



## About Our Coalition:

The mission of the Wayne County Recovery Coalition (WCRC) is to improve the health and safety of individuals and families in Wayne County through comprehensive, community-wide strategies that reduce and prevent youth and adult substance use, assure treatment services are available and accessible for all, and promote long-term recovery for everyone. WCRC was initially formed in 2019 when a task force was developed to look into the rising number of ER visits related to drug misuse and overdose deaths due to opioids in Wayne County. In September of 2023, the WCRC was awarded a Drug Free Communities Support Program (DFCSP) grant to prevent and reduce youth substance use.

**Partners in Wayne County are uniting in health, safety, and well-being:** Anchored, Boys and Girls Club of the Altamaha Area, City of Odum, City of Screven, Coastal Pines Technical College, Drug Court, Family Connections, Forward Digital Marketing, Jesup Police Department, Life, Inc., Mother's Against Substance Abuse, Press Sentinel Newspaper, Safe Kids, Shane's Crib, Share Health Southeast Georgia, Southeast Health District, St. Simons by the Sea, Wayne County School System, Wayne County Sheriff's Office, and Wayne Memorial Hospital. By combining resources and support as partners in prevention, Wayne County will become a safe and healthy place for youth and families to thrive and live life substance free.

## Upcoming WCRC Meeting:

February 10, 2026 | 9:30AM  
Sam Dryer Community Center, 219 Florie St,  
Screven, GA 31560

Would you like to stay informed?

Email us at [shaunamattinglyanchored@gmail.com](mailto:shaunamattinglyanchored@gmail.com)  
to join our coalition email list and receive a  
calendar invitation for our upcoming meeting.

## EVENT RECAP:

### Wayne County's Repack the Backpack

On January 6th, Wayne County Family Connection hosted a community outreach event, Repack the Backpack, to support families as students returned to school after the holiday break. The event was organized by Kristina DeLeGal, Family Connection Director, and aimed to connect Wayne County residents with essential school supplies and valuable community resources. The event took place at the Wayne County Farmers Market from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Its primary purpose was to help students restock necessary school supplies and to provide families with the opportunity to receive a free car seat, if needed.

Organizations in attendance included Share Health Southeast Georgia, Peach State Health Plan, Goodwill, Safe Kids, Pineland Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Anchored, and Life, Inc. Each organization was assigned specific school supplies to distribute. Share Health Southeast Georgia provided highlighters, while other supplies included composition notebooks, glue sticks, rulers, disinfectant wipes, cap erasers, feminine products, and pencils.

In addition to school supplies, organizations shared information about their services and distributed swag items such as stress balls, hand sanitizer, Smarties candy, and pens. Parents expressed appreciation for Wayne County Family Connection's efforts, noting that the event helped ease the financial burden of restocking school supplies and provided meaningful support for their families.





## Partner Spotlight: Parent-to-Parent Support Community (PAVe) Parents Against Vaping

PAVe offers a Parent-to-Parent Support Community designed for parents and caregivers who need a safe space to connect with others who truly understand. This monthly, live Zoom conversation provides an opportunity to share experiences, ask questions, and receive encouragement in a supportive environment.

PAVe's Parent Group is:

- Supportive and safe
- Private and judgment-free
- Exclusively for parents and caregivers
- Moderated by PAVE staff



To protect the integrity and safety of the group, membership requests are carefully reviewed. Each requesting member is asked to answer a few brief screening questions to ensure the group remains parent focused. If you need to talk to someone who understands, this community is here for you.

👉 Parents can join here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/184YbMVdx1/>

Parents Against Vaping is a grassroots community of passionate parents and concerned individuals committed to protecting children from the dangers of vaping and other flavored tobacco use.



## Love Yourself: Self-Care Tips for Your Overall Health



February is the month of love, and it is just as important to show love to yourself as it is to others. Taking care of your mental, emotional, and physical health can help reduce stress, strengthen resilience, and support your journey.

Simple Ways to Practice Self-Love and Self-Care:

- Prioritize rest: Make time for sleep and downtime - it's essential for mental health.
- Connect with others: Reach out to supportive friends, family, or recovery groups.
- Set boundaries: Learn to say "no" when you need to protect your time and energy.



### Pineland BHDD Community Service Board

#### Mental Health Community Coalition

#### 2026 Meeting Schedule

March 20: In-Person (Jeff Davis, Jeff Davis Library)

May 15: Virtual

July 17: In-Person (Candler, Location TBD)

September 18: Virtual

November 10: In-Person (Toombs, Location TBD)

**All Meetings Start at 10:30 AM**

*For questions, please contact:*

**Sarah Refuss, [serefuss@pinelandbhdd.org](mailto:serefuss@pinelandbhdd.org)**

### Sponsors, Funders, and Key Resources



Wayne County Recovery Coalition

Check out our website and follow us on Instagram and Facebook!



<https://www.waynecountyrecovery.com>



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