

COMMUNITY ISSUES PROGRAM LIST-WAKL(FM)  
First Quarter 2024 (January-March)

The following is a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by WAKL(FM), GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA, for the period of January 1 – March 31, 2024. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance. All times are Pacific Standard/Daylight Savings Time.

1. ADDICTIONS
2. FAMILY / PARENTING
3. POVERTY / HOMELESS
4. TEENS

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Description of Program</b>
Business Development	Closer Look	Jan 7	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>Small-Business Mentors Offer Free Advice Through SCORE</b></p> <p>Your idea for a great small business needs a good plan. If you already opened your shop you may be stumped on how to grow. SCORE mentors offer free, one-on-one advice for turning a profit. “What we have seen is that when someone meets with a mentor for 3 hours or more, they are 5x more likely to increase their revenue and stay in business.” Billie Wright reports.</p>
Education	Closer Look	Jan 14	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>Old Schools Get Free Makeovers Through Heart Of America</b></p> <p>Visit public schools across the U.S. and you travel back in time. “This country created the majority of its schools during the 1940s, 50s and 60s,” says Jill Hardy-Heath, President and CEO of <a href="#">Heart of America</a>. Disrepair deeply affects learning. “If you walk into a school where you have peeling paint and ceiling tiles that are falling, and things have not been updated - think about how that would make you feel.” HOA is committed to raising the spirits of those students and teachers. Fresh coats of paint are only the beginning. “We transform spaces,” she smiles. “Think about Extreme Home Makeover, but School Edition.”</p>

Addictions & Mental Health	Closer Look	Jan 21	7:00 pm	13 minutes	<p><b>Gambling, Suicide Risk and Addiction Recovery</b></p> <p>Gambling addiction is a leading cause of suicide in the United States. The thrill of the bet buries vulnerable gamblers deep in debts matched only by their secret shame. But stats prove you can win recovery, as 2 outta 3 people who seek treatment are able to stop. Rafael Sierra talks with Derek Longmeier of Problem Gambling Network of Ohio and Keith Whyte of the National Council on Problem Gambling. Need to talk? Call the National Problem Gambling Helpline: (800) 522-4700.</p> <p><a href="https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/dollars-and-sense/closer-look-gambling-suicide-risk-and-addiction-recovery-3518">https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/dollars-and-sense/closer-look-gambling-suicide-risk-and-addiction-recovery-3518</a></p>
Faith & Family	Closer Look	Jan 21	7:13 pm	17 minutes	<p><b>Faith Of Her Father - Baby Jessica's Dad</b></p> <p>The unlikely rescue of Baby Jessica from a well back in 1987 remains one of the world's most watched news stories of all time. There were "multiple miracles," says her father Chip McClure, "more than you can count...God's hand was evident." In the days and months after, the family received thousands of calls and truckloads of mail from all over the world, people in personal distress who were encouraged by the McClure's faith and the good news of Jessica's rescue. K-LOVE's Jack Church talks to Chip.</p> <p><a href="https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/faith-matters/closer-look-faith-of-her-father-baby-jessica-s-dad-3520">https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/faith-matters/closer-look-faith-of-her-father-baby-jessica-s-dad-3520</a></p>

Drugs & Teens	Closer Look	Jan 28	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>Kids Fooled By Fentanyl, Rx Fakes</b>  Kids are getting pills that look like Xanax or Percocet online or in the locker room. Often laced with fentanyl, these deadly drugs can be 100x stronger than morphine. “It’s terrifying,” says Pat Aussem of the Partnership to End Addiction. Ed Ternan, co-founder of Song for Charlie lost his college-aged son to one pill and now helps other parents warn their children. “We still say ‘just say no’ but we spell it K. N. O. W. because many of these young victims are dying from taking a substance they didn’t ask for.’ Bob Dittman reports.</p>
Inflation Economy	Closer Look	Feb 4	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>Food Prices, Fight Inflation From Your Fridge</b>  Food costs more these days. COVID-19 shutdowns drove up the price of labor, fertilizer and fuel needed to move crops from farms to factories to stores and eventually to your kitchen. What can you do? Should you panic buy? Comparison shop? Billie Wright checks in with Assoc Prof. Joe Balagtas at Purdue University and Jordan Page, lifestyle blogger and mom of 8 for proven tips on cutting your grocery bill.</p>

Marriage Divorce	Closer Look	Feb 11	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>50% Divorce Rate Is Myth, Researcher Says</b>          We've heard the chances of staying married are like flipping a coin. Christian author and social researcher <a href="#">Shaunti Feldhahn</a> believed it too. But when she wanted to cite an original source for the 50/50 divorce rate, she was surprised none could be found. After eight years of study, Feldhahn is confident the true divorce rate is currently no greater than 25%. Hear her conversation with Marya Morgan.</p>
Children Health Obesity	Closer Look	Feb 18	7:00 pm	15 minutes	<p><b>Tackle Childhood Obesity At Home, Church And School</b>          Millions of American kids suffer words like chubby or chunky - or fat - to describe their young bodies. The COVID-19 lockdowns only worsened already alarming levels of childhood obesity, as the CDC found the BMI (body mass index) in children ages 2-19 years old increase <a href="#">nearly doubled during the pandemic.</a> Excess weight weakens growing muscles and joints and can lead to juvenile diabetes or even trigger life-threatening asthma "Prevention is what we really want, right?" says Geri Henchy, Director of Nutrition Policy at the Food Research and Action Center (<a href="#">FRAC</a>). "We want kids to be in environments that are not obesogenic; where they're gonna get healthy meals, where there isn't a lot of junk food, where they have activities -- that's really gonna make a difference for kids."</p>

Foster Care Teens	Closer Look	Feb 18	7:15 pm	15 minutes	<p><b>Teens Aged-Out Of Foster Care Get Help From 'Dream Makers'</b></p> <p>Without family and often lacking lifeskills, former foster kids become homeless adults by the thousands, turning to drugs and crime on the streets just to survive. "Every statistic you hear that is going bad in the United States, a lot of them link back to the foster care system and those kids just not being taken care of." Dream Makers steps in to link aged-out foster kids with practical assistance by connecting them with the generosity of strangers. "It totally up to the community to fulfill the dream." The young adult with a need fills out an application to ask for things that teens with families could easily get from a mom or dad: like money for work clothes, or a laptop for school, or maybe a used car - but Melton says the most common dream request from these youth by far is - food.</p>
Unplanned Pregnancy	Closer Look	Feb 25	7:30 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>Young Girls Pregnant And Scared Turn To StandUpGirl.com</b></p> <p>Dawn-Marie Perez, executive director of <a href="http://StandUpGirl.com">StandUpGirl.com</a> says their site stands ready to help. "Our mission is to have these girls be able to find life-affirming information through us - - and then we connect them with pregnancy centers in their neighborhood." Quick response is essential. "If you go google the word 'abortion' right now there are millions of websites that are gonna come up," she says. "Our goal is to have StandUpGirl show up on that <i>first page</i> of their search."</p>

Children Education & the Arts	Closer Look	Mar 3	7:00 pm	16 minutes	<p><b>Young Storytellers Outreach Brings Kid-Scripts To Stage</b></p> <p>Children feel the thrill of seeing their scripts come to life with the help of creative-writing mentors and local actors who volunteer to perform. Though based primarily in Los Angeles, the arts program Young Storytellers works to scale its success to other cities by providing free online videos educators can use to help students shape stories. Monika Kelly reports.</p>
Parenting Fathers	Closer Look	Mar 3	7:17 pm	24 minutes	<p><b>South Carolina Dad Helps Reconnect Non-Custodial Fathers With Their Kids (+Podcast)</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.klove.com/news/positive-people/south-carolina-dad-helps-reconnect-non-custodial-fathers-with-their-kids-podcast-45401">https://www.klove.com/news/positive-people/south-carolina-dad-helps-reconnect-non-custodial-fathers-with-their-kids-podcast-45401</a></p>
Special Needs - Guide Dogs	Closer Look	Mar 10	7:00 pm	15 minutes	<p><b>Poodles, Labs Trained Free by Guide Dogs Of The Desert</b></p> <p>Guide Dogs of the Desert is one of just 14 schools in the U.S. for certified canine companions. Labradors are the main breed, but it specializes in standard poodles, which are hypoallergenic. Dogs are paired with the blind in need at no-charge. Monika Kelly reports.</p>

Military & Battlefield Pets	Closer Look	Mar 10	7:15 pm	15 minutes	<p><b>Dogs Rescue Soldiers with Paws of War</b>  A small meow tugs at a soldier's lonely heart. A bony pup cowering nearby begs for a bite of ration. U.S. combat vets adopt battlefield pets they must leave when deployment is done. Paws of War runs missions to find the soldier's beloved cat or dog in countries like Iraq and Syria, Jordan, Kosovo. "We do it, we do it at no cost to our active military members; we get those animals back here and we reunite them." Monika Kelly reports.</p>
Food Needs Hunger	Closer Look	Mar 17	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>"Share The Wealth Of Your Dirt" Through AmpleHarvest.org</b>  AmpleHarvest.org is nationally recognized for successfully recruiting backyard gardeners to fight food insecurity. The site lists 8,000 local pantries which accept donations of fresh fruits and veggies. The non-profit also works to involve pastors and churches nationwide through the Faith Fights Food Waste campaign and recently added a program to feed malnourished people on Native American reservations. Marya Morgan reports</p>
Drug Addiction	Closer Look	Mar 24	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p><b>Parents Of Addicted Loved Ones Turn To PAL Groups For Support</b>  One of your kids is on drugs. Getting in trouble. Calling you over and over bail them out. You don't know what to do. PAL Groups bring people together to swap stories and share strategies -- online or in-person. "<i>When we found PAL we're like okay, we're not alone, there's other people who've been down this road.</i>" Monika Kelly reports.</p>

Homeless	Closer Look	Jan 7	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<b>Clinton Sanctuary Ministry</b> Ron Turner talks with Leslie Prince, Board President of Clifton Sanctuary Ministry a faith based shelter for homeless men serving Metro Atlanta. Prince discusses why there may be discrepancies in counting the homeless population and how many go uncounted. Price talks about their approach to helping the homeless population improve their lives and move out of their situation to a more productive, stable life by offering their Success Training Program. Clifton Sanctuary Ministry is the oldest faith-based shelter in Atlanta stemming from local church leaders trying to determine their responsibility to fulfilling the command, "feed the hungry, clothe the poor". They can be contacted at ( <a href="https://www.cliftonsanctuary.com/">https://www.cliftonsanctuary.com/</a> )
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Homeless	Closer Look	Jan 28 Feb 18	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<p><b>City of Refuge</b>  Ron Turner talks with Bruce Deel, CEO of City of Refuge. Deel discusses how they help the homeless population break out of the repeated pattern of living crisis to crisis. Deel talks about the collaborative effort amongst participating organizations that cover all the needs of the less fortunate to help them bring order back into their lives and help plug them back into society. Deel explains the importance of each program available for their guests, from healthcare to job training that can help overcome the challenge of the cost of living in Metro Atlanta. Mentorship programs help fatherless children break the cycle of poverty, bringing hope to their future. Their private school on campus covers pre-school to scholarship funding that helps students pay for college. They can be contacted at (<a href="https://www.cityofrefugeatl.org">https://www.cityofrefugeatl.org</a>)</p>
Homeless	Closer Look	Mar 3	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<p><b>Atlanta Must Ministries</b>  Jack Church talks with Dr. Dwight "Ike" Reighard, President and CEO for Must Ministries. Reighard says the demand for food and housing has exploded in the past 3 years post-covid and continues to push resources to the limit. However, thanks to strong community support and a large network of volunteers they continue to provide food, shelter, clothing and employment support to those in need. In the past year Must Ministries served over 70,000 people, provided over 3 million pounds of food and served over 4 thousand people thru housing programs.</p>

Poverty	Closer Look	Feb 19- Mar 4	Various 8x/day 120 spots	15 seconds	<p><b>MUST Ministries</b> From feeding the hungry to providing shelter and transforming lives, MUST Ministries is here to help. If you or someone you know needs food, clothing, housing assistance or help finding a job, visit “Must Ministries dot org” for free assistance.</p>
Food Needs Hunger	Closer Look	Jan 14 Mar 17	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<p><b>Salvation Army - Atlanta</b> Ron Turner speaks with Major Thomas McWilliams, Commanding Officer for the Salvation Army metro-Atlanta Command about the mission and purpose of the 150 year old organization. McWilliams says the Salvation Army helps people because they believe it is the right thing to do and the Christ like thing to do. McWilliams describes the various programs they have available such as food pantry’s, shelters, men’s rehabilitation programs, work programs as well as their thright stores and red kettle campaigns. McWilliams explains how the Salvation Army provides 17% of the shelters to the homeless families and individuals throughout metro-Atlanta. They can be contacted at (<a href="https://salvationarmyatlanta.org/">https://salvationarmyatlanta.org/</a>) and for individuals who need help and have access to a computer they can reach out to (<a href="http://www.SAHELP.ORG">www.SAHELP.ORG</a>)</p>
Child Safety	Closer Look	Jan 21 Feb 11	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<p><b>Safe Kids Georgia</b> Phil O'Bryan talks with Amanda Batlle, State Coordinator with Safe Kids Georgia, about safety concerns in five basic areas which include home injuries, car and road industries, sports injuries, water safety and fire safety.</p>

Families Terminal Illness - Grief	PSA	Jan 29-Feb 12	Various 8x/day 120 spots	15 seconds	<p><b>Inheritance of Hope</b>          Inheritance of Hope shows love and care for young families facing the loss of a parent due to terminal illness....          With free online programs, and Legacy Retreat, a weekend of physical and emotional rest.          Go to "Inheritance of Hope dot org slash Retreats".</p>
Education Mentoring Youth	Closer Look	Feb 4	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<p><b>Atlanta Gainesville Hall County 4H</b>          Jack Church talks with Ben Dennis , 4 H Youth Development Agent for Hall County. Dennis said while agriculture remains the heart of 4 H, he believes kids are finding 4 H as a great place to expand their learning and life skills thru new and expanding programs including STEM based programs. 4 H is available from age 5 thru collegiate level clubs and often the older kids end up mentoring the younger 4 H members. 4 H also offers programs that enhance a college application and there are several scholarships available on an annual basis.</p>

Parenting - Education & Support	Closer Look	Feb 25 Mar 24	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<p><b>Families First</b>  Ron Turner talks to Dana Brown, Director of Parenting and Adoption Support Services for Families First in Atlanta about the impact parenting has on children which can build a positive and productive future for both the family and child. Brown discusses the various resources available for anyone who needs their parenting education as well as services geared to help with unexpected circumstances that may alter a rational parenting approach. Brown explains how they help give parents access to State and National resources to improve and enhance their parenting skills. Brown also discusses a transitional program for separated and divorced parents that helps ensure a positive environment for children of all ages. Brown mentions they accept parents of all ages, backgrounds and economic status into their program. They can be contacted at (<a href="https://familiesfirst.org/">https://familiesfirst.org/</a>)</p>
Transportation	Closer Look	Mar 10	7:30 pm	20 minutes	<p><b>Atlanta MARTA</b>  Jack Church talks with Stephany Fisher, Senior Communications Director for Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, better known as MARTA. MARTA has been around for over 50 years starting with bus service in 1971 and later adding rail service in 1979 with lines. It is one of the largest transit systems in the nation and Fisher pointed out the significant economic impact MARTA has on the local community. She also noted that the bus lines are going to see major improvements in the very near future with expansion of the Bus Rapid Transit program.</p>

