



The Drake House provides short-term crisis housing, education and empowerment programs for homeless single mothers and their children in North Metro Atlanta, designed to provide stability for the children and assist the family in working toward self-sufficiency.

...since 2006

February News

How do families find us?

We are often asked "do you have any openings?" With Atlanta leading the nation in the growth of suburban poverty, not a day goes by that the question doesn't get asked. There is never a simple yes or no answer to that question, as our process for referral and intake is complex.

We are first and foremost a crisis housing program for homeless single mothers and their children. Many of our families are referred through a Fulton County School social worker, who are based in all 60 of our North Fulton Schools. Many also come through verification by case managers at North Fulton Community Charities or the Community Assistance Center. But that is just the start of their journey.

We can house fifteen families at a time, each with their own stories and their own challenges. But to ensure the safety and security of all of our residents on campus, both mothers and children, significant background work is completed by our social work team. Our social work team ensures that the family is ready to move forward and housing their family is their number one priority. That usually means significant lifestyle and employment changes as well as choices, boundaries, relationships and more. It also requires compliance in our weekly program services and class attendance. Three or four touches with each family each week through either our professional staffers or trained mentors (volunteers) offer us the opportunity to understand each family story and walk alongside them to support and assist them in their journey towards housing self-sufficiency.

Transparency and trust throughout the intake and selection process are critical. We have an obligation to our supporters and partners who have invested in the future of these families to make certain that our staff is diligent in gathering and verifying information. We are buoyed by your confidence in our standards and we are proud to serve those who make housing their first choice for their families!



Make a Difference

Your support is needed to help our homeless mothers and children. [DONATE](#).



Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 26th 6:30pm

Champagne and Cigars with Oscar at [Roswell Provisions](#)
953 Canton Street
Roswell, GA 30075

Saturday, March 25th
LGE
[5K Decade Dash](#)

Does your group plan

Kathy Swahn
Executive Director



Career Coach Update

The employment journey and our services don't end when a family graduates from our program. One of our alumna moms had set her sights on the financial industry over two years ago which was interrupted by homelessness and a stay out The Drake House.

Upon entry to The Drake House, this Mom engaged with "Coach K" to update her resume, explore her skillsets, polish her presentation, and leverage the career resources of the program.

"I was extremely prepared. I utilized everything I learned from the mock interviews with Kimberly Clark" to the advice of Coach K on my resume. It took several weeks to complete the background check as one of the hurdles our moms face is a credit score check. Low credit scores from eviction and delinquent utility bills often limit employment. "I just received the great news from my recruiter yesterday; I made it to PNC Bank as a Banker. Finally!"



Help our mothers by becoming an **Employment Partner**. Employment opportunities are critical to our families housing stability.

Volunteer Spotlight

Since retiring ten years ago, Sheryl Wentworth has volunteered in many roles at The Drake House. She first learned about the organization through her church, Alpharetta Presbyterian, one of our Neighbor to Neighbor partners. Sheryl works one day a week in the office plus she serves as an advocate for our mothers and children. She says "being an advocate has made me step out of my comfort zone." She adds that each mother has a story and a "drive and determination to make things better for their family." Sheryl has seen many changes in the past ten years; beginning with the transformation of the original apartments, the renovation of the Center, and expansion of our programs. When she's not volunteering, she takes care of her mother and her Shih Tzu, Sage and enjoys a good mystery novel. The Drake House cannot thank Sheryl enough for a decade of dedication.



on holding a fundraiser for The Drake House?
Let us know.

Save The Date

Tuesday, June 13th 5:30 - 9:30pm
Drake Closet Fashion Show
UPS World Headquarters

Monday, June 19th
LGE Ed Collins Community Outreach Golf Tournament

Sunday, August 27th 2 - 4pm

13th Annual Miss Mary's Ice Cream Crankin'

Roswell Square

We



Volunteers
!

Volunteers are vital to the success of The Drake House. Our mothers and children thrive due to the generosity of service of time and talent. If you would like to volunteer, please **Click here** to complete the online application. If your group would



Apartment Inspectors

We rely on volunteers each week to inspect all the apartments. If you would like to become an apartment inspector for The Drake House, please contact [Dianne Berry](#). Pictured: Paula Pope and Julie Mizer.

Thank you ladies!



"Cookie" - An After School Treat

The after-school program welcomed two new volunteers from Atlanta Pet Partners: Jennifer Klein and her therapy dog, Cookie. The kids practiced reading aloud to their new audience, and learned interesting facts about dogs and how they can sense people's feelings and

emotions. The students took turns reading from different books, and even spent some time playing with Cookie.

A Thankful Mom



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM/
VOLUNTEERS,
I AM THANKFUL TO YOU
FOR THE SERVICE YOU
PERFORM IN THE
AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM AT
THE DRAKEHOUSE. I PICK
UP MY DAUGHTER AND
NOTICE THE ATTENTION,
INTERACTION, AND KINDNESS
GIVEN. I APPRECIATE THE
TIME YOU INVEST.
KINDEST REGARDS
[Signature]

like to schedule time to volunteer in 2017, please contact [Melinda Szegedi](#).

January 2017 Volunteer Hours

757 hours
236 Individuals

Work groups:

NCL Milton Chapter,
NCL Roswell, North Point Community Church

Donate Gift Cards



We need gift

cards to purchase fresh produce, milk and eggs for the food pantry and to purchase materials to maintain the apartments. Gas cards ease transportation costs for our moms.

Please consider purchasing a card on your next trip to: Kroger, Home Depot, Amazon, Dollar Tree, Trader Joe's, Office Max/Depot and Walmart.

Donate Stock

The
Drake ClosetSM
a boutique benefitting The Drake House

Straight from
Your Closet...
To Ours!

Handbag Drive

Now in Progress!



The Drake Closet is now collecting your gently-loved, designer-label handbags for their 5th Annual Fashion Show in June.

If you have a bag you'd like to donate, please drop it by one of our stores:

26 Old Roswell Street. Alpharetta. 678-319-1410.
825 Mimosa Blvd. Roswell. 678-682-3551.
6030 Sandy Springs Circle. Sandy Springs. 678-515-3349.

(Tax receipts provided)

We are happy



to accept your donations of stock and legacy gifts. Contact **Kathy Swahn** or call 770-587-4712 x302 to make arrangements.



The Gift of a Car

Do you have a car that you're not using? Your donation of a car will help a mother gain and stabilize employment. It also allows her more childcare options. Contact **Christy Merritt** for more details.



Current Needs

- Microwave popcorn
- Canned

Another Success ...Another Broken Egg



Thank you to all the supporters who ate at Another Broken Egg. More than \$3,000 was donated at their soft opening on January, 14th. A special shout out to our volunteer, Cheryl Abbot, who visited with each guest and told them about The Drake House. Armed only with a brochure and her firsthand knowledge of working with our homeless families, she inspired generosity of Another Broken Egg diners.



Community Outreach Partner for 2017

The Drake House is honored to be selected as one of the 2017 beneficiaries of the LGE Community Outreach Foundation. LGE employees vote on the agencies they will support each year. The Drake House is one of two agencies in North Fulton being honored. In addition to employee payroll deductions, the LGE Community Outreach Foundation holds the following events; March 25th - **5K Decade Dash**, June 19th - Ed Collins Community Outreach Golf Tournament; September 9th - Casino Night; and November 11th - Silent Auction & Raffle. See "Upcoming Events" for links to support The Drake House and LGE.

Thank You to Our Donors January 2017

Bronze \$2500 +

Thomas Eye Group

Friends \$500 +

**Northside/Northpoint OB-GYN, LLC
Coldwell Banker Brokers Cares Foundation**

Thank You to Our Major 2016 Sponsors

Kimberly-Clark

LIVE UNITED



- Diced tomatoes
- Hot Chocolate
- Honey
- Applesauce
- Canned Collard Greens
- Canned Turnip Greens
- Ranch Dressing
- Chicken Helper

The Drake House Leadership

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Neighbor to Neighbor Partners

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