



The Community Foundation
FOR GREATER ATLANTA



We hope this guide will

equip you with the tools



to make a difference



in your community –

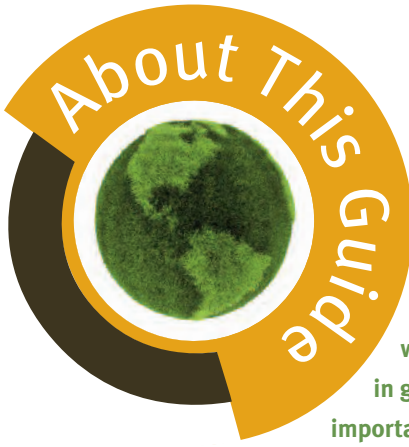


now and along your



philanthropic journey.





This guide was developed to help young people learn more about philanthropy and to encourage investments in nonprofits doing good work in the metro Atlanta region. At The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, we believe philanthropy can begin at a young age, and we enjoy helping our donors engage multiple generations of their family in giving. Inside, you will find information about philanthropy and why it's important, how nonprofits meet critical needs, as well as how young people can give back. You will also be able to explore what you're passionate about and complete exercises to help you connect with areas of need in your community. For those who are interested in really getting involved, we've listed volunteer opportunities at some of the nonprofits that young people like you recommend. You will also read about young people who are connecting with their community through Planet Philanthropy and their individual giving efforts. We hope this guide will give you the tools to make a difference in your community – now and along your philanthropic journey.

Engaging the Next Generation

The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta created Planet Philanthropy to help donors teach their children about philanthropy and how to support and make grants to nonprofits. At an early age, children learn the importance of caring for others and their community. In fact, we know that many begin to identify their own interests as early as age 4. Planet Philanthropy allows us to work with young philanthropists providing them space to have their own voice and give back to their community in a way that's right for them. Through Planet Philanthropy, we offer the children, grandchildren and young friends of our donors ages 9 to 15 customized training to explore their passions and interests, community involvement, volunteerism and grantmaking.

Once a year, youth participate in a day-long workshop where they work in teams to discuss community issues, what philanthropy means and how nonprofits make a difference. One highlight of the day is a grantmaking activity where participants are able to evaluate proposals from nonprofit organizations and make grant decisions as a group. Youth are also able to make individual grants to a nonprofit of their choosing. This educational gathering allows young people to connect with our expert staff and with one another in an exciting and fun way.

Through education, engagement and hands-on learning, Planet Philanthropy helps guide young philanthropists along their path of giving.

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When you give of your time, talent



What is Philanthropy? At its core, philanthropy is anything that represents a direct effort to help others – ideally without expectations of getting something in return. People choose to give their time, talent or money to nonprofit organizations to address the needs and issues they believe are critical. It's important to remember that it is not the amount of time spent volunteering or the amount of money donated that defines you as a philanthropist. In fact, anyone can give – no matter how much money they have. To be a philanthropist means donating your personal resources, whether financial, human or intellectual, to organizations that help others.

Why is Philanthropy Important?

There are many needs in your community, and it takes everyone pitching in to make a difference. The quality of life for everyone depends on how well communities can address needs such as homelessness, education, youth development, healthcare and the environment. There are many institutions that help in responding to these issues and creating a healthy community for all. While government and businesses have an important role, the primary responsibility for addressing social needs rests with the nonprofit sector.

What is the Nonprofit Sector?

The nonprofit sector is used to describe organizations, groups and institutions that serve the greater good of society. The sector is made up of churches, synagogues and other faith-based organizations; schools, colleges and universities; professional and community groups; and other organizations focused on improving quality of life. Nonprofits usually rely on government grants, fundraising, donors and volunteers to keep them operating and help them meet the needs of our communities.

Most of the time, when people talk about nonprofits, they talk about charitable organizations or not-for-profit organizations. Nonprofit organizations cover a broad scope and provide services and resources to those in need. Some of the more recognizable areas are shown below.



or money, you are a philanthropist.

Your Personal Giving Plan

Now that you've learned a little about philanthropy, nonprofits and community needs, it's time for you to think about how you can make a difference through your giving. Nonprofits rely on the support of individuals in two main ways – gifts of time and gifts of money.

Volunteering

When you give your time through volunteering, you help to create a far better future for all of us. In addition, nothing compares with the feeling you get from making a positive difference in someone's life, including your own. Volunteering is a powerful tool for bringing people together and solving problems that face our communities. The work of the nonprofit sector would be impossible without the support of volunteers of all ages. In fact, 56% of teens do something to support charitable causes, including volunteering, recruiting others to a cause, wearing a button or T-shirt or donating money (Harris Interactive, 2008).

Here are just a few of the reasons many people volunteer:

- To demonstrate commitment to a cause/belief
- To gain skills and experience or learn something new
- Because of personal experience with the problem, illness or cause
- To help a friend or relative
- To keep busy
- To fill a need
- To make a difference
- To make new friends
- For fun!

Examples of volunteering may include:

- Packaging or serving food at a food bank or kitchen
- Spending time at a senior citizens' home or reading to children in an after-school program
- Planting trees or cleaning up a neighborhood park
- Walking dogs or painting a room at an animal shelter
- Researching a critical issue and sharing what you've learned with friends and family
- Passing out flyers or helping out at a fundraising event
- Helping raise money for a nonprofit to continue its mission

Environment

Health

Human Services

Religion

Transportation



VOLUNTEER

People volunteer for a wide variety of reasons. The best volunteering does involve the desire to help others, but this does not mean that it can't be done for other reasons as well. In fact, it is okay to want some benefits for yourself from volunteering. Instead of considering volunteering as something you do for people who are not as fortunate as yourself, think of it as an exchange.

In addition to gifts of time, you can also give non-financial contributions, which help alleviate the costs of operations for a nonprofit. Supplies, materials and space to meet and deliver services are usually appreciated. Non-financial contributions like these are often called "gifts in-kind." Activities such as food drives and toy drives mean a lot to the organizations who distribute the items and the individuals who ultimately receive them. These activities are very popular for schools, service clubs, faith-based organizations and other groups.



Here are some questions to ask yourself as you decide how you might volunteer:

- What causes or issues matter the most to you?
- What are your strengths, skills or things you like to do? Maybe you're an artist, good with math, like children or play a sport. What can you share with others?
- How much time do you have to volunteer? Do you want an ongoing, regularly scheduled assignment, a short-term assignment or a one-time assignment?
- Do you want to work alone or with a group? With a friend or with family?
- What type of setting is best for you? Consider whether you prefer indoors or outside, one-on-one with an individual or with a group or team or alone, or maybe a combination?
- Are you willing to participate in a training course, or do you want to start your volunteer work immediately?





Contributing Money

Another way to help nonprofit organizations meet social needs is to contribute money to them. Foundations like The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta help individuals and families identify their options and make smart choices about organizations to which they might want to donate. Because nonprofit organizations provide services, often to people who cannot afford to pay for them, they always need additional resources to continue their work.

Tips for Raising Money to Give

How can I get money to contribute to nonprofit organizations? Here are some tips for collecting or raising money to give to nonprofits.

- **Give from your allowance** – If you have an allowance, you can donate a portion of that. Put some away in a jar and decide on a target number – maybe \$25 or \$50 – then make your donation!
- **Give cash gifts you've received** – You can consider giving a portion of the money you receive from family or friends on special occasions like your birthday. You can even decide the gift you want is for others to donate to your favorite organization.
- **Give money you earn** – Do you have a part-time job? You can give a portion of the money you earn to an organization. Decide what percentage you feel comfortable with – maybe 5 or 10%. If you don't have a job, consider doing chores or errands to earn cash.
- **Give money through fundraising** – Asking others directly for money to donate is another option. Be sure you're ready to tell them about the organization, why they should support it and how the money will be used. You can develop creative ways to raise funds like penny drives or match-programs.

How do I decide which nonprofits to support?

There is specific information you should know about any nonprofit organization before deciding to support it with your time and dollars.

It is important to research an organization, talk to or visit the nonprofit that you are considering supporting.

Here is some basic information you should know:

1. **Mission & Issue** – who is the organization, what does it do, who benefits and why it is important?
2. **Programs & Strategies** – are they built on research, are they meeting a need, how are they evaluated, what partnerships exists, how are volunteers engaged?
3. **Leadership: Staff & Board** – is there evidence of team work, is the board and staff diverse, what is their expertise and is training and professional development available?
4. **Financial Sustainability** – is there a diverse source of funding, what is the ratio of administrative versus programming expenses?
5. **Strategic Planning** – is there a strategic plan, how was it created, how is it used and updated, evaluated?



See Giving Tips on page 26 for more information on evaluating nonprofits and making decisions regarding funding.



First, consider what causes or issues matter the most to you. **discover**

Next, learn ways to connect with your friends and family to help your community and the people and places in it. **connect**

Then, think about your skills, interests and how they can benefit others. **explore**

- The environment should be clean and livable. (environment)
- Animals and wildlife should have shelter and safe homes in which to live. (animals)
- Kids and adults should have quality, healthy food to eat. (food and nutrition)
- Individuals and families should have adequate shelter and homes. (housing)
- Everyone deserves a quality education and chance to learn. (education)
- Kids and adults should be able to exercise and have adequate fitness. (recreation, sports and athletics)
- Neighborhoods and communities should be safe and enjoyable. (community development)
- We should help the poor and disadvantaged in our community. (poverty and income security)
- It's important young people have activities and programs to keep them healthy, safe and ready for adulthood. (youth development)
- My faith and beliefs are important to me and could help others. (religion and spiritual development)
- People should be able to visit museums, plays and take part in art and culture. (arts and culture)
- Everyone should be able to have proper care when they are sick or injured. (healthcare)
- People should be treated fairly regardless of their race, religion, gender or other differences. (civil rights and social action)
- It's important to research and investigate new ways of doing things to improve society and learn about your environment. (science)
- There is a lot of need around the world and it's important to help other countries and cultures. (international and foreign affairs)

Discover

Identify the issues that are important to you. Here are just a few things young people like you mention. Check the top five ideas that mean the most to you or add your own ideas.

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Connect

Your giving in the community doesn't have to be done alone. If one person can make a difference, a group of people can do even more! Here are some activities to consider when connecting with others. Check any activities that interest you.

- Learn more about your friends and family by asking about the things most important to them. Share with them the worksheet in this guide on issue areas.
- Work with friends or family to come up with a list of needs in the community and vote on which to explore.
- Ask your parents to hold a meeting to discuss how the family can give in the community. Share with them some of what you've learned in this guide.
- Work with a group of friends to come up with a community service project for your class at school to consider.
- Raise funds with friends and family by participating in a fun activity like a yard sale, bake sale, car wash or lemonade stand.
- Use social media to share information about your favorite nonprofit to get others interested.
- Suggest to your family spending the afternoon at a local nonprofit, sorting food, reading to young children or older adults or cleaning up the environment, for example.
- Create a holiday tradition among your friends or family members to serve in the community during the holiday season.
- Issue a challenge among your friends or family who can raise the most money for charity. The winner decides where the money will go.
- Hold a talent show or sports competition in the neighborhood to raise money for an issue or nonprofit about which you are passionate.
- After you identify an issue or nonprofit of importance to you, share this information with family, friends and groups through a presentation you make in the community.

Notes and Ideas:

Explore

What are your personal interests? We all have special skills that make us unique and talents that can be used to help others. Here are just a few activities young people like you mention. Check those that apply to you.

- Playing with children
- Playing with animals
- Good listener
- Doing math
- Reading
- Playing sports
- Cleaning or organizing
- Dancing, performing
- Hanging with friends
- Making others laugh
- Creating arts or crafts
- Being in nature/outdoors
- Cooking
- Shopping
- Learning with technology
- Others _____

Now you're ready to develop your plan of action. Here are some questions to help you:

➤ Do you feel you are currently giving back to make a difference in your community? If so, how? If not, why?

➤ What are your top four personal interests or talents?

➤ What are your top five issue areas? (Page 7)

➤ What do you want to get out of volunteering? (Page 3)

➤ What are some volunteer options that fit you? (Page 3)

➤ What are the best ways to collect money to give? (Page 5)

➤ Who are people I should talk with about my plans to give and volunteer? Who can I connect with?

Notes and Ideas:

THE FOLLOWING PAGES HIGHLIGHT ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE FAVORITES OF PLANET PHILANTHROPY PARTICIPANTS. These strong nonprofits are just a few of the many nonprofits doing great work in the metro Atlanta region. In addition, we've listed other organizations that have received grants from The Community Foundation and our donors. Again, this listing of organizations is not at all exhaustive. Check out the Resources section at the end of this guide for more information on identifying nonprofits of your liking and various ways you can learn more about giving back in your community.

WHERE YOU CAN GIVE:
Metro Atlanta Nonprofits

ADAPTIVE LEARNING CENTER

OVERVIEW

Adaptive Learning Center was founded as an educational and therapeutic program for children ages birth to six encompassing a wide range of disabilities including autism, cerebral palsy and Down syndrome.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ During the 2009-2010 school year, ALC reached 800 children
- ▶ 2010 Budget: \$950,000
- ▶ Programming includes: inclusive preschool, speech and occupational therapy, support services, education and consultation and training for early childhood educators

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Participate in hands-on activities with children as a play or classroom volunteer
- ▶ Promote events with flyers and brochures and encourage your family and friends to participate
- ▶ Host a fundraising event to collect funds to support programming needs

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

👉 Website:

www.adaptivelearningcenter.org

Phone: 770-509-3909

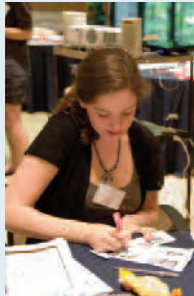
Address: 2509 Post Oak Tritt Rd.
Marietta, GA 30062

Young People Making a Difference

At The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, we work with young people just like you to help them learn more about nonprofit organizations and how they can support organizations making a difference in the community. As you continue to think about your personal plan for giving, get to know some of the young people who have participated in Planet Philanthropy. Learn a little about them and why they choose to give back to the community.

ALI
AGE 18

Favorite nonprofit:
ATLANTA
COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK



Why she's passionate: *"The Food Bank plays an important role in ending hunger in Atlanta through its distribution of food to local shelters. Without this food, organizations would have to survive on donations alone. The Food Bank allows them to serve more people throughout the Atlanta area."*

How she gives back: *"I started volunteering at the Food Bank when I was younger. As I got older, I started participating in the Hunger Summit, which teaches high school students about hunger and poverty issues. I also volunteer at the Genesis Shelter, which is a shelter for newborns and their families. I love photography, so one year I took photos of the kids and we framed them and gave them to their mothers as gifts."*

LEECEA
AGE 16

Area of interest:
ARTS & CULTURE,
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Why she's passionate: *"I'm interested in the arts and music and other positive, recreational activities for kids. There should be programs available to kids to help them stay out of trouble, learn and grow."*



About nonprofits: *"It's important to look at nonprofits and their mission, how they spend their money and what programs they have to help out in the community. We should support nonprofits because we need people who are willing to help, and it's important that we help them help others."*

ATLANTA CHILDREN'S SHELTER

OVERVIEW

Atlanta Children's Shelter (ACS) provides child development and support services for homeless families striving for long-term self-sufficiency. ACS offers an accredited, high-quality early childhood program, as well as other support services for families, including medical care, social services, needs assessments and job search assistance.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2009, 99 children and 68 families were served. Of these families, 33 were able to obtain housing, and members of 41 families gained employment
- 2010 Budget: \$1,230,405
- Programming includes: early childcare, job readiness for parents and aftercare services

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Serve as playground and classroom volunteers to read, feed and play with children
- Coordinate a home starter kit donation drive, which helps families as they move into permanent homes
- Develop toiletry shoe box kits, which are handed out to families as needed
- Coordinate a Holiday House gift drive or Holiday Time Adopt a Family



HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

- Website: www.atlantachildrensshelter.org
- Phone: 404-892-3713
- Address: 607 Peachtree St. / Atlanta, GA 30308

ATLANTA COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

OVERVIEW

Atlanta Community Food Bank (ACFB) fights hunger by engaging, educating and empowering the community by supporting the infrastructure of daycares, senior centers, shelters, food pantries and community kitchens. ACFB delivers 24 million pounds of food each year to 700 nonprofit partner feeding programs in 38 metro Atlanta and North Georgia counties.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Provide emergency food to 58,900 people each week
- 2010 Budget: \$18,692,499
- Programming includes: Atlanta Prosperity Campaign to benefit working individuals and families; Atlanta's Table, which collects and delivers prepared food; Hunger 101, which educates children and adults about hunger and poverty; Kids in Need, which provides free school supplies to low-income schools; and the Volunteer Program, which engages volunteers in food drives

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Sort, inspect and package items through the Food Bank's Product Rescue Center
- Weed, seed, till, clear and plant crops through the Food Bank's Community Garden
- Participate in Hunger 101, an engaging and interactive workshop that explores hunger and poverty in this country helping participants become advocates and much more



HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

- 👉 Website: www.acfb.org
- Phone: 404-892-FEED (3333)
- Address: 732 Joseph E. Lowery Blvd., NW / Atlanta, GA 30318

ATLANTA DAY SHELTER FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

OVERVIEW

Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children empowers homeless women and their children by providing them the tools needed to overcome their current situation and succeed in regaining their independence. The Atlanta Day Shelter is one of the only daytime resource centers available to homeless women and children and is open every day of the year from 8 am to 4 pm.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Two hundred women and children use the shelter each day and 5,000 people visit per year
- 2010 Budget: \$907,350
- Programming includes: services to meet critical needs such as shelter, meals, clothing, childcare items and transportation vouchers; on-site medical clinic to offer routine and preventative services and healthcare advice; job placement and career assistance; spiritual guidance and activities; housing and social services

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Coordinate birthday parties for women and children in the program, many of whom have never had a birthday party
- Assist in planning party activities, such as arts and crafts, party games, cupcake decorating, as well as creating goodie bags for party guests and gift bags for birthday boys and girls

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

- 👉 Website: www.atlantadayshelter.org
- Phone: 404-876-2894
- Address: 655 Ethel Street / Atlanta, Georgia 30318

EMILY
AGE 10

Favorite nonprofit:
ATLANTA DAY
SHELTER FOR
WOMEN AND
CHILDREN



Why she's passionate:

"The Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children needs a lot of help right now because of the economy. They help women and their children get clean clothes and give them a safe place to stay. I like them and have volunteered with them since I was three years old."

How she gives back:

"At the Day Shelter, I love to help with childcare and activities such as birthday parties and other holidays. We also like to play on the playground, decorate cookies, dance, sing and play. While we play, the moms get help with food, clothes and other things. I like seeing the smiles on their faces when I'm helping with their activities and spending time with them."

DRAYTON
AGE 10

Area of interest:
FOOD / CRITICAL
NEEDS

Why he's passionate: *"I'm interested in helping food banks. They are very important organizations. Everyone deserves to have a fair life, be able to eat, live. And they help make that happen."*



How he gives back: *"I volunteer at Toys for Tots and have collected toys for kids who don't have a lot. It's good to help organizations that help people. It's the right thing to do."*

ATLANTA HUMANE SOCIETY

OVERVIEW

Atlanta Humane Society prevents neglect, abuse, cruelty and exploitation of animals to assure that their interests and well being are protected by society. AHS is a leader in outreach efforts to stop animal cruelty by actively working to shape humane legislation, shut down dog fighting operations, rescue dogs and cats from puppy mills and hoarders, and assist with pet recovery efforts following emergencies.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Close to 7,000 animals were adopted through AHS in 2010
- 2010 Budget: \$4,439,086
- Programming includes: pet adoption; pet facilitated therapy for seniors and hospital patients; low cost spay and neutering services; humane education and support programs for owners; humane shelter and animal control training and leadership to other shelters and facilities

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Lend support at special events throughout the year by distributing brochures or forming a group to participate in the event; events include Pet Parade, Fur Fest and Be Kind to Animals Week Art Contest
- Develop a fundraising project such as a car wash or bake sale
- Create arts and crafts and donate to the Society to be sold in the Pet Supply Shop or at various special events; gifts could be note cards, homemade dog biscuits or training treats, pet toys, bowls and beds, bandanas, holiday ornaments or pet picture frames
- Collect items from AHS's wish list, including newspapers for shredding to put in cages, old blankets and towels to make beds for sick or injured animals and laundry detergent



HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



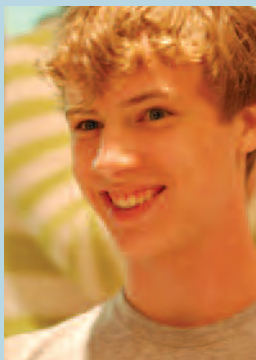
Website: www.atlantahumane.org

Phone: 404-974-2878

Address: 981 Howell Mill Rd. / Atlanta, GA 30318

ZACK
AGE 17

Favorite nonprofits:
CARE & POSSE



Why he's passionate:

"CARE is a great organization because they give money to people in other countries. I like Posse because they work with kids in less fortunate areas and give them tools needed to be successful in college and succeed in life."

About giving: *"If you're successful in life, it's always great to give back to the community because it helps others in return. When young people volunteer, it helps put their lives in perspective to show how fortunate they are to have nice things, live in a nice home and be able to go to a good school."*

Learn more about Posse-Atlanta on page 21.

CARE

OVERVIEW

CARE fights poverty worldwide by empowering women and girls to create lasting change in their communities. Recognizing that women and children suffer disproportionately from poverty, CARE operates in 72 countries, placing special emphasis on working with women to create permanent social change.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2009, CARE supported more than 800 poverty fighting projects in 72 countries to reach more than 59 million people
- 2010 Budget: \$708,306,000
- Programming includes: Economic development to assist impoverished families by supporting moneymaking activities; multi-level work to address all aspects of basic education; emergency relief to survivors of natural disasters and conflict; health services to mothers and children who often are the most vulnerable

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Invite a local CARE staff person to school to speak
- Write a letter to your school or local newspaper to draw attention to global poverty
- Plan or host a fundraising or awareness event
- Research internship programs and conference opportunities available to you in the future

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

 Website: www.care.org
Phone: 404-681-2552
Address: 151 Ellis St. / Atlanta, GA 30303

CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA

OVERVIEW

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (Children's) enhances the lives of children through excellence in patient care, research and education. Children's is consistently recognized by *Parents* magazine and *U.S. News & World Report* as being among the top children's hospitals nationwide.


KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Today, Children's is the largest pediatric clinical care provider in the country with 520 staffed beds at three hospitals and 16 satellite locations
- 2010 Budget: \$45,100,000
- Programming includes: Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorder Service; Children's Sibley Heart Center Orthopedic program; Activity centers and The Zones, which provides games, parties and pet therapy for patients; The School Program, which helps hospitalized children keep up with their school work

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Decorate doors hangers, name signs, tote bags and other fun items for the Young Friends at Children's at Scottish Rite
- Participate in the Young Friends at Children's at Eggleston session, which includes a short presentation and activity and overview of Children's
- Take part in several activities as part of the Generous Generation initiative; activities include, spare change drives to raise funds for programming and activities and birthday gift donation or fundraising to help patients

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

 Email: www.choa.org
Phone: 404-785-7004
Address: 1687 Tullie Circle NE / Atlanta, Georgia 30329

CLEAN AIR CAMPAIGN

OVERVIEW

Clean Air Campaign motivates Georgians to take action to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion. The focus is on both congestion and air quality because they are linked; vehicle emissions are a major contributor to smog formation.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2004, The Clean Air Campaign introduced Better Air Schools, an innovative and comprehensive education outreach program that engages the entire school community
- 2010 Budget: \$220,000
- Programming includes: No-Idling, which encourages parents and school bus drivers to turn off their engines when dropping off or waiting for students; Ride the Bus! For Clean Air, which promotes bus ridership; Pool to School, which provides schools with the tools to organize and promote carpooling to school to reduce traffic; Air quality lesson plans, which help support air quality education efforts

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Visit the Clean Air Campaign website to learn more about the program and promote the mission of CAC
- Motivate and encourage friends and family to reduce pollution and create a healthier environment
- Take the lead and implement one or more of the Clean Air Schools activities; get your school's PTA or principal to register to become a Clean Air School
- Get involved in your environmental or science clubs and encourage others to take part in caring for and cleaning up their environment

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

👉 Website: www.cleanaircampaign.org
 Phone: 1-877-CLEANAIR
 Address: 55 Park Place NE, Suite 250 / Atlanta, GA 30303

CAROLINE AGE 14

Favorite nonprofits: CARE & HABITAT AID

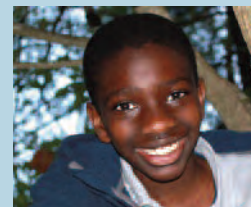
Why she's passionate:

"CARE helps a lot of people all over the world. I'm interested in organizations that help women in different countries who aren't allowed to do those things men are allowed to do, such as get an education. Habitat Aid helps the entire community. They don't just hand them money but help them do things like grow crops, build walls, etc. They aren't just helping one person or one family but something bigger."

How she gives: *"I've volunteered at animal shelters. Over Christmas, I have also helped serve meals at the Trinity House and spent time with the people there."*

Learn more about Habitat Aid Initiative on page 18.

OMARI AGE 12



Area of interest: ENVIRONMENT

Why he's passionate:

"I think the environment is important. We need to pay attention to it in order to survive. So many things are going against the environment like pollution, so it's important that people care."

Why it's important to give: *"You should give to other people in need because if you give, you receive. Even if you don't have much to give, your gift makes a difference in others' lives and gives you something back in return."*



DANA
AGE 13

Area of Interest:
ORGANIZATIONS
SERVING PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES



Why she's passionate:

"Everyone should be able to get the help they need to get around and live a good life. Building things like wheelchair ramps is important. I think organizations that help people with physical and other disabilities are important."

How she gives back:

"I give back through my school. I've sold magazines and some of the money that's raised has gone to help different nonprofit organizations. I also participated in a mission trip to New Orleans."

CREATE YOUR DREAMS

OVERVIEW

Create Your Dreams (CYD) is devoted to nurturing the talents and dreams of select students in underserved communities through long-term enrichment. The long-term goal of Create Your Dreams is for all of our students to graduate from high school, pursue a higher education and become self-sufficient adults.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- To date, 100% of CYD alums earned their high school diplomas and 94% have pursued a higher education
- 2010 Budget: \$276,700
- Programming includes: An afterschool program that offers a structured curriculum that complements students' education and relates to their personal development; special enrichment activities on weekends or in the summer; individualized tutoring; college preparation; alumni support services and networking

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Provide tutoring and assistance to youth at CYD Club
- Assist with CYD After School Activities
- Organize birthday activity or bake a birthday cake for a CYD Child
- Prepare Snack Bags for CYD youth

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Email: www.createyourdreams.org
Phone: 404-249-9166
Address: 887 West Marietta St., T 108 / Atlanta, GA 30318

EAST AFRICAN CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

OVERVIEW

East African Children's Education Fund (EACEF) utilizes a holistic, community-based approach to address educational inequity in East Africa while engaging the next generation of leaders to take up social causes. With project locations across Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda, EACEF has successfully invested over a quarter of a million dollars in educational infrastructure and programming.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Works with more than 3,200 children every day
- 2010 Budget: \$168,450
- Programming includes: Engineer, which organizes outreach in the areas of school facility construction; Expand, which provides educational programming; Energize, which provides sanitation; Engage, which encourages community empowerment; and Empower, which promotes youth civic engagement and entrepreneurship in the United States

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Learn more about EACEF and spread the word to inspire young people to fight for change for people all over the world
- Plan or host a fundraising or awareness event
- Participate in EACEF's GenerAction initiative by joining a chapter or starting a chapter at your high school or college

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Website: www.eacef.org
Phone: 404-609-6399
Address: 1266 West Paces Ferry Rd., Suite 271 / Atlanta, GA 30327

AMIRA
AGE 16

Area of Interest:
RECREATION AND
ATHLETICS



Why she's passionate:
"I'm a golfer so I am interested in sports and how they can help young people. I also like organizations that introduce young girls to non-traditional sports like golf and help them feel good about themselves."

Why it's important to give: *"I see a lot of people in the community who don't have much. That motivates me to want to give back and help. You can volunteer your time helping others or you can raise money. But it's not always about the money."*

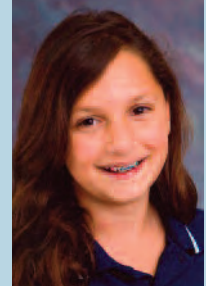
KYRA
AGE 12

Favorite nonprofits:
OUR HOUSE &
CANINE ASSISTANTS

Why she's passionate: *"I think a lot of people need homes and food, as well as animals. I like organizations that help animals. I think it's important to learn about nonprofits now because when you're older you can make decisions about how to give."*

Learn more about Our House on page 20.

How she gives back:
"I've volunteered with my family at Our House, which offers pre-K to homeless kids, and helps mothers find jobs. We've brought snacks in for the children and given them presents for their birthdays."



FAMILIES FIRST

OVERVIEW

Families First fosters strong communities by delivering comprehensive and sustainable solutions for children and families — solutions that improve child well-being and family self-sufficiency. The organization's mission is to ensure the success of children in jeopardy by empowering families.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Last year, Families First served more than 41,000 of Georgia's most vulnerable children and families, 76% of whom were below 200% of the federal poverty line
- 2010 Budget: \$10,382,126
- Programming includes: adoption, foster care, residential group homes, independent living programs and reunification services for children and youth; supportive housing and services; parenting and family life education to equip girls, young women, parents and families with critical skills for building strong family relationships



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Participate in the Adopt-a-Family program, which serves the needs of disadvantaged families around the holidays
- Sponsor children's birthdays and plan and prepare games, snacks and other activities
- Conduct care package drive where the group collects, assembles and personally delivers care packages to families
- Decorate or assemble the packages and/or personalize them with inspirational notes or cards
- Participate in hands-on service projects at one of the residential program facilities, including outdoor clean-up and landscaping; conduct baby supply drives and provide holiday gifts and cookies for young mothers and their babies

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Website: www.familiesfirst.org

Phone: 404-853-2800

Address: 1105 West Peachtree St. / Atlanta, GA 30309

ANDREW
AGE 13



Favorite nonprofit:
CLEAN AIR
CAMPAIGN

Why he's passionate:

"Dirty air causes cancer and asthma. When people do things like carpool and turn their cars off, it makes the air better. In other countries, people do a better job of taking care of the air and the environment. We should be doing that here."

How others can help:

"They can give money to Clean Air Campaign. They can learn more about the environment and what they can do to help clean it up."

Learn more about Clean Air Campaign on page 15.

FURKIDS

OVERVIEW

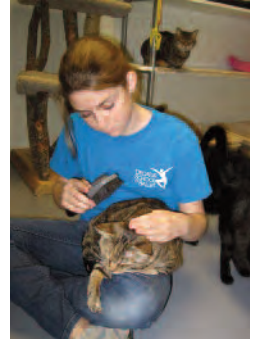
Furkids provides a safe haven and quality care for homeless pets until they can be matched with new owners in a loving, lifelong home. In addition, Furkids operates an extensive foster home network for dogs and special needs cats, educates the community about proper pet care, as well as operates an onsite clinic that provides veterinary care to low income families.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2009, Furkids provided medical care to 1,000 animals and placed close to 600 animals into loving homes
- 2010 Budget: \$310,000
- Programming includes: animal rescue and welfare program; animal adoption; phone line and email taskforce; and after school and weekend program that educates students of all ages about responsible pet ownership and kindness to animals and others

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Volunteer as a shelter caretaker providing food and water, cleaning litterboxes, mopping and petting and playing with cats
- Volunteer as Saturday dog handler helping prepare dogs for pet adoption at local retail outlets
- Encourage family and friends to provide temporary homes to Furkids program dogs and cats
- Help pet owners stage their pets with Santa during holiday season
- Coordinate fundraising project to raise money for the shelter



HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

- Website: www.furkids.org
- Phone: 770-613-0880
- Address: 2650 Pleasantdale Rd., Suite 8 / Atlanta, GA 30340

HABITAT AID INITIATIVE

OVERVIEW

Habitat Aid Initiative provides support to disenfranchised people in Western Kenya by providing effective, sustainable and long-term solutions that empower human beings to live in dignity with respect by developing sustainable communities and alleviating poverty.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Highlights the education of girls and women as a priority and strengthens the organizational capacity of these groups by providing training in various project areas
- 2010 Budget: \$100,000
- Programming includes: build health clinics and support preventative health services; build schools in rural areas, provide computers and computer education; promote agricultural self-sufficiency; initiate well projects and community water management

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Raise funds and awareness in schools, churches and clubs through Adopt-a-Project Initiatives
- Coordinate your own fundraising project to raise money including car washes, dances, plays or "walks for water"
- Learn more about Habitat Aid Initiative and encourage friends and family to support efforts

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

- Website: www.habitataid.org
- Phone: 678-513-9845
- Address: 6855 Shiloh Rd. East / Alpharetta, GA 30005

L.E.A.D.

OVERVIEW

L.E.A.D. provides resources for inner city middle and high school aged youth to develop and improve their baseball skill set and prepares them to compete for college baseball scholarships and the opportunity to earn a college degree. By connecting the motivating power of athletics to the importance of academic achievement and civic engagement, L.E.A.D.'s vision is to use baseball to transform urban communities.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2010, L.E.A.D. served 30 high school and 75 middle school young men and their families
- 2010 Budget: \$560,000
- Programming includes: The Legacy League instructional baseball league; The Ambassador Program, which instills the transferrable skills, awareness and agility necessary to compete and succeed in life; and a Middle School Baseball Development League

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Volunteer time during Service Saturdays, which are the 4th Saturday of every month
- Help with dugout duties (e.g. warming up position players via throwing exercises, keeping score); serve in the concession stand alongside L.E.A.D. parents and help with set-up and clean-up

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Website: www.lead2legacy.org

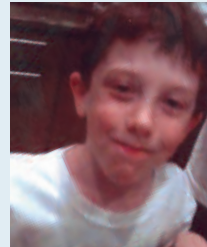
Phone: 404-867-4626

Address: P.O. Box 2769 / Acworth, GA 30102



MAX

AGE 9



Favorite nonprofit:
CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA

Why he's passionate:

"They do great work helping kids stay alive and be healthy. There are a lot of kids that need treatment and so they need money so they can help them all."

About giving: *"Everyone should try to give something because there are a lot of problems that need fixing."*

Learn more about Children's Healthcare of Atlanta on page 14.



SAM

AGE 9



Favorite nonprofit:
CANINE ASSISTANTS

Why he's passionate:

"I like that they work with dogs to help people. I love dogs."

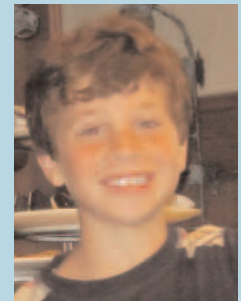
Why it's important to give:

"We have a lot and there are people who don't have anything. So it's important to help them."

OLIVER

AGE 9

Favorite nonprofit:
ATLANTA HUMANE SOCIETY



Why he's passionate:

"I like the Atlanta Humane Society because it saves all types of animals. I saved a cat before and I was really proud. It was my first time ever really helping an animal. I love animals. The Atlanta Humane Society is important because they don't kill the animals just because they can't find a home. They keep them and feed them."

How others can help:

"Kids can make signs and posters to share with others. They can talk to their parents and other people about giving money. They can give money too."

Learn more about Atlanta Humane Society on page 13.

DELANEY
AGE 11

Area of Interest:
ORGANIZATIONS
SERVING YOUTH

Why she's passionate:

"It's important to learn about nonprofits now and how to give back. Then, when you're older it will be easier because you already know that information. My dad encouraged me to get involved, showing me why giving back is important."



How she gives back:

"At my school, I've done can food drives for families who don't have enough food to eat. I also have helped an organization called Agape to give presents at Christmas time to families who can't afford them. It's nice to know I can help others even as a young person."

KALLIE
AGE 11

Favorite nonprofit:
NOAH'S ARK



Why she's passionate:

"I like Noah's Ark because they help all different kinds of animals. I think it's important to protect animals because so many are hurting or sick and we can help. I have a great heart for animals...especially cats and dogs. I also love pigs, so I wanted to find an organization that might help them as well."

How others can help:

"They can make signs and posters about Noah's Ark so people will give money to them. They can also visit and help around."



OUR HOUSE

OVERVIEW

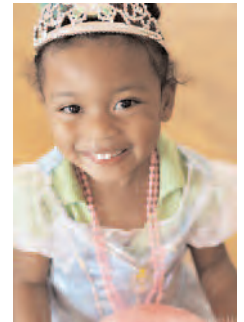
Since 1988 Our House, Inc. has provided quality education and comprehensive support services for families who are homeless. Our House strategically addresses homelessness in families by providing affordable, quality childcare and holistic support to families as they move toward independence. The organization is one of only two NAEYC-accredited agencies (National Association for the Education of Young Children) serving homeless families with young children in the metro area.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2010, Our House served a total of 157 children from 110 families
- 2010 Budget: \$1,385,615
- Programming includes: Early Childhood Education, Family Advocacy, Parent Intern/CDA Program

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Assist in classrooms, including reading to children or conducting an art project
- Hold monthly birthday parties (bring a cake and decorations, coordinate a party activity, etc.)
- Hold quarterly events for children that the entire family can participate in (Fall Festival with pumpkins, Summer Carnival with face painting, etc.)
- Participate in groundskeeping projects as appropriate



HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Website: www.ourhousega.org

Phone: 404-378-0938

Address: P.O. Box 1304 / Decatur, GA 30031

Young People Making a Difference

JOSH
AGE 14

Area of interest:
ENVIRONMENT

Why he's passionate: *"I like animals and the environment a lot. The environment is so important and we don't want it to be destroyed. During the summer, I'm in Montana and the trees and grass are beautiful. I think people should be concerned that there are not as many forests, grasslands or parks as there used to be. Also, the pollution affects children, and years from now, they may not be able to go outside and play."*

How he gives back: *"I work with the Atlanta Community Food Bank once a month, and have also given to Trees Atlanta for my Bar Mitzvah. Also, when Hurricane Katrina came, I did a lemonade sale and gave money to the rescue efforts."*



ALEX
AGE 13

Area of interest:
ANIMALS

Why he's passionate: *"I'm interested in animal shelters because I have pets and love pets. I might want to have a farm when I get older."*



Why he gives back: *"We've been blessed with so much, like the ability to buy things and go to a nice school, so it's good to give back to people less fortunate. It's important to give to nonprofits because if they don't have money, they can't function. So food kitchens can't serve food and animal shelters can't give homes to animals. So it's important to help them so they can help others."*

POSSE-ATLANTA

OVERVIEW

Posse-Atlanta recruits and selects student leaders from Atlanta Public Schools and community based organizations and sends them in groups to colleges. A Posse is a multicultural team that acts as a traveling support system to ensure that each Posse Scholar succeeds and graduates from college. Posse's programs have shown great successes, with their Scholars graduating at a rate of more than 90 percent, far higher than the national average.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- A Posse is made up of 10 students and serves as a support system throughout the college experience
- 2010 Budget: \$758,313
- Programming includes: The Dynamic Assessment Process (DAP) to identify program participants; The Pre-Collegiate Training; Campus program, which ensures the retention of Posse Scholars; Career program; and Posse Access, which provides opportunity to non-selected students for regular admission



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Volunteer to support Posse Olympics, a day-long, potluck picnic celebration (e.g., set-up, registration, food, games, clean up)
- Support the Volunteer Appreciation Event, held to celebrate those who support Posse throughout the year

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Website: www.possefoundation.org

Phone: 404-751-3340

Address: 101 Marietta St., NW, Suite 1040 / Atlanta, GA 30303

PAUL
AGE 16

Favorite nonprofit:
WHITEFOORD
COMMUNITY
PROGRAM

How he gives back:
"I volunteer there a lot with my family. We've helped them build an elementary KaBOOM! playground. I also helped build a house and refurbished a couple others with my step dad. We've done a backpack drive too. There is always something to do there and it never gets old."



About giving:
"Anyone can give. It's not always about the money. It makes you feel good helping people and there's always a need somewhere."

Learn more about
Whitefoord
Community Program
on page 24.

SIERRA CLUB FOUNDATION

OVERVIEW

The Sierra Club Foundation educates and inspires citizens to preserve the natural and built environment. The mission of the Georgia Chapter along with the rest of the Sierra Club is to explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of earth by enlisting and educating humanity on the values of the natural and human environment.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2010, the Georgia Chapter has served 9,163 members in 147 counties throughout Georgia
- 2010 Budget: \$8,591,413
- Programming includes: Coastal Protection; Fresh Water Initiative; Inner City Outings; RAIL Campaign, which supports in-town transit opportunities; Smart Energy Solutions campaigns

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Participate in the Water Sentinels Program, including river and stream cleanups, testing of local waterways for harmful substances, environmental education and outdoor activities, fly-fishing and water-rafting trips
- Spread the word and host a fundraising event to collect funds to support programming needs

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

- 👉 Website: www.georgia.sierraclub.org
- Phone: 404-607-1262 x-221
- Address: 743 E. College Ave., Suite B / Decatur, GA 30030

TECHBRIDGE

OVERVIEW

TechBridge leverages technology to increase a nonprofit's capacity to serve the community. TechBridge focuses on technology, so nonprofits can focus on their mission. As an affiliate of the NPower Network, Techbridge has facilitated the donation of more than \$8 million in Microsoft software, and has saved nonprofits millions of dollars in service fees.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Since its beginning, TechBridge has provided technology services to over 300 nonprofits and has leveraged more than 10,000 volunteer hours in the last four years alone
- 2010 Budget: \$1,861,700
- Programming includes: Outsourced or Managed IT Services; Technology Planning and Consulting; Web Enabling Business; Hosting services.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Provide technology expertise to support current project needs
- Host fundraising event to collect funds to support programming needs

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?

- 👉 Website: www.techbridge.org
- Phone: 404-879-5412
- Address: 1100 Johnson Ferry Rd., Suite 670 / Atlanta, GA 30342

TREES ATLANTA

OVERVIEW

Trees Atlanta protects and improves our urban forest by planting, conserving and educating. A nationally recognized citizens' group, Trees Atlanta has been a prime force in addressing Atlanta's tree loss, creating increased green space and conserving our city's trees.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Since 1984, Trees Atlanta has planted and distributed approximately 78,000 shade trees and cared for over 100,000 trees
- 2010 Budget: \$2,031,107
- Programming includes: Urban Planting and Maintenance; NeighborWoods, which sparks positive action in communities; Neighborhood Arboretum Projects; Education; Forest Restoration; Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Participate in NeighborWoods Saturday Project of planting shade trees (from November through March)
- Caring for shade trees, which involves putting down mulch to protect the roots, bringing water to the newly planted trees and keeping them clean of weeds
- If youth complete all five projects with Trees Atlanta, volunteers earn a special Trees Atlanta t-shirt

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Website: www.treesatlanta.org

Phone: 404-681-4905

Address: 225 Chester Ave. / Atlanta, GA 30316

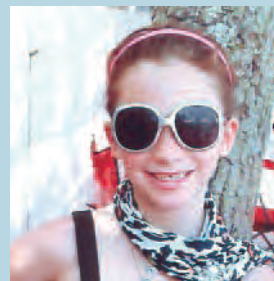


KYLIE
AGE 9

Favorite nonprofit:
CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA

Why she's passionate:

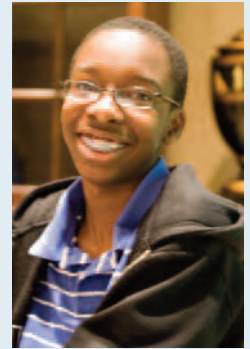
"Children's is just for kids, and they make bad or scary times seem easier for patients. I want kids who are sick to have a good experience in the hospital. That's why it's one of my favorite nonprofits."



How she gives back:

"I have gone to the Atlanta Day Shelter and played with the kids. Also, on Thanksgiving, I've served meals to the homeless at Hosea Feed the Hungry. Me and my family have also made sandwiches for the hungry at the Zaban Shelter for the Homeless."

REMI
AGE 14



Area of interest:
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT / SOCIAL SERVICES

Why he's passionate:

"I like nonprofits that help kids with special needs. They open the world to them and expose them to art or technology. This helps them learn, and shows them that they can accomplish anything and feel proud."

How others can help:

"It's important for kids to learn about nonprofits and giving now. Sooner or later they will have to deal with these issues by themselves. Giving allows you to thank the community for what it's done and how it has helped you. So I think you give back as a way to say thanks."

ALEXA
AGE 9

Area of interest:
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS / YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT



Why she's
passionate:

"I am interested in making sure kids in Africa and other places have good homes, their parents have enough money to feed them, and give them clean water and clothes. Also, it's important that older kids can take care of their siblings."

How others can help:

"I think kids at any age can be involved in the community. They can help recycle with their parents. If they are older, they can go places with their parents and volunteer. They can also go on the Internet and research, and post videos on YouTube to show other people."

NICHOLAS
AGE 13

Favorite nonprofit:
DOCTORS WITHOUT
BORDERS

Why he's passionate:

"Doctors Without Borders goes and helps people who are hurt and those who don't have the opportunity to get the care we have. Doctors go to places like Haiti to help."

How he gives back:

"I volunteered with Trees Atlanta and learned how to work with water. It is important to save water, and I do that."



WHITEFOORD COMMUNITY PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

Whitefoord Community Program (WCP) provides coordinated and comprehensive programs to support families in the Whitefoord/Edgewood communities to improve their lives and achieve self-sufficiency. The organization's mission is to partner with families and community to insure every child has what he or she needs to succeed in school.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- WCP's medical clinics are located in Whitefoord Elementary, Toomer Elementary and Coan Middle, providing full pediatric care and dental services to the community
- 2010 Budget: \$1,850,000
- Programming includes: School Based Health Clinics; Child Development Program; Beyond School Hours (BSH), which offers computer instruction, bike program, after-school enrichment and summer reading programs

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Assist with after-school tutoring and homework assistance
- Spread the word and host fundraising event to collect funds to support programming needs

HOW CAN I GIVE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION?



Website: www.whitefoord.org
Phone: 404-523-2500
Address: 1353 George W. Brumley Way, SE
Atlanta, GA 30317-1743



RESOURCES

WEBSITES

DoSomething.org – empowers and celebrates a generation of doers: teenagers who recognize the need to do something, believe in their ability to get it done, and then take action.

www.dosomething.org

Charity Navigator – works to advance a more efficient and responsive philanthropic marketplace by evaluating the financial health of over 5,500 of America’s largest charities.

www.charitynavigator.org

Guidestar – provides information that advances transparency, enables users to make better decisions, and encourages charitable giving.

www.guidestar.org

JustGive – connects people with the charities and causes they care most about.

www.justgive.org

YouthGive – helps to grow the next generation of givers and global citizens, believing that everyone can be a philanthropist.

www.youthgive.org

PRINT

Come Back Salmon

by Molly Cone and Sidnee Wheelwright

Come Back Salmon tells the story of a group of children who, through volunteer efforts and a commitment to the environment, saved Pigeon Creek from pollution and helped bring salmon back to the area.

50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth

by The EarthWorks Group

Full of experiments, facts, and exciting, earth-saving things to do, 50 Things Kids Can Do acts as an environmental “how-to” manual for kids.

Creating Change through Family Philanthropy

by Alison Goldberg, Karen Pittelman and Resource Generation

Written for young people just becoming involved in their family’s philanthropy, Creating Change through Family Philanthropy examines the challenges many families face when trying to engage the “next generation” in philanthropy. Through personal stories and exercises, Creating Change helps families connect individual values with social change and bridge generational divides.

The Kid’s Guide to Service Projects: Over 500 Service Ideas for Young People Who Want to Make a difference

by Barbara A. Lewis

Sometimes it can be difficult trying to figure out how to give time and energy to the community. The Kid’s Guide to Service Projects is filled with hundreds of ideas of how kids can make an important and direct impact.

Kids with Courage: True Stories about Young People Making a Difference

by Barbara A. Lewis

Intended for youths age 12 and older, Kids with Courage recounts the stories of young people of all ages who have made a difference in the world. From small acts of kindness to gargantuan acts of heroism, each story offers something that every young person can do to make a difference in today’s society.

The Giving Book: A Young Person’s Guide to Giving and Volunteering

by The Women’s Fund of the Milwaukee Foundation

The Giving Book, created as part of the Milwaukee Foundation’s Little Women’s Fund program, is designed to cultivate in children a commitment to community through lessons in philanthropy, financial literacy and volunteerism. The book is comprised of educational stories, activities and service projects.

A Kid’s Guide to Giving

by Freddi Zeiler

What to give? How to give? Where to begin? These are some of the questions answered in A Kids Guide to Giving. Written by a 14 year old philanthropist, A Kid’s Guide is a comprehensive guide to giving time and money, donating goods and getting involved in the community.



- Before you visit a nonprofit, prepare by familiarizing yourself about the work of the organization.
- Always ask open-ended questions (to avoid “yes” or “no” answers) that typically start with:
 - Tell me about...
 - How do you...
 - What are...
- Keep questions simple. Try to stay away from long, complex, difficult-to-track questions.
- Avoid questions that communicate judgment. For example, “You didn’t think about the impact that would have..., did you?”
- Always end your conversation with one of the following questions:
 - Is there anything I didn’t ask about that you wish I had asked?
 - Is there anything we have left out and not talked about?

Questions to Ask When Evaluating Nonprofits

Organization

1. What is your organization’s mission?
2. What is your vision for the organization?
3. Tell me about the history of your organization. What have been the key milestones?
4. What have been the most significant accomplishments of the past three years?
5. How does your organization stay aware of the latest thinking in your field?

Program-related requests

1. How does the program align with the organization’s mission and strategic plan?
2. Describe the resources needed to accomplish your goals, and how you plan to obtain them.
3. What is the target population?
4. What are the goals and outcomes identified for this program?
5. What success has the program shown to date?

Financials

1. How do you develop your organizational budget? What is the role of the board in the process?
2. Has your organizational budget increased or decreased from last year? Please explain why.
3. What role does the board play in financial oversight?
4. Describe your fund development plan (i.e., fundraising goals and plan for reaching them).
5. How would you describe the health and balance of your funding mix – i.e., is it diversified enough? What areas, if any, do you seek to change or improve? How?

Staff/Board

1. What qualifications does your staff have that are needed to work with your organization’s target population?
2. Describe your board and the role it plays in the organization.
3. What skills do your board members bring to the organization?
4. Is the board reflective (diversity, skills, geography) of the clients served?
5. Do all board members make personal contributions to the organization? What are their fundraising responsibilities?



The Community Foundation

FOR GREATER ATLANTA

OUR MISSION

The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta strengthens our region by providing quality services to donors and innovative leadership on community issues.

ABOUT US

Founded in 1951, The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta connects donors, nonprofits and community leaders to strengthen the Atlanta region through philanthropy. The Foundation works directly with donors and their families to make charitable giving more powerful, effective and easy. Through our exceptional service to donors and innovative leadership on community issues, we improve the quality of life for residents in our region. We accomplish this through our four key goals, 1) engage philanthropists, 2) strengthen our region's nonprofits, 3) advance public will and 4) practice organizational excellence.

CONTACT US

The Center for Family Philanthropy at The Community Foundation helps donors and their families come together to explore their philanthropic goals and engage in philanthropy in a collaborative way. Through programs like Planet Philanthropy, we are helping donors engage their families in philanthropic activities and preparing the next generation of philanthropists.

OUR STAFF is always available to discuss any questions you may have at 404-688-5525 and our website, www.cfgreateratlanta.org, has extensive information on The Community Foundation and our services.

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