about us

Georgia Appleseed advances justice for all Georgia’s children, with a particular focus on children experiencing poverty, children with disabilities, and children who experience the effects of institutional bias and racism. Justice requires that every child has access to strong, nurturing schools and a healthy home.

Our mission is to increase justice in Georgia through law and policy reform and community engagement.

Our values include nonpartisan engagement, collaborations to achieve justice, listening to those who are most impacted, balanced and objective research, data-driven, pragmatic solutions, courage to tackle the hard issues, and the power of pro bono.

focus areas

Our 3 current priorities are to:
- Keep kids in school and out of the criminal justice system,
- Promote supports for students with behavior and learning challenges, and
- Ensure children and their families have safe and healthy housing.
our strategies

Get children the support they need
- Expand school-based behavioral health to get children help where they need it
- Integrate restorative practices and trauma-informed instruction into school discipline and the juvenile justice system
- Bring schools, police, and courts together to implement shared strategies that keep children out of juvenile court
- Acknowledge and eliminate barriers created and reinforced by racism and systemic bias

Ensure safe & equitably funded schools
- Improve school climate and reduce the use of disciplinary actions, such as out-of-school suspension and expulsion, that remove children from school
- Increase supports and protections for children in foster care, including access to legal representation for those facing removal from school
- Expand funding for evidence-based diversion programs and other supports for children and youth involved with the juvenile justice system
- Increase school resources to close achievement gaps between children in high-resourced communities and those in low-resourced communities

Promote healthy homes
- Improve low-income families' access to healthy homes through advocacy
- Organize efforts to support positive policy changes to local court procedures and housing code enforcement

how we work

At the heart of our work is a drive to bring people together to listen and learn from each other, so that we can move toward just, systemic solutions that make a better future for the children of our state.

Our tactics include research projects that leverage thousands of pro bono attorney hours to tackle complex issues, the development of self-advocacy tools for parents and caregivers, supporting local and state leaders’ efforts to adopt meaningful policy changes, legislative advocacy, bipartisan coalition building, and sometimes just a conversation, where we have the opportunity to listen to a child’s experience firsthand.
connect

We'd love to connect with you

Visit us at gaappleseed.org to learn more about our work and how you can make a difference.

Contact us at info@gaappleseed.org or go to gaappleseed.org/contact to find contact information for our staff.

Follow us on:
Facebook @GeorgiaAppleseed
Twitter @GAAappleseed
LinkedIn @ Georgia Appleseed Center for Law & Justice

get involved

We need your help! If you would like to work with us to create systemic change in Georgia, you can:

Volunteer
With a small staff and a big-picture mission, we couldn’t accomplish what we do without leveraging close to 2,000 hours a year of pro bono work from dedicated attorneys and other professional volunteers across the state. Contact info@gaappleseed.org for more information.

Donate
We rely on donations from individuals, firms, foundations, and corporations to support our programs throughout the year. Donate online at gaappleseed.org/donate or send a check to:

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