

## ALL HANDS

**SPRING** 2022

Our Mission: To help ease hardship and foster financial stability in our community.

## **Opening Doors** Through GED **Tutoring**

Samuel has been working at a local grocery store stocking shelves since 2002. He is grateful for the money it provides for his family, but he dreams of something bigger.

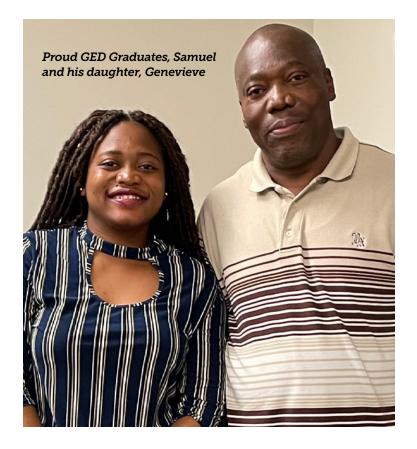
When his young adult daughter Genevieve moved here last year, she started working at the store with her dad. She knew her career options would be limited without a diploma, so she began studying to take the GED exams. She convinced Samuel that he could pass the tests and earn his GED too. So, they both signed up for tutoring at NFCC.

"My biggest motivation to take the GED came from my daughters. They told me I can make it and I believed them," said Samuel with pride. "Being in the same tutoring with Genevieve motivated me a lot."

After receiving tutoring at NFCC, Genevieve completed her GED in December, and Samuel followed her in January. He now wants to find a position with Fulton County government. Genevieve is preparing to continue on to college to pursue her dream of teaching economics at the university level.

The GED process at NFCC is unique to each student, and achieving proficiency in all four subjects can be a long process. Specially trained volunteers work one-on-one with participants to strengthen academic skills.

Thanks to our generous donors we are able to provide tutoring and cover the cost of practice tests and the four GED exams to help people like Samuel and Genevieve expand their opportunities and increase their financial stability.



#### A "Thank You" from a Local Mom

"I just want to say a big thank you to you, your team and all your generous donors for the tremendous and timely help you gave me. Your compassion and words of encouragement have gone a long way toward lifting me up. Without your help, my kids and I would have been in big trouble.

I will continue to work hard toward achieving my academic goals so that one day, I will also be in position to help someone in need."

Leigh, NFCC Client





Dear friends,

As I look back on the past two years, I am proud how NFCC has weathered the many challenges we've faced with resilience and

optimism. Our dedicated staff, volunteers, and supporters have worked creatively to help ease hardship and foster financial stability for families in distress.

So, what's new for 2022?

- Our case managers recently completed specialized social work training to help families create a stronger financial future in a post-pandemic economy.
- Our new workforce development program
  is pairing volunteer career mentors with job
  seekers. We are also cultivating partnerships
  to connect individuals seeking employment
  with businesses in need of workers.
- Our new benefits screener is helping families navigate applications for government benefits to offset the increasing cost of medicine, food, transportation, and housing.

Returning this spring, our IRS-trained and certified VITA tax volunteers are providing free tax preparation services to qualified families.

Your dedication to NFCC over the past two years has accelerated our capacity to serve our community. Thank you for your support. Together, we can help!

Sincerely, Jollym Josh

— Holly M. York
Executive Director, NFCC



#### MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022

THE COUNTRY CLUB OF THE SOUTH • JOHNS CREEK

It's almost time to Swing Into Action at the Country Club of the South. Our annual golf tournament raises funds to support NFCC's programs, and our participants return year after year for a fun-filled day of friendly competition and networking opportunities.

Golfers will compete in a variety of contests for prizes or try their luck in our raffles.

### LIMITED SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE

Contact Sherri Morgan at <a href="mailto:smorgan@nfcchelp.org">smorgan@nfcchelp.org/golf</a> for more information.



\$100K DONORS









\$50K DONORS



Trailsend Foundation



### **NFCC Volunteers Keep the Food Pantry Running**



Topsy (pictured third from the left) with the Thursday afternoon crew at the Food Pantry.

Each morning, a dozen volunteers arrive at the NFCC food pantry to begin preparing for a busy day. They greet each other warmly and then settle into their work. Some start sorting and shelving recent donations of canned and boxed goods. Others get ready to unload trucks of fresh produce and bread donations from local stores. The rest prepare for a busy day of filling orders.

**Topsy Landham,** (above) a Food Pantry volunteer of four years, is one of the Pantry's order-fillers. When a client selects their food items on a computer in the pantry lobby, Topsy and her team work quickly to collect and bag the items. When finished, they bring the order out to the client. Topsy enjoys being able to interact with the families we serve.

"It's always a thrill when one of our clients says 'thank you,'" says Topsy.

Without our team of dedicated pantry volunteers, NFCC wouldn't be able to provide food for families in need. In the past year, higher prices on groceries and other essentials have resulted in more people turning to the Food Pantry for help.

In the last 12 months, on an average day, our Food Pantry volunteers are filling double the orders they did the previous year. In late 2021, the pantry had several recording-breaking days, filling between 200-225 orders some days.

"The Food Pantry is the easiest way for families to cut expenses following a crisis. They can save money here that can be spent on other essentials such as housing and utilities," says **Mel Fortin**, NFCC's director of Pantry Services.

Many of our clients benefit from the social interaction. They enjoy seeing a familiar face bringing their groceries week after week.

"There's one young lady and I call her by her name and her face just lights up," says Topsy. "It brings me such joy when I see a client I know and they know my name and we can greet each other."





Volunteer No



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ALL HANDS · A NFCC NEWS MAGAZINE

SPRING 2022

# Invest Monthly in Your Community: Join Circle of Hope

Last year, nearly 250 supporters joined our Circle of Hope and made the commitment to give monthly to NFCC. By automating their monthly giving, these donors help secure NFCC's future and enable programs to help families find a path forward toward financial stability.

"My family joined the Circle of Hope because automating our giving was the best way we knew to show our commitment to NFCC. While we have more than enough, we know that every month we have neighbors who struggle to make ends meet. We want NFCC to be there for them."



Become a Circle of Hope member by visiting nfcchelp.org/circle-of-hope

Connect with NFCC Follow us on social media









Sign up to receive our monthly e-newsletter at NFCCHelp.org

Together, we can help!

**Circle of Hope Member**