



A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Growing with Purpose

Building Capacity to Help Neighbors in Need

North Fulton Community Charities (NFCC) formed in 1983 through a collaboration of faith-based organizations and concerned community members who recognized the need to coordinate and increase resources available to low-income residents in North Fulton. NFCC is the primary human services agency

for residents of Roswell, Alpharetta, Johns Creek, Milton, and Mountain Park. Although these cities are considered affluent, nearly 7% of residents are living in poverty. These residents work in the service industry, retail, and even as public servants. They are the backbone of our local economy, and yet they are priced out of their communities.

They live in poverty or very close to the edge—one missed paycheck, illness, or major expenditure away from homelessness.

Our mission is **to build self-sufficiency and prevent homelessness and hunger in our community by providing emergency assistance and enrichment programs.** In the past 10 years alone, we have helped more than 19,000 residents struggling to stay housed, pay monthly bills, feed their families, or secure/sustain employment.

We seek to expand support for our neighbors in need through our \$6.2 million *Growing with Purpose* capital campaign. Our plan calls for (1) the purchase, teardown, and rebuild of a property across from our existing building to co-locate Emergency Assistance/Case Management and the Family Enrichment Program, and (2) renovation of our current facility to expand the food pantry and Thrift Shop.



Why We Exist

Despite a booming economy, our most vulnerable neighbors face challenges that make it difficult to achieve or maintain self-sufficiency.

Affordable Housing

The disparity between the wages of low-income residents and housing costs is growing rapidly. A worker earning minimum wage (\$7.25) would need to work 109 hours a week to afford a two-bedroom apartment in North Fulton. As high-priced homes and retail move into formerly working-class areas of the community, low-income residents cannot find local affordable housing, and scant resources are stretched even further.

Reliable Transportation

As much as 49% of families seeking assistance do not own a car and must rely on limited public transportation options or expensive rideshare services.

Medical/Insurance

Over 25,000 (8.9%) North Fulton residents under age 65 are uninsured. In 2019, 419 households requested help due to a significant, chronic, or terminal condition that caused income loss. Hundreds of other families are assisted every year because of unexpected medical expenses.

Education and Literacy

The U.S. Department of Education estimates that 18% of adults living in North Fulton have below basic literacy

skills. The U.S. Census reports that more than 11,000 adults in North Fulton do not possess a GED or high school diploma.

Aging Population

North Fulton's aging adult population (age 65+) grew from 8.8% in 2010 to 11.6% in 2017. An increase to 14.1% is projected by 2022. Many live on fixed incomes and have limited resources.

Growing Homeless Population

NFCC serves as homeless intake for the Fulton County Continuum of Care. Homeless applicants for assistance increased from 8% of NFCC's participant base in 2016 to 15% in 2018 (352 households in 2016 to 581 households in 2018).



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

1,797 families assisted financially avoided eviction and remained in their homes.

3,323 families accessed healthy and staple foods needed to prevent hunger.

\$1.2M in revenue generated by the Thrift Shop to support programs that help families in North Fulton build self-sufficiency.

92% of families assisted remained or became stably housed for at least three months.

1,321 adult learners participated in ESL, GED test preparation, and other educational programs provided by NFCC.



How We Help and Impact

NFCC helps families build self-sufficiency and prevent homelessness and hunger in our community through the following programs and services:

Emergency Assistance/ Case Management

NFCC provides comprehensive services including rent and utility assistance, food, clothing, and other necessities to help keep families in their homes and avert the devastating consequences of homelessness. Over the past decade, NFCC has provided \$15,884,392 in emergency assistance to families at-risk of homelessness due to financial hardship or other crises.

Food Pantry

A surprising number of North Fulton families are food insecure. We encourage families to use our food pantry to free up limited funds to pay other household bills. Over the past decade, we have distributed food 272,342 times through the food pantry, and now provide food for an average of 135 families each day.



Thrift Shop

Individuals and families who qualify for emergency assistance from NFCC are eligible to receive Thrift Shop vouchers that enable them to select free clothing items and shoes. Over the past decade, NFCC has provided 38,959 Thrift Shop vouchers to families totaling \$3,360,892 in free clothing, furniture, and other household items. The Thrift Shop is open to the public and is a significant source of in-kind donations and unrestricted income for the organization.

Family Enrichment Program

While NFCC's primary focus is to alleviate immediate financial crisis and prevent homelessness, we also guide our participants toward self-sufficiency by identifying and eliminating the barriers that lead to crisis and keep families mired in poverty. Since opening the doors of our Education Center in 2012, we have provided classes for 8,998 adult learners, including English literacy, GED test preparation, budgeting and financial management, job coaching, and other educational programs. In addition, services include tax assistance, winter coats, and holiday gifts and food.





More Space Needed to Serve Our Community

Helping families on their path to self-sufficiency requires tremendous resources, including space, technology, and human and financial capital. We currently provide services out of two over-crowded and inadequate facilities, operating beyond capacity and on a limited budget.

- Service Center (20,000 sq. ft.) owned by NFCC, houses the food pantry, Case Management and Emergency Assistance, the Thrift Shop, and administrative offices.
- Education Center (3,000 sq. ft.) leased month-to-month, houses the Family Enrichment Program, computer lab services, seasonal programs, and development staff.

Food Pantry

Since 2005, the number of food distributions has increased 120%. There is inadequate space for food storage and staging, and the increased number of volunteers needed to serve the growing number of families. Additionally, the current configuration is inefficient, including a single exterior door and steep ramps.

Thrift Shop

Space limitations restrict efficient intake of donated items, inventory management, and our ability to display all donated items. Aging systems are inefficient.

Emergency Assistance/Case Management

Individuals and families in financial need meet with our caseworkers and intake specialists in the Service Center. The large waiting area is shared with the food pantry and is chaotic and noisy. Applicants in crisis seeking help during a very frightening and desperate time in their lives need a calm intake area designed to promote privacy, respect, and dignity.

Family Enrichment Program

This program is housed in a leased building that is up for sale and significantly undersized for our current adult learner population (1,321). Industry standards recommend that our facility should be 4,875 sq. ft.

Total classroom capacity in our current facility is 34 students. However, many of our classes are oversubscribed, so we squeeze in as many as 83. In 2019, we wait-listed 212 adults for ESL/GED classes. Due to limited class scheduling options, 91 individuals were not able to take adult basic education classes. The computer lab has space for only eight students, and a 110 sq. ft. room for child care only accommodates 10 children.



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

4,000+ volunteers provided vital services to families in need and, in the process, increased their own well-being and sense of purpose.

1,145 families accessed the Thrift Shop to clothe their families.

92% of Family Enrichment Program participants increased their wages or their wage-earning potential.

\$1.5M+ gross earnings of Family Enrichment Program participants returned to our local economy in the form of consumer spending and taxes.

Growing with Purpose

As the North Fulton community continues to grow, so must NFCC grow to meet the current and future needs of our community. A 2017 evaluation of NFCC facilities and space utilization conducted by an outside logistics team projected that NFCC requires 40,000 sq. ft.—nearly double our current size—to optimize operations and accommodate long-term growth. The *Growing with Purpose* capital campaign will fund the acquisition of property and construction of the new Service & Education Center as well as necessary improvements to existing facilities that will enable us to expand existing programs, add new programs, and improve service delivery for our neighbors in need.

The new, two-story 18,000 sq. ft. Service & Education Center located at 11275 Elkins Road, across the road from the current Service Center, will become the point-of-entry for individuals and families. It will provide the space needed to expand Emergency Assistance/Case Management and the Family Enrichment Program, including:

- Reception area and 5-station intake desk
- 3 classrooms and 15-station computer lab, all equipped with SMART Boards
- Expanded child care space for parents attending classes and workshops
- 4 program, 4 case management, 4 development and 6 administrative offices
- 3 conference rooms, 4 staff/volunteer work rooms, curriculum storage, and a secure file room
- Remaining unfinished space on the 2nd floor will be built out according to future program needs

With Emergency Assistance/Case Management and most administrative offices moving to the new Service & Education Center, 2,381 sq. ft. of space in the current Service Center will be freed up for the much-needed expansion of the food pantry, Thrift Shop, and volunteer training area.



Campaign Goals and Impact

Capacity limitations affect every program and hamper growth, revenues, and our ability to serve our community. By co-locating Emergency Assistance and Case Management with Education and Family Enrichment, expanding operating space, and improving access, we will have greater capacity to 1) help families and individuals remain stably housed and 2) foster self-sufficiency, which will improve quality of life in our community.

PROJECTED IMPACT OF NEW BUILDING AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Board of Directors (2019-20)

Mary Good, President
Community Advocate

John Carpentier, CPA, VP
Windham Brannon

Bryan Apinis, Treasurer
North Point Ministries

Kathryn Albright, Secretary*
Emory Johns Creek Hospital

Adwoa Awotwi
LocumTenens.com

William Brower
LexisNexis

Gina Daunt
Roswell Fire Department

Ken Davis
Renasant Bank

Russell Eubanks
Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

Julie Haley
Edge Solutions

Mike Hampton
Choate Construction

Dr. Clara Herrera
Roswell Presbyterian Church

John Hipes
Hipes & Belle Isle, LLC

Lee Jenkins
Eagles Nest Church

Stephanie Nelson
The Coupon Mom, Inc.

Matt Powell
DataScan

Ted Schwartz
Joel & Granot Commercial Real Estate

Fr. Reginald Simmons
St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

Steve Stroud
Roswell, Inc.

Immediate Past Board Members

Bruce Gunning*
Retired, UPS

Stan Little
SunTrust Bank

Jim Pope
Retired, Renasant Bank

Kindra Smith
Elkins Pointe Middle School

Rick Trainor
LexisNexis

* Campaign Co-Chair



111% ↑

increase in education and workforce readiness program capacity



88% ↑

increase in computer lab capacity



70% ↑

increase in child care room capacity

47% ↑

increase in households helped with public benefits screening and renewals

36% ↑

increase in households assisted with filing taxes

11% ↑

increase in total Family Enrichment Program enrollment



50% ↑

in families accessing fresh produce and frozen food, including meat



10% ↑

increase in Thrift Shop revenue from additional retail sales



8% ↑

increase in families accessing the food pantry



50% ↑

increase in participants receiving free legal services



40% ↑

increase in families shopping with vouchers in the Thrift Shop



90%+

of families assisted will be stably housed for 90 days or more

Campaign Budget

To expand and renovate our facilities to help meet the growing need for services, NFCC has launched a capital campaign to raise \$6.2 million.

New Service & Education Center 11275 Elkins Road (18,000 sq. ft.)	\$5,090,372
Food Pantry/Thrift Shop Renovation 11270 Elkins Road (20,000 sq. ft.)	\$270,650
Bridge Expenses During Construction/Renovation	\$177,580
Capacity Building Expenses	\$429,470
Campaign Expenses	\$195,000
Total Campaign	\$6,163,072

For more information or to learn how you can help NFCC meet the needs of our most vulnerable neighbors, please contact:

Holly M. York
Executive Director
678-387-4455
hyork@nfcchelp.org