A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Volunteers are the bricks and mortar of MAC. The solid foundation that was laid by hundreds of selfless individuals continues to support the mission of preventing homelessness among Atlanta’s most vulnerable, but hard working individuals. Our diverse group of volunteers donate their time in a variety of ways. Many come to MAC through one of our supporting congregations, others are affiliated with one of our business partners, some are friends of friends. For many of MAC’s volunteers, commitment lasts for years.

Everyone on the MAC staff began as a volunteer. Through the volunteer experience, each of us found MAC to be a very special place. Time has passed quickly, and suddenly, this year, we are celebrating Jenny Jobson’s twentieth anniversary at MAC. She began volunteering after she met MAC’s Jesuit Volunteer on a Sacred Heart trip to Haiti and her work as a volunteer evolved into a full-time position as MAC’s Associate Director. She has been recognized for her flawless reporting on government grants, her attention to detail, her organization, her level headed approach to just about everything, and her parenting of four outstanding children. MAC is indeed fortunate to have Jenny and we are grateful for her commitment and dedication over the past twenty years!

Dorothy Deakins Chandler
Executive Director, Midtown Assistance Center

A NOTE FROM MAC’S BOARD PRESIDENT

Midtown is booming. The rebound from the great recession has seen unprecedented expansion of commercial and residential real estate. Thanks in part to the efforts of Midtown Alliance and its member businesses, Midtown has become a more walkable, rideable, cleaner, and attractive place to live and work.

It comes as no surprise that this increase in desirability has driven up the cost of living. The average rent for an Atlanta apartment has increased by 25% since 2014. Now, in 2017, the average Midtown apartment rents for over $1600 a month. Midtown’s lower-income workers, many of whom are MAC’s clients, can no longer afford to live where they work. MAC has worked to help folks find new apartments with lower rents in surrounding neighborhoods with MARTA access in an effort to adjust to this new reality.

In 1986, Midtown Alliance helped found Midtown Assistance Center along with supporters from MAC’s founding congregations. Today, the support of Midtown Alliance and MAC’s partnerships with Midtown businesses remains vital to MAC’s success. Thanks to Kevin Green and Philip Rafshoon’s leadership, Midtown Alliance has helped improve MAC’s exposure and fundraising opportunities through their Let’s Talk Midtown series. 2017 saw an increasing number of Midtown residents volunteer at MAC and Midtown condos and high rises participate in food and clothing drives for MAC. Midtown businesses have supported the Midtown Race for MAC in Piedmont Park, including Gold Sponsors Alston & Bird, Eversheds Sutherland, Federal Home Loan Bank, Georgia Power, Mac’s Beer and Wine and Rabobank, helping the event generate over $100,000 for the area’s working poor since its inception in 2014.

As 2017 draws to a close, we at MAC are extremely grateful for the support we have received from the Midtown community and expect that this relationship will continue to develop in 2018. Together we can ensure that MAC’s clients, who cook, clean, guard, teach and serve Midtown, do not fall through the cracks.

Alex Brown, Board President
MEET STANLEY, someone MAC assisted this year. Over the course of a few months, Stanley slipped into the ranks of the part-time working poor. Writing for a magazine, he was living in the middle class, until the publication succumbed to economic pressures. “With the company going out of business, I lost my job, my income and way of life,” said Stanely. Living off his savings, he searched for a new job, but after a few months he was staring at a dreary future, punctuated by the looming threat of eviction. He discovered MAC while doing research for an article he had written the year before. Stanley explained, “I remember thinking I had no choice but to call MAC for help.” MAC staff spoke to Stanley and assessed his situation, helping to pay a portion of his past due rent. “MAC helped me stabilize my life,” said Stanley. “MAC eliminated the stress created by not having all of my rent money. I was able to focus on my job hunt and got hired to a new position at another publication the next month. I really want to say how much I appreciate MAC’s assistance. I got a better job and I’ve been able to pay my bills. I shudder to think what could have happened without MAC’s safety net.”

“MAC helped me stabilize my life by eliminating the stress created by not having all of my rent money.”

HOW MAC’S ASSISTANCE WORKS

1. People in need call MAC

2. A MAC Staff member assesses the caller’s needs and schedules an appointment, or refers them to the appropriate agency to help

3. Volunteers meet with the people in need to advise on their situation and collect their requested documentation

4. MAC provides assistance on the spot by giving people a check, groceries, clothing or MARTA passes

MAC Volunteer Judy Book gets ready to assist someone with their rent payment. In August, MAC switched from paper cards to an electronic iPad intake system.
2017 BY THE NUMBERS

MAC ASSISTED...
4,150 Individuals
During 7,859 Emergency Situations
Distributing Over $500,000 in Direct Assistance

MAC GAVE OUT...
4,531 Bags of Groceries
194 Uniforms and Shoes
1,726 MARTA Passes

MAC PAID...
397 Rents
519 Utility Bills

MAC HAD...
1,470 Clothing Closet Visits

MAC HELPED...
34 People Get Their Georgia ID

MAC ANSWERED...
13,348 Phone Calls
MAC’s Funding Sources

- Foundations, 38%
- Fundraisers, 7%
- Government, 12%
- Congregations, 13%
- Individuals, 27%
- Corporations, 3%

Program Success

- 90% of households assisted are still in housing six months after receiving rent assistance
- 84% of households assisted still have their lights connected six months after receiving utility assistance

DID YOU KNOW...
that a weekly MARTA card costs $23.75?
MAC provides up to a month of MARTA for people with a new job, until their first paycheck.

NOTE FROM A LANDLORD

"Thank you so much for assisting my tenant with rent! I know what it feels like to struggle. I had cancer several years ago and I am still trying to get re-established financially. I am here because of the kindness of other people. I know it’s not much but I try to help whenever I can. I really appreciate MAC and what you all do for people."
MAC’S THURSDAY VOLUNTEERS have been together for over 10 years. Coming together from different parts of the community and different congregations (including the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, All Saints’ Episcopal Church, Atlanta First United Methodist Church & The Temple), MAC’s Thursday volunteers have been consistent in their dedication to not only MAC’s clients, but each other as well. Thursday volunteers are unique in the fact that they have been MAC’s longest term volunteers, even those who are no longer with us.

Douglas Scott, 1997-present
Linda Brown, 2007-present
Susan Hooper, 2007-present
Calvin Williams, 2008-present
Holley Forsyth, 2012-present

Aaron Moody, 2012-present
Denise Davis, 2012-present
Hubert Davis, 2016-present
Eunice Maguire, 1995-2003
Evie Wolfe, 1986-2012

MAC operates with six staff members, making volunteers a vital part of our organization. If you’re interested in volunteering, let us know!

MAC’S YOUNG PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL consists of men and women between the ages of 25-40 who are passionate about the issues of homelessness and hunger in the Atlanta community. These volunteers help MAC plan our fundraising events and recruit others to support MAC’s work. We are thankful for these 12 young adults who spread MAC’s mission throughout the community.

Council Members
Matt Bristow
Andrew Brown
Lauren Buss
Joy Dyess
Amanda Giffin
Jonathan Huddleston
Holly Lane
Jenna Mulvey
Ashlie Oliver
Lindsay Rawls
Rebekah Runyon
Cassandra Webster
THOUGH ONLY a mile from downtown, the Westside is a neighborhood that most in the city have never seen. It is home to few businesses, but many of Atlanta’s working poor. In 2000, MAC realized that the Westside was an area of great need and limited resources, and began providing emergency assistance to the area. Through this, MAC has gained a unique knowledge of the struggles the residents on the Westside face. The need has only continued to increase and currently, MAC provides more services to this area than any other zip code.

37% of MAC’s financial assistance in the past year has gone to this area.

This year, MAC allotted the majority of our assistance to the Westside by providing:

- **RENT & UTILITIES**: 328 payments
- **GROCERIES**: 1,609 bags
- **MARTA**: Over $10,000 worth

“You have no idea how big an impact your assistance is having on me and my mental state. I can’t thank you enough. I have hope with my new job and some energy to go forward. The kindness that your organization perform reminds you of the goodness of people. It makes you believe things really will get better but it’s going to require focus and discipline. Thank you again.”

- Eliot, MAC client assisted with rent in 2017
Joseph S. Horsley Award Recipient: Fred Sheats
Fred Sheats, Senior Vice President at Colliers International, was awarded MAC’s Joseph S. Horsley Award for Leadership and Service at MAC’s 2017 Board Dinner. Fred has been on MAC’s board for 17 years and continues to fundraise and raise awareness of MAC’s mission. The Sheats family participates in the Midtown Race for MAC every year.

MAC Corporate Partner of the Year: Citizens of Georgia Power
Each year, MAC awards one business with the partner of the year award. This year, the Citizens of Georgia Power were recognized for their outstanding contributions to MAC. In addition to being a gold level sponsor of the Midtown Race for MAC, they selected MAC as the recipient of the proceeds from their annual Chili Cook-off. The group also puts together draft blockers that MAC gives to clients to help keep their energy costs low. MAC is thankful for our corporate partners in the community.

Meet MAC’s new Director of Partnerships, Ciara!
Ciara Rowley joined MAC as a volunteer last year while working at The Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip and loved MAC so much that she came on staff in March 2017 as the Director of Partnerships. Ciara graduated from Florida State University and served in the Peace Corps in Neijiang, China. She moved to Atlanta when she joined the Episcopal Service Corps and served at Church of the Common Ground. “My favorite part about MAC is the volunteers!” said Ciara. “They are committed to treating our clients with dignity and take the time to listen to their stories. They are also just a lot of fun to be around.”

Meet Timi: MAC’s new Program Support Intern
Timi A. Williams is a sophomore at Georgia State University who started interning at MAC in May of this year. He is majoring in Biology and has an interest in the field of medicine. Timi spends three days a week at MAC, helping with assistance, seeing clients, and performing any office task that needs doing. “Midtown Assistance Center is a special place because the people that come together to do their jobs are very committed to serving the community,” Timi said. He believes that being in an environment in which people are trying to do good work will be insightful for his road ahead, and the people at MAC are doing just that.
Through the AARP Senior Citizen Employment Program, MAC has been fortunate to have Hassan Muwwakkil work in MAC’s men’s clothing closet and Cynthia Truelove on the phones scheduling appointments for clients in need.

The Atlanta Community Food Bank delivers food to MAC every Wednesday. This service allows MAC to feed more people. Employees from the Food Bank also provide cooking classes to MAC’s clients, teaching them about healthy meals on a budget.

MAC and First Step Staffing partner to help homeless and low-income people get back into the workforce. MAC provides people with work uniforms and shoes, while First Step provides them with opportunities for new jobs.

Fulton County Community Services Program awarded MAC $94,000 this year to provide rent and utility payments and provide monthly MARTA passes to Fulton County residents. With this funding, MAC assisted over 130 households.

Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) has been a longtime partner of MAC, providing a full-time volunteer to work at MAC for a year while they live in community with other young people dedicating their lives to a year of service. Alison Corr from St. Joseph’s University is MAC’s 2017-2018 Jesuit Volunteer.

Helping Mamas provides MAC with diapers, wipes, formula, and baby supplies so that MAC can distribute these items to our clients with small children. MAC volunteers pick up items from Helping Mamas once a month, which MAC would not be able to provide.

MARTA’s half fare program allows MAC to buy round trip and seven day MARTA cards for half price. MAC gives these cards out to our homeless clients who are looking for work or have started a new job.

Midtown Alliance hosts regular events that benefit MAC by donating all proceeds to our assistance programs. These events also help recruit volunteers and get MAC’s name out into the Midtown community. This partnership has increased MAC’s volunteer base, income to help with assistance, and name recognition.

Second Helpings connects MAC with local restaurants and bakeries to prevent food waste. Volunteers from The Temple pick up fresh produce and bread each week and deliver to MAC for households in need of food.

In June 2017, United Way chose MAC to be the partner agency for their FLOW Program, which helps move individuals and families living in permanent supportive housing into income-based housing with housing choice vouchers. 25 households transitioned into their own homes with the help of FLOW case manager this year.
These congregations provide monetary support, conduct food and clothing drives, provide volunteers, and support MAC in many other ways. Atlanta First donates MAC’s office space, utilities, and parking at an in-kind value of $44,000.
**SUPPORTING CONGREGATIONS**

**Board Representative:** Mitchell Wirth  
**Volunteers:** Janet Bernstein, Harriet Cacho, Sara Hene, Shelia Segal  
**Volunteer Hours:** 561  
**Special Projects:** Every week, volunteers from The Temple coordinate with Second Helpings to bring fresh produce and bread to our clients. Their High Holy Days is MAC’s largest food drive.

**Board Representative:** Keith Roberts  
**Volunteers:** Jill Kirchgatter, Arnalia Stephens  
**Volunteer Hours:** 90  
**Special Projects:** During their Summer Spirit Drive, St. Luke’s set a new record, collecting over 250 bags of groceries. Their VBS helped make signs for the drive, and visited MAC with their own donations.

**Board Representative:** Alan Valerius  
**Volunteer Hours:** 8  
**Special Projects:** This summer, a group of children from Mission Plunge came to MAC to deliver sandwiches and canned goods. A group of young adults from NAPC spent a Wednesday evening at MAC making sandwiches for clients.

**Board Representative:** Roger Brown  
**Volunteers:** Ken McLean  
**Volunteer Hours:** 134  
**Special Projects:** During their July Food Drive, St. Mark donated 160 bags of groceries and volunteers regularly drop off men’s clothing for MAC’s clothing closet.

**Board Representative:** Katy Hurley  
**Volunteers:** Diane Currence  
**Volunteer Hours:** 88  
**Special Projects:** Redeemer collected 300 bags of groceries during their spring food drive.

**Special Projects:** This fall, a group from Peachtree Christian went as a group to purchase $1500 in food and hygiene items for our food pantry. They brought the food back to MAC and unpacked it.

**Board Representative:** Martin Hurley  
**Volunteers:** Diane Currence  
**Volunteer Hours:** 88  
**Special Projects:** Redeemer collected 300 bags of groceries during their spring food drive.
2017 MIDTOWN RACE FOR MAC
MAY 13TH PIEDMONT PARK
MIDTOWN ASSISTANCE CENTER
PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS & HUNGER IN ATLANTA SINCE 1986

SPONSORS
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Rabobank
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Eversheds Sutherland
Federal Home Loan Bank

GOLD
Colliers International
Consolidated Planning Corporation
Orpheus Brewing
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Warren Averett

SILVER
Allen Buckley Law
Basic Healthcare Plan
Cruser Mitchell
Dunphy Properties
Gwinnett Place Honda
Veenendaalcave
Georgia Tech Ivan Allen College
Regency Lighting
Park Tavern

BRONZE

The first annual MAC & Cheese was held at Colony Square on Saturday, September 9th and featured 12 Atlanta restaurants and chefs serving their best macaroni and cheese to attendees. The event helped raise funding and awareness for MAC’s programs.

WINNER

RUNNERS-UP

MAC & CHEESE CONTESTANTS

4 Rivers Smokehouse
5Church
Black Bear Tavern
Establishment
Flora & Flour
Mary Mac’s Tea Room
Ocean Catering Company
Ray’s in the City
Simplee Amazing Catering
Sun in My Belly
Sweet Georgia’s Juke Joint
Torched Hop Brewing Company

IN-KIND SPONSORS

C. Parks Catering
Colony Square
Fado Irish Pub
Flying Biscuit Cafe
Infinity Yoga
Kroger
Ladybird Grove & Mess Hall
Mac’s Beer & Wine
No Mas! Cantina
Park Tavern
Shakespeare Tavern
Tiff’s Treats
Urban Tree Cidery
MAC turned 30 last year and celebrated with a luncheon at Ansley Golf Club. Supporters from throughout the years joined MAC to honor our founders, raise funds for our mission, and celebrate 30 years of preventing homelessness and hunger in Atlanta.

Founder’s Luncheon Honorees:
Sue Mobley, All Saints Episcopal Church
Ronnie van Gelder, The Temple
Rev. Charles Black, First Presbyterian Church
Mary Anne Edwards, St. Luke’s Episcopal Church

SAVE THE DATE for our 2018 luncheon on Thursday, February 22nd at Ansley Golf Club!

Pictured (from top to bottom, left to right): Ronnie van Gelder and Rev. Charles Black; Christopher Brown and Charlotte Shields; Sue Mobley; Holley Forsyth and Susie & Aaron Moody; Ellen Ison and Casey Lawing; Rev. Jennifer Hansen and Roger Brown; Diane Currence, Karen Slappey and Carol Maxwell; Mary Ann Edwards, Rev. Dan Matthews and Keith & Susanna Roberts
In Honor of Peter J. Anderson
Betty Wood
Elizabeth Anderson

In Honor of Larry Auerbach’s birthday
Paul Glickstein

In Honor of Janet Bernstein’s birthday
Paul Glickstein

In Honor of Andrew Blevins
Sharon Johnston

In Honor of Jama Johnston Blevins
Sharon Johnston

In Honor of Jo Carter
Sharon Johnston

In Honor of Deakin Chandler’s birthday
Vanessa Murphy
Karen & Alan Murray

In Honor of Dorothy Chandler’s birthday
Lillian Clarke

In Honor of Dorothy Chandler
Vernon Broyles

In Honor of Frank & Dorothy Chandler
Judy Hinton

In Honor of Sheila Cox
Sharon Johnston

In Honor of Diane Currence
Heidi & Gerald Couch

In Honor of Mary Beth Grady
Joanna Steed

In Honor of Lisa Hill & Heidi Schuler
Joan Hill & Heidi Schuler

In Honor of Susan Hooper’s birthday
Martin Levine
Suzanne & Rob Boas

In Honor of Adam Humphreys
Joann Johnston

In Honor of Joann Johnston & Adam Humphreys
Sharon Johnston
Jo Handley

In Honor of John Johnston
Sharon Johnston

In Honor of Jillian Madden
Janet & Terrence Simpson

In Honor of Mrs. Madison Massey
William & Agnes Mallard

In Honor of Clifton-Strawn wedding
Mavis Bridges
Matt Olmsted
Melissa Metcalf
Gregg Franklin
Anastasia Watkinson

In Honor of Ciara Rowley
Elizabeth Mitchell

In Honor of Julie Sadlier
Theresa Bauer

In Honor of Andrea Salwen
Valerie Salwen & Stephen Rogowsky

In Honor of Charlotte Shields
Susan Prutzman
William & Eve Earnest

In Honor of Robert E. Springer III
Robert Springer Jr.

In Honor of Rev. Martha Sterne
Samuel & Anne Donaldson

In Memory of Lloyd Timberlake
Olive Toy

In Memory of Teresa Reffue
Mark Coplan

In Memory of Rosalind Hornstein
Greiver
Mark Coplan

In Memory of Joe Horsley
Joyce Horsley
Brian & Linda Hogg

In Memory of Mary Ann Reuben
Marc & Caroline Heilweil

In Memory of Marjorie Madill
Betty Athon

In Memory of Marilyn McCarthy
Karen McCarthy

DONATIONS IN HONOR & IN MEMORY

Akers Foundation
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Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta
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Cousins Foundation
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Emmaus Property Investment LLC
Equifax Employee Match Program
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Anonymous
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Richard Munroe Foundation
North Georgia United Methodist Housing & Homeless Council
Once for All
PayPal Giving Fund

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Saint Andrew Class of First United Methodist Church
Second Helpings Atlanta
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Tull Charitable Foundation
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Wells Community Support Campaign
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Sam Benator
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Paula Blechner
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David Boyd
Joy Branch
Glenn Braunstin
Kayla Braunstin
Sarah Braunstin
Agnes Brewster
Joe Brewster
RJ Brewster
Rose Brewster
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D’Angel Brooks
Jane Brown
Linda Brown
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David Chandler
Frank Chandler
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Jill Kirchgatter
Joan Kraft
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Angela Laughter
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Monica Mitchell
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WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS ARE IN BOLD

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

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The Walker School
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Christ the King School
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Shaun Green & Janet Kinard
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Natalie Greene
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GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)
Fulton County Community Services Program (CSP)
MAC’S MISSION STATEMENT:
Midtown Assistance Center (MAC) is an interfaith ministry supported by midtown congregations and businesses that provides emergency assistance to low-income working Atlantans. MAC’s mission is to prevent homelessness and hunger during periods of crisis.

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