business owner and community leader for more than 15 years who works diligently to keep Newton County citizens first.

As a graduate of the esteemed Leadership Georgia Organization, he is also a board member of View Point Health, the Board of Health, Newton County Tomorrow, the Northeast Georgia Regional Council, and was the champion of the NEWFORCE program that assists in employing graduates of the RSAT and other job placement programs in the Newton County Detention Facility.

Within Newton County and his community, he is also a member of several other boards such as Industrial Development Authority (IDA), Joint Development Authority (JDA), Porter Foundation, the Newton County Domestic Violence Task Force, AIM Ministry with Springfield Baptist Church along with partnering with Action Ministries. He was honored to receive the Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream Award" in 2021. Banes has always said "serving" is one of the greatest selfless acts he proudly participates in.

Community Service Board Representative

Recommended by the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Georgia of Community Service Boards

Dr. Lee Adams

Chief Executive Officer
Clayton Community Service Board (Clayton County)



Dr. Lee Adams currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Clayton County Community Service Board, also known as "Clayton Center." Clayton Center is a Behavioral Health Outpatient Treatment Provider, providing services for those impacted by mental health, substance use and developmental disabilities. His focus is on normalizing the conversation regarding mental health in Clayton County and throughout Region 3 by assisting stakeholders with understanding the distinct skills and value that behavioral health treatment and services add to our community.

In addition, he serves as a Board Member of the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce and the Clayton County Health District. In September 9, 2021, Dr. Adams received the Clayton County Valor Award, which honors individuals from healthcare and public health organizations who have demonstrated integrity, sacrifice, and endurance specifically related to going beyond the call of duty in Clayton County.

Dr. Adams's goal remains to assist individuals impacted by mental health, substance use and developmental disabilities by leading productive and autonomous lifestyles and promoting behavioral health and wellness and empowering others through service, advocacy, and education.

Sheriff's Office Representative

Recommended by the Georgia Sheriffs' Association

Ezell Brown

Sheriff

Newton County



Sheriff Ezell Brown has been in law enforcement since 1973 and with the Newton County Sheriff's Office since 1977. Throughout his tenure in law enforcement, he has received countless achievement awards, accolades, and distinctions through his service and community involvement.

Currently, Sheriff Brown serves as President of the Georgia Sheriffs' Association and sits on their Board Members Committee. He is the Executive Board Member for Georgia Piedmont Technical College, and he is on the Board of Directors for the Newton County Salvation Army.

He was appointed to the Sex Offender Registry Review Board by Governor Brian Kemp. He also received a Congressional Award from Congressman Hank Johnson.

University System

Dr. Elicia Collins

Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of Nursing

Clayton State University (Clayton County)



Dr. Elicia S. Collins is an Associate Professor and the Assistant Dean of Nursing at Clayton State University School of Nursing in Morrow, Georgia. She has a special interest in overweight and obese African American women, physical inactivity, and prostate cancer prevalence. Dr. Collins has taught across the curricular spectrum (nursing fundamentals, medical surgical nursing, nursing pharmacology, interactive communication, cultural diversity, and health policy) in PN, BSN, RN to BSN, and MSN-FNP programs for the past 17 years. She currently teaches medical surgical nursing, nursing pharmacology, and a health policy in nursing course at Clayton State University School of Nursing.

Dr. Collins started her nursing career after graduating with her BSN from Georgia Baptist College of Nursing of Mercer University. She continued her education and earned a Master's degree from Indiana Wesleyan University, and finally she earned a PhD from the Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions from Georgia State University.

Dr. Collins is dedicated to the generation of and expansion of knowledge. Consequently, she has presented at several national and international conferences. Moreover, she has completed several book, chapter, and online

software reviews in addition to being a published author. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), the international nursing honor society and was also a March of Dimes Nurse of the Year finalist in 2015. She is committed to the nursing profession and supports legislation to advance the role of nurses in the State of Georgia as indicated by her memberships in the American Nurses Association as well as the Georgia Nurses Association. Dr. Collins is also dedicated to cardiac health and concerned about the number of people affected by cardiac disease. Thus, for the past 15 years, she has served as an American Heart Association, certified Basic Life Support (CPR) instructor.

Provider

Recommended by the Georgia Association of Community Service Boards

Jennifer Hibbard

Chief Executive Officer

View Point Health Community Service Board
(serving Gwinnett, Newton and Rockdale counties)



Jennifer Hibbard serves as a Licensed Professional Counselor and the Chief Executive Officer at View Point Health where she has worked for 20 years. During her time at View Point Health, she has had the pleasure to serve in a variety of positions beginning her career as an intake clinician at one of the mental health outpatient centers. She has had the opportunity to be the Chief Operating Officer, Vice President of Programs, Director of Quality Assurance and Center Director. As the CEO for View Point Health, Hibbard also serves on the Board of Directors for the Gwinnett Coalition. Jennifer is also a member and serves on the board of the Rotary Club of Gwinnett County as a Past President in order to further serve the community and advocate for individuals with behavioral health needs and developmental disabilities. She is a graduate of the National Council for Behavioral Health Executive Leadership program. In 2022, View Point Health was recognized as the Behavioral Health Provider of the Year for the State of Georgia and Hibbard was the recipient of the “Pay it Forward” Moxie Award. Hibbard believes we are stronger as a community if we all work alongside one another and support each other's mission.

She has experience working with adults, children and adolescents with mental health and substance abuse issues. Prior to moving to Georgia, she lived in Texas where she earned her Master’s in Professional Counseling from Southwest Texas State University and Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from the University of Texas in Austin. Hibbard’s career began while volunteering as a counselor for the Williamson County Juvenile Academy in Georgetown, Texas, a residential alternative facility associated with the Texas Youth Correctional system while she graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Hibbard is also a National Certified Counselor of the NBCC, and a member of the American Counselors Association.

Lived Experience

Recommended by the Georgia Council for

Haley Sherlock

CARES Program Team Lead

Georgia Council for Recovery (Newton County)



Haley Sherlock, a native of Augusta, wears many hats in her role as the CARES Program Team Lead at the Georgia Council for Recovery, a statewide Recovery Community Organization based in Atlanta. Beyond her professional title, she is a woman in long-term recovery from opioid use disorder, a journey that has transformed her life over the past four years.

Currently residing in Oxford, Sherlock is deeply committed to her community. As a Certified Peer Specialist in Addictive Diseases and Mental Health, as well as a Forensic Peer Mentor, she brings a wealth of personal and professional experience to her work. At the Georgia Council for Recovery, Sherlock travels statewide, facilitating Recovery Oriented Systems of Care and Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist (CARES) Workshops. Her passion lies in walking alongside peers as they embark on their journey to becoming CARES, fostering connections and understanding during the transformative week at the CARES Academy.

Sherlock's lived experience is a source of strength, allowing her to be a powerful advocate for various populations. Her advocacy extends to those with substance use disorders, individuals utilizing medications for opioid use disorder, families facing financial challenges or homelessness, and the LGBTQIA+ community. This commitment to advocacy led her to become a valued member of the Homeless Strategic Plan Advisory Committee for the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County in 2022-2023. Additionally, she contributes her expertise to the MAR Peer Advisory Board for the Georgia Council for Recovery.

Judiciary

Recommended by the Georgia Council of Accountability Court Judges

Nancy Bills

Judge

Rockdale Judicial Circuit Superior Court (Rockdale County)



Judge Nancy Bills was appointed by Governor Brian Kemp to fill the vacancy in the Rockdale Judicial Circuit Superior Court when Chief Judge David B. Irwin in the fall 2020 and was sworn in on February 22, 2021 to fill his unexpired term. She was re-elected in 2022.

Beginning in February 2021, she is the Judge presiding over the Adult Drug Court in Rockdale County. Prior to being appointed to Superior Court, she served sixteen (16) years on the State Court bench where she founded a DUI Court in 2007 and presided over that Court until 2021. DUI Court was named a Model Court in 2020 by the Council of Accountability Court Judges. While in State Court she also founded and presided over Domestic Violence Court from 2013-2021. Before being elected to State Court in 2004 she served as an Assistant District Attorney for over 10 years before leaving for private practice where she practiced criminal defense and family law for 5 years.

Currently, Judge Bills serves as Vice-Chair of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and is Chairperson of the Rockdale County Task Force Against Family Violence. Judge Bills graduated Cum Laude with a BA Degree from UGA and then Cum Laude from Law School at UGA.