



because we care...



Creative COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

2009 annual report  
July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009



## ...why we **care** for our community...

### Did you know...?

...that within Georgia's State Foster Care Program:

- 46% of the teenagers do not complete high school
- 25% have been homeless
- 40% have become parents
- Have lived in 15-20 homes
- Have been physically, sexually and/or emotionally abused



### Did you know...?

..adventure respite points here...

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### Did you know...?

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## Thank **you** for caring...

We would to thank our donors who have given gifts and significant resources to support all of our programs. This lists consists of donations and gifts in kind provided by individuals, families and organizations.

Alpharetta Jr. Women's Club  
 Aqua Salon  
 Atkinson, Olga H  
 Audick, Patricia  
 Austin, Lillie  
 Benedict, Peggy  
 Benusa, Gerald Gregory  
 Boggs, John and Katherine  
 Bradberry, Randy  
 Bradley, Melinda  
 Bread Minstry/Bags of Love  
 Bruce, Mary Charlotte and Jeff  
 Bruce, Betty and William  
 Caputo, Leigh  
 Chernutan, Philip  
 Chorey, Thomas  
 Coleman, Andrea  
 Comverge  
 Corbitt, Susan  
 Costco in Duluth  
 Cottonreader, Margaret L  
 Crisp, Al and Donna  
 Crisp, Donna  
 Curtin, Art and Jan  
 Daugherty Business Solutions  
 Davis, Crystal  
 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc  
 Dicks Sporting Goods  
 Ervin, William and Susan  
 Everest Institute in Norcross  
 Finch McCranie Brown Hendrix Sullivan & Wisebram, LLP  
 First Response  
 Ga NU Alpha Delta Kappa  
 Ganse, Clark and Carrolyn  
 Geier, Julie  
 Gillen, Paul  
 Giordano, Lou and Maywood  
 Grayson United Methodist Church  
 Hamilton Mill United Methodist Church Preschool  
 Harper, Jacqueline  
 Hayes, Cheryl  
 Haynes Bridge Middle School  
 HeatCraft Refrigeration Products in St. Mtn.  
 Hickey, Annmarie  
 Hill, Barbara  
 Howard, Quinn and Lisa  
 Independent Charities Of America  
 Jones, Carolyn  
 Jones, Julie  
 Jordan, Mildred  
 Joseph, JoAnna  
 Kelley Lake Elementary School  
 Lake Windward Elementary School

Landis, Robin  
 Lassiter, E.G.  
 Lewis, Kereen  
 Lithonia Post Office  
 Lovelace, Thomas and Paula  
 Luffman, Grady and Mary  
 Mansfield, Melissa  
 Marbut Elementary  
 Mathews, Candice  
 McCowen, David  
 McMillan, Kristi and Kirk  
 Meeks, Earl and Burrelle  
 Minton, Stacia  
 Network For Good  
 Nierva, Lyn and Nierva, Victor  
 Norris, Bobby and Courtney  
 Pass, Joann  
 Paterson, M Johanna  
 Peake, Martha  
 Player, Wendy  
 Presbyterian Church Of The Reserrection  
 Publix  
 Quander, Trevor and Lakaya  
 Robinson, Jack  
 Romano, Jacqueline  
 Rotary Club Of Gwinnett Sunrise Inc.  
 Rowland Elementary  
 Rowles, Mark  
 Sams Club in Duluth  
 Shallowford Falls Community Church  
 Sheldon T. Shoff Trust  
 Shipping Business Solutions  
 Slusher, Ken  
 Snap Fitness in Loganville  
 Sperry Van Ness  
 Steinmart in Snellville  
 Stephenson Middle School  
 Sullivan, Karen and Sullivan, Steve  
 Target  
 Tate, Becky and Bobby  
 Teague, Shirley  
 Telligman, Kenneth  
 The Home Depot Foundation  
 Toas, Rochelle  
 Tokumaru, Mary  
 Toolin, James and Laurie  
 Troncalli, Samuel  
 Vaclavik, Joanne  
 Valley Haven Farm  
 Vulcan Materials Company in Norcross  
 Wackenhut Services Incorp.  
 Walmart in Duluth  
 Worthscape, LLC  
 Young, Wesley

## The CCS Staff



(Left to Right)

**Bottom Row:** Joanna Joseph, Sally Buchanan, Becci Hammond, Anne Sanders, Myrna Barnes, Carisma Bacon, Sherry Harvey, Fred Mediko, Yolanda Watts, Cheryl Thrasher-Green.

**2nd Row:** Candice Mathews, Lois Moss, Lysa Moore, Jo Rix, Gail Thomas, Joy O'Bert, MC Bruce, Cathy Pallon, Paula Dooley, Sylvia Crawford, Keina Williams, Deborah Self, Alison Ganse.

**3rd Row:** Patchees Joseph, Maxine Carelock, Crystal Davis, Monica Crawford, Jessica Baylis, Charon Mathews, Jack Rix, Lisa Lennox, Jonathan Fancher, Jack Robinson.

**Top Row:** Pam Wright, Philip Chernutan, Sarah Maginga, Chris Bell, Shoshanna Bacquie-Walden, Candi Arthur.

**Not Pictured:** Robin Allen, Sharyn Berg, Kathy Boggs, Beth Cooper, Dionne Dennis, Kathryn Flight, Jewell Gooding, Cornelius Hampton, Cheyenne Harlan, Albert Harris, Lyndsey Hewatt, Marian Jefferson, Cynthia Kersee, Tori Mackall, Andrea Maxwell, Yvonne Moore, Shawn Parquet, Freedom Payne, Charles Peters, Chrishonda Roberts-Burgess, Janice Seymour, Kevin Welch, Allen White, Charlene Williams, Megan Wilson

## A Message from Our Executive Director

Over the past 27 years we have grown from only providing Independent Living to Adults with Developmental Disabilities to serving children and youth that have been severely abused and/or neglected in Therapeutic Foster Care, providing Crisis Respite, Planned Respite, and Adventure Respite for children and families in the community, serving children and adults with all types of developmental disabilities and working with our older youth to become independent through the services of our Successful Transitions through Empowerment and Planning program.



CCS has been faced, in the last three years, with some of the most challenging financial times in our 27 years of service. As we entered our 2008 fiscal year, we were recovering from two years of reduced rates from the state. During this time we had to use all of our reserves to continue caring for our children and families. Because of the staff's dedication to continue the same level of services to our children, families and adults, we had to all take on additional responsibilities and raises were suspended. We were all determined to continue developing new programs that our children, families and adults needed.

All of us recognized that in today's world, with all of the challenges our youth face, we needed to concentrate on working with our youth to help them overcome what they have endured in their past and plan for their future. This past year we were able to provide our older youth with life coaching and many of them moved into our Pre-transitional Living Foster Homes. With the help of the parents in these homes, our youth are learning all the skills needed to become an active and participating part of their community.

Your giving has helped us weather these difficult times and make all of this growth possible. Thank you for being a part of the lives of the children, youth, families and adults that we serve. It truly shows that we all do this Because We Care.

*Sally Buchanan*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

2009 was a pivotal year for our board. Our focus was to increase the board's size and help the agency seek additional sources of funding. We also sought to develop both board members with a search for non-profit consultancy. We achieved these goals; having increased the board from 4 members to 12 and started the process of creating new programs to raise funds.

Ever decreasing state funding has made all non-profit caregivers seek alternative sources in order to maintain their current programs. And once again, CCS is in the vanguard in openness to change and pure hard work. Decreasing the level of support and care that we provide our consumers is not an alternative so the agency and the board continue to strive to maintain the excellence we've come to be known for. Next year, with the help of the non-profit consultants, CCS will be able to remain as relevant and important as it's always been in serving the most underserved.

Julie Jones, *President*

**BOARD PRESIDENT** - Julie Jones  
**VICE PRESIDENT** - Quinn Howard  
**TREASURER** - Kirk McMillan

**BOARD MEMBERS**  
 LaKaya Brittan-Quander  
 Jacki Suckow  
 Robin Speir  
 Beatrice Kelly  
 Damara L Davidson  
 Kelly Bertier  
 Trevor Quander  
 Samori Self

## Our Mission...

...Is to improve the quality of life for children, adults, and families who are facing special challenges through community-based support and services.

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Equality • Community • Quality • Teamwork • Empowerment