

actionreport

Volume 5, Issue 2 • Fall 2011

A publication by communityactioncenter



Gifts for Children, Food for Families *Give Help, Give Hope to Families in Need*

This holiday season you can help local families who are struggling through difficult times by adopting a family and giving holiday gifts to children or giving food baskets or grocery store gift cards.

CAC's Holiday Program helps families who have received emergency assistance from CAC during the past year. These families are experiencing situations such as job loss, wage reductions, medical emergencies or family crisis such as divorce or fire.

Generous donors adopted more than 800 children and gave 500 food baskets and grocery store gift cards to CAC families last holiday season.



CAC & You: Together Making Difference in Our Community

CAC is neighbors helping neighbors in the Sandy Springs and Dunwoody communities.

Your donations and volunteer efforts provide a safety net for our most vulnerable residents, thereby improving the quality of life for everyone and contributing to the stability of our communities.

The need exists. Your support helps local families avoid eviction, keep their utilities on, and feed their children.

Your support sends children to summer camp, gives children back packs and school supplies and gives children holiday gifts.

Your support gives clothing to families and individuals and provides adult education to improve job skills.

We thank the CAC network of support that includes member congregations, businesses, civic groups, schools, residents, the city of Sandy Springs, Fulton County, United Way, private foundations and of course more than 200 dedicated volunteers that operate the center on a daily basis.

Adopt-a-Family

"Adopt" children and fulfill their holiday gift wish lists (giving limit of \$50 per child.) View and adopt families on CAC's website.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY



For the Holidays

www.ourcac.org

Give Holiday Food

Give the gift of choice with grocery store gift cards from Kroger, Publix or WalMart in amounts of \$10, \$20 or \$30. Or donate a food basket. Find the list of basket contents on CAC's website.

Auctions, Food, Wine and Fun at the Country Chic Vintage Affair!

The 9th annual Vintage Affair was our most successful ever! The benefit exceeded expectations and raised \$129,000! More than 325 people attended the CAC fundraiser on Saturday, November 5, 2011 at The Retreat at Perimeter Summit. Guests enjoyed fine wines from 7 award-winning Georgia wineries, foods from 15 of the best local restaurants and took part in exciting live and silent auctions. Thanks to our 15 business sponsors and all of the businesses and residents who donated food, wine, auction items and volunteer time. Proceeds from Vintage Affair support programs and services that help prevent homelessness and hunger in Sandy Springs and Dunwoody.



Photo: Allen O'Brien of Vintage Affair Presenting Sponsor IRE Capital, left and Cheryl Sykes, President of CAC Board of Directors at the Country Chic Vintage Affair.

CAC 2011 Board of Directors

Cheryl Sykes, President
Jafra Cosmetics

Bob Levinson, Vice President
Attorney at Law

Eric Carlson, Treasurer
Gradient Services, Inc.

Terry Hartigan, Assistant Treasurer
Gifford, Hillegass & Ingwersen

Judy Lehmann, Secretary
Fidelity Federal Credit Union

Villard Bastien
Attorney at Law

Shelly Dozier-Mckee
Confetti Style

Joan Gill Redmond
Volunteer Representative

Rev. Ron Gilreath
Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church

Catherine Lautenbacher
Community Representative

Leticia Leinard Weidenhamer
Cox Communications

Allen O'Brien
IRE Capital Real Estate Investments

Bob Shumard
Medical Doctor Associates

Myron Smith
Temple Sinai

Stan Sonenshine
Preferred Real State Funds LLC

Dawn Stark
Leadership Sandy Springs

Van Westmoreland
Westmoreland Company

(2)

BOARD INVOLVEMENT

Volunteering to Help Others Get Ahead

The weather's bad, traffic is terrible, but CAC Board member Eric Carlson still makes it from his day time job as founder and CEO of Gradient Services, Inc., a financial consulting firm, to give volunteer time and teach an evening QuickBooks class at CAC.



All CAC adult education classes are taught by dedicated volunteers like Eric who give their time and expertise to help others get ahead in life. Classes are offered to clients and others, space permitting, and focus on enhancing life skills and job skills. Courses include English for Successful Living, U.S. Citizenship Preparation, Intro to Computers, MicroSoft Excel, Powerpoint, QuickBooks, Public Speaking and Money Matters. About 300 adults a year enroll in CAC classes. Fall, Spring and Summer sessions conclude with "graduation" dinners to celebrate our students' successes. For information on becoming a volunteer teacher contact Amy at volunteers@ourcac.org.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Bob and Carrie Shumard of Dunwoody have 4 children, so they know what it takes to feed a family. Bob, a CAC Board member for 6 years, and his family are members of North Atlanta Church of Christ which gives food to CAC monthly.



This holiday season in keeping with their congregation's efforts and their beliefs to serve God and their neighbors, the Shumards donated holiday food baskets for CAC families.

They brought together their extended family, neighbors, friends and members of their congregation and in one evening assembled 500 holiday food baskets to be distributed at CAC during the holiday season.

"In years past we were involved in charity work in downtown Atlanta, but it's great to be involved with CAC in our own neighborhood because there's plenty of good to do right here," said Shumard.

The Shumards thank Kroger on Dunwoody Club Drive and store manager Bill Schwartz for his assistance with this project.

Member Congregations

Apostles Lutheran Church
Atlanta North Seventh Day Adventists
Church of St. Andrew Presbyterian
Church of the Redeemer
Congregation B'nai Torah
Dunwoody Baptist Church
Dunwoody Community Church
Dunwoody United Methodist Church
Episcopal Church of the Atonement
First Baptist Church of Sandy Springs

Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church
Kingswood United Methodist Church
Mt. Vernon Baptist Church
Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church
New Hope Church
North Atlanta Church of Christ
North Springs United Methodist Church
Northwest Unitarian Universalist
Rivercliff Lutheran Church
Sandy Springs Christian Church (DOC)

Sandy Springs United Methodist Church
Second Church of Christ, Scientist
St. Barnabas Anglican Church
St. John United Methodist Church
St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church
St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
Temple Emanuel
Temple Sinai

VINTAGE Affair 2011

P R E S E N T E D B Y



Host Committee members Joan Gill-Redmond, left, Amy Schlosser, Missy MacGinnitie and Nancy Berger.



Wendy & Steve Smith, Allen & Melanie O'Brien of presenting sponsor IRE Capital



Owen and Joannie Dwozskin sample Three Sisters wine.



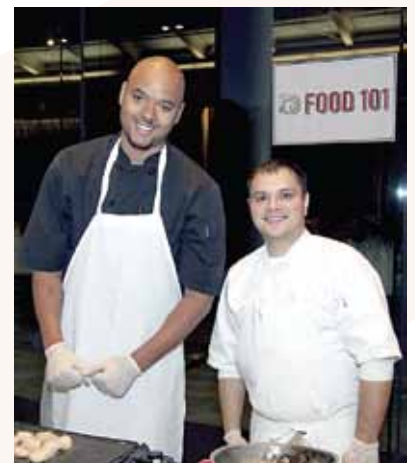
Enjoying a chat with the owner of Frogtown Cellars.



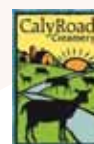
The Winton's embrace the Western theme!

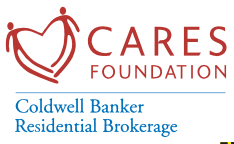


Gigi's Cupcakes were a hit!



Food 101 is an annual favorite.





Willamette Management Associates



PURCHASING ALLIANCE SOLUTIONS, INC. Chamber-Sponsored Insurance Programs and Brokerage Services



stewart



Sandy Springs Councilman John Paulson, left and his wife Mary, right, with Mayor Eva Galambos and Dr. John Galambos.



Cathy Sareerem, left, Vintage Affair Chairwoman Catherine Lautenbacher, CAC President Cheryl Sykes and CAC Executive Director Tamara Carrera.



Burt & the Bandits brought country music fun to Vintage Affair!



CAC board member Eric Carlson, center with hat, and friends.



Joyce and Tayla Washington



Award-winning Georgia wineries



James and Martha Davis





Bridging the Gap

A single mother with two children lost her job and was unable to pay her rent and utility bills. In dire straits, she came to CAC for help. Upon reviewing her situation we gave her immediate temporary assistance so she could avoid eviction and also assisted her with obtaining longer term assistance so she could make ends meet. CAC assisted with paying her rent and referred her to other agencies to help with utility bills. Our client team helped her apply for government food stamps, gave her food from our pantry to take home that day and gave her weekly food pantry vouchers. We also gave her vouchers for clothing from the CAC Thrift Boutique for herself and her children. CAC helped bridge the gap for this family, helping to keep them in their home during their time of need. She now has a full time job as an office coordinator and is supporting her family.

UPS Drive and Delivery



A recent UPS clothing drive for CAC collected more than 100 pairs of jeans and coats. Kevin, left, and Maureen Horgan and Tom Healy with his son Mike and other UPS employees volunteered to deliver, sort and hang their donation. They also sorted and hung additional bins and bags of clothing in the CAC Donation Center.

Students Learning Lessons



CAC welcomes school groups of all ages. These third graders from Holy Innocents' Episcopal School brought a food donation and got a lesson from CAC Volunteer Marion Rivers on why the food is needed and what CAC does. The kids put their food on the shelves and also inventoried school supply donations.

YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER!

To invest in my community I (we) enclose a gift of: Total Pledge: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Donor \$25 Friend \$50 Partner \$100 Advocate \$250 Benefactor \$500 Patron \$1,000 Pacesetter \$2,500 Sponsor \$5,000

Donor's Name _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Please Notify _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please help CAC by receiving newsletters by email only _____



PO Box 501298
Atlanta, GA 31150

NON-PROFIT ORG.
PERMIT NO. 618
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ATLANTA, GA

Help Local Families This Holiday Season

Adopt-a-Family
Through December 18, 2011



Wish List



Give Holiday Food
Gift Cards & Food Baskets
Through December 18, 2011

Free Income Tax Preparation



Available again at CAC • January – April 2012

Taxes Prepared for Free
(For households earning less than \$48,000 in 2011)

Volunteer for VITA
(Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)
Prepare Taxes - Reception Desk
Tax Training provided through the IRS

Contact vita@ourcac.org



Community Action Center
1130 Hightower Trail - Sandy Springs, GA 30350
Office 770-552-4889 - Helpline 770-552-4015
www.ourcac.org