

NAME: Andrea Stephenson
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: House District 104

1. Why are you seeking your office?

As Epidemiologist, educator and parent, I advocate for healthy, prosperous communities and higher quality of life. My children were involved in terrorism. With my 2 Master's degrees: Epidemiology/Social Research I continue to fight back, served as Director of Bioterrorism/Epidemiology; consulted to state, federal, health and legislative agencies; and appointed to School Advisory, transportation and health committees.

My unique qualifications/experiences motivate me to lead change: increasing revenues, quality public safe schools, public-health-preparedness, voting-rights, equality/justice, diversity, planned-small business growth, Green-Georgia jobs/transportation/affordable housing, gang-busting and livable-wages.

As your elected Democratic Committeewoman I will defeat the Republican. I humbly request your vote: primary-day, 6/9.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I will work to establish:

- High quality education and school safety throughout the State
- Teacher, law enforcement, EMT pay increases
- Improved public health and medical/hospital systems
- Access to jobs, retraining, and new businesses in Green economy
- Expanded Medicaid to 900,000 working poor citizens
- Support for reproductive rights
- Strong gang prevention policies
- Registration of all voters in Georgia at age18
- Strengthened oversight of elections system
- Gwinnett transportation system to include light rail, and expanded services
- Criminal justice reforms and elimination of private prisons
- Quality Pre-K and Kindergarten available in all counties
- Teacher's rights to unionize

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

- I have the best chance to defeat the incumbent based on my political and professional expertise. I have worked effectively within local, state, and federal governmental systems and private/public partnerships.

- Currently, COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of health care and public health preparation in preventing illnesses and deaths. My background as an epidemiologist and legislative coordinator will inform scientific data-driven policy priorities.
- I hold a strong record of volunteer and elected service to the Gwinnett Democratic Party, Gwinnett Democratic Women, and national presidential campaigns. My support of the values of fairness and social justice are well-defined and well-known.

4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

The economic and cultural success of Georgia depends on Quality Affordable Accessible Health Care Coverage for ALL. Georgia has one of the highest maternal mortality, lowest child health care rates in America. Raising Georgia's wages cutoff for Medicaid eligibility will close the gap; ALL Georgians will receive preventive, acute, mental and chronic health care as successful consumers, businesspersons, employees, parents. A win-win for everyone!

We need quality surveillance systems and systematically build/coordinate hospital, medico-dental-nursing schools, school nurse/mental health resources, residencies, rural health clinics, mobile vans, e/tele-medicine, and visiting-nurse systems. "Healthy Georgia" protects all-children, families, elderly, businesses-from adverse public health events.

5. Suggest ways to jump-start the economy after COVID-19.

- Convene thinktanks: opportunities for input from business leaders/public health/environmental/consumer/civic/scout/law-enforcement/Chamber/unions
- Attract healthy, 6ft-apart consumerism within a Green Gwinnett: mall/sporting events, charity-fundraising parties, health/chef-table fairs, outdoor public concerts, historical recreations, job fairs...
- In-town van transports; buses to malls, groceries, parks/town centers/theatres/concerts...
- Attract consumers/tourists; dog/car shows, plant sales, fashion shows, etc.
- Spur public/private partnerships building hospital-systems, rural health facilities, public health and CAREVANS w/Medicaid expansion
- Create public/private Green Georgia Initiatives: cheap energy, good jobs, businesses; paid retraining
- Increase minimum wage
- Expand Tax-Free Days; Lower license fees
- Emphasize Town Square hubs

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background.

- I have lived in Dacula for 14 years loving the quality of life in HD104. My husband, Jim and I have 4 adult children. I love tennis, cooking, reading and family.
- I hold advanced degrees in Public Health from Columbia and Florida State. I've worked as epidemiologist, educator, travel agent and small business owner
- My leadership as your Committeewoman for Gwinnett/Georgia Democratic Parties and Past President, Gwinnett Democratic Women reflects values of equality, opportunity, diversity, and social-responsibility
- First Democrat in 8 years to run, I received 11,700 votes, almost beating the Republican. With your help, I will win this year!