



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

Now Serving More Than 400 Families!

It Takes a Village

The Drake House is all about mothers.....homeless and vulnerable mothers with young children. Our mothers, who have way too many balls in the air to protect them, locate and sustain employment, get to Point A from Point B (most often without a car), manage and afford child care or doctor appointments, put food in the refrigerator, and still find some down time to enjoy life. Each year, we see an increase in stress and anxiety as our Drake House mothers struggle to get back on their feet. Even with our very successful and rigorous program, there is a challenge for our families to sustain order and stability once they move through graduation. The children are amazingly resilient, especially the little ones. But consider this:



- 83% of homeless children have been exposed to at least one serious, violent event by the age of 12
- Homeless children are sick 4x more often than their classmates
- Homeless children are 2x more likely to have asthma
- Homeless children have 3x the rate of emotional and behavioral problems (source: National Center for Child Homelessness)
- And over 500 children in our North Fulton public schools are considered homeless

How can we ensure that the graduates can further stabilize the children and continue to remain in our community? When we think of the incredible importance of mothering and consistent care for her children, it truly does take a village. This is why we are creating The Drake Village,

Make a Difference

Your support is needed to help our homeless mothers

and



children.

Ways to Give

[Sponsor a Drive](#)

[Donate Gift Cards](#)

[Donate to the Pantry](#)

[Donate Securities](#)

[Financial Support](#)

[Donate a Car](#)

right here on Clara Drive. With your support, we will offer the opportunity for extended programming for an additional sixteen Drake House graduates. Watch this newsletter for continued updates on our new program.

Sending warm wishes to you for a blessed Easter Season,

Kathy Swahn
Executive Director

All Mothers Matter ...

On March 20th, our 400th mother and her child moved into their own private apartment at The Drake House. We have helped hundreds of children whose mothers are their protector and provider. Our mothers have shown strength and resilience to their children by improving their employment, learning budgeting skills, reducing debt, and saving money.

They have overcome adversity and demonstrated the values needed to succeed in life. All mothers matter, but The Drake House mothers truly make a difference in the lives of their children.

A Mother's Gift



Host a Fundraiser

Upcoming Events

April 29th 2:00pm



Listen to Your Mother
ACT3 Theatre in Sandy Springs

Purchase tickets here

Listen To Your Mother Atlanta features live readings by some of the city's most talented writers and bloggers, on the beauty and challenges of motherhood, in honor of Mother's Day.

Read more [below](#).

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'

To The Drake House staff:

I am very grateful for the opportunity you gave me to have shelter at TDH. It wasn't until a few weeks after residing there that I realized the true gift you gave me. Although everything in my situation couldn't possibly be fixed at once, giving me a chance to save and different ideas + encouragement + most importantly, compassion, definitely watered my small mustard seed of faith. Watch me grow!! You had a huge part in all the success to come. Thank You,  (A1)

After School Program

Contact **Holly York** for sponsor or Crankin' info.

March Volunteers

726 hours
2327 hrs YTD
259 Individuals

Work groups:

Apple Store
Imerys Ceramics
Crown Tenan Advisors
Augeo
YMSL
NCL Milton
Alpharetta and Gardinia
RPC Women's Circles
RUMC dinner team

The Drake House Leadership

Board of Directors

Jim Alford, Treasurer
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Sandra Girona
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Natasha Robinson
Tisha Rosamond
Karen Trylovich, Vice-Chair
Rev. Ollie Wagner
Anu Whitaker



Thank you **Imerys Ceramics** for volunteering with the children to help them make Mother's Day cards. They were creatively made with feathers, 3D stickers and lots of glitter!



Thank you Kyle Upshaw and the volunteers from **Apple Store** that helped the kids learn to do mini presentations about their dreams for the future using iPads.

President Emeritus

Tedra W. Cheatham, CEcD
Craig Dryden
Freda B. Hardage
David Hammond
Kathy Swahn

Neighbor to Neighbor Partners

Roswell Presbyterian
Northbrook UMC
Temple Kehillat Chaim
Northview Church of Christ
Zion Missionary Baptist
First Baptist Roswell
St. James UMC
North River Baptist
Alpharetta UMC
Alpharetta Presbyterian
St. David's Episcopal
St. Thomas Aquinas

Teen News

Many thanks to Officer Daniel Lambert of the Alpharetta Police Department, Traffic Enforcement Unit, DUI Task Force/D.R.E., for the great driver education program for our teens. The 2 weeks-course included one night of classroom instruction about driver safety, driving while impaired, and discussion. The following week involved a behind the wheel (golf cart wheel that is!!) obstacle course set up in our parking lot for the students to practice driving both with and without impairment. It was educational, eye opening, and a lot of fun for our teens.



We love our Volunteers!



Thank you Bettye Prescott and a loving team at First Baptist Roswell. This bed was ready for the arrival of a 2 yr old boy. This boy and his mother became our 400th family served!



Thank you
First Baptist Roswell!

Boutiques That Make a Difference for our Moms



Shopping with friends is always fun to do but it's even better when you get a real bargain. All the proceeds of your shopping trip go directly to a great cause.

On Monday, March 20, the Friends in Faith A.M. Circle toured and shopped at the newest Drake Closet boutique. The women's group says

"Not only can you shop for great bargains, but you can also support The Drake Closet with donations to any of the three boutiques. When you clean out your closet, consider donating your items to The Drake Closet.... [donations and purchases]go to helping The Drake House moms getting their lives back on track." Thank you Friends in Faith A.M. Circle at Mt. Bethel UMC.

We love ProBono Partnerships!

Thank you to these amazing attorneys who have assisted in our acquisition of our The Drake Village:



- Robyn Miller from ProBono Partnerships
- Laura Seidel and Parker Stephens from Ballard Spahr
- Darcy White and Jessica Paletsky from Paul Hastings
- Steve Press from Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz

Along with our Board Member Attorneys:

- Philip Hasty from Shapiro, Pendergast & Hasty

- Andy Hepburn from Sizmek
- Layne Kamsler from Hipes and Belle Isle

And:

- Don Rolader, Closing Attorney from Rolader & Rolader



The Drake Village closing team

Thank You to Our March 2017 Donors

Gold \$10,000 +



Silver \$5,000 +



Wells Fargo grant donation for our Career Services Program

Bronze \$2,500 +



Charity Guild of St. Ives



**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 Marietta Blvd, Roswell, 678-682-3551
6032 Sandy Springs Circle, Sandy Springs, 678-515-3349.

(Tax receipts provided)



Listen to Your Mother is a fantastic awakening of why our mothers are important, taking readers on a journey through motherhood in all of its complexity, diversity, and humor. The stories are raw, honest, and poignant ranging from adoption, assimilation to emptying nests; to single-parenting. Honest, funny, and heart-wrenching, these personal stories are the collective voice of mothers among us. Whether you are one, have one, or

know one,

Listen to Your Mother is an emotional whirlwind that is guaranteed to entertain, amuse, and enlighten. This is a community event, for the community and by the community, with 10% of ticket sales going to The Drake House in Roswell, GA. **[Purchase tickets here.](#)**



