

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

The following is a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by WEKL(FM), AUGUSTA, 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
3. POVERTY
4. TEENS

Issue	Program	Date	Time	Duration	Description of Program
Business Development	Closer Look	Jan 7	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p>Small-Business Mentors Offer Free Advice Through SCORE</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>Old Schools Get Free Makeovers Through Heart Of America</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 Heart of America. 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>Gambling, Suicide Risk and Addiction Recovery</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. https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/dollars-and-sense/closer-look-gambling-suicide-risk-and-addiction-recovery-3518</p>
Faith & Family	Closer Look	Jan 21	7:13 pm	17 minutes	<p>Faith Of Her Father - Baby Jessica's Dad</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. https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/faith-matters/closer-look-faith-of-her-father-baby-jessica-s-dad-3520</p>

Drugs & Teens	Closer Look	Jan 28	7:00 pm	30 minutes	<p>Kids Fooled By Fentanyl, Rx Fakes 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>Food Prices, Fight Inflation From Your Fridge 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>50% Divorce Rate Is Myth, Researcher Says We’ve heard the chances of staying married are like flipping a coin. Christian author and social researcher Shaunti Feldhahn 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>

<p>Children Health Obesity</p>	<p>Closer Look</p>	<p>Feb 18</p>	<p>7:00 pm</p>	<p>15 minutes</p>	<p>Tackle Childhood Obesity At Home, Church And School 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 nearly doubled during the pandemic. 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 (FRAC). “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>
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Foster Care Teens	Closer Look	Feb 18	7:15 pm	15 minutes	<p>Teens Aged-Out Of Foster Care Get Help From 'Dream Makers'</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>Young Girls Pregnant And Scared Turn To StandUpGirl.com</p> <p>Dawn-Marie Perez, executive director of StandUpGirl.com 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>Young Storytellers Outreach Brings Kid-Scripts To Stage</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>South Carolina Dad Helps Reconnect Non-Custodial Fathers With Their Kids (+Podcast)</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/positive-people/south-carolina-dad-helps-reconnect-non-custodial-fathers-with-their-kids-podcast-45401</p>
Special Needs - Guide Dogs	Closer Look	Mar 10	7:00 pm	15 minutes	<p>Poodles, Labs Trained Free by Guide Dogs Of The Desert</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>Dogs Rescue Soldiers with Paws of War</p> <p>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>“Share The Wealth Of Your Dirt” Through AmpleHarvest.org</p> <p>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>Parents Of Addicted Loved Ones Turn To PAL Groups For Support</p> <p>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>