



# Something to Write *HOME* About

Winter 2011

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Each year seems to pass more quickly than the last, and 2011 is no exception. It seems that I was sitting at my desk just a few months ago writing the 2010 letter! We have had a busy but fulfilling year at Find A Way Home, and we are finally settled at our new office in the CDA Community Center. New partnerships with other caring community members have allowed us to **expand the number of housing units** that we rent to our client families by **40%**! We have remained at full capacity all year, and our clients continue to make great progress in their respective journeys. Three of our families are on track to become **first-time homeowners** by next summer—we are so proud of the hard work they have done to get to that point!

We have worked with our other



**Find A Way Home client Kathy with her daughter Maeve.**

partners in the Continuum of Care to continue to raise awareness of the need for affordable housing in North Fulton County. In March, we conducted an interactive **Windshield Tour** for our elected officials, which you can read more about on page 2.

In November, our supporters gathered at the beautiful home of

Doc and Mickie Holder for our 4th Annual Tailgate Fundraiser. Even though the Falcons lost, everyone had a great time and we raised money to support our affordable housing program—that counts as a W in my book.

As the economy continues its slow recovery, our client families need our support now more than ever. Please consider making a gift to Find A Way Home this holiday season—big or small, your contribution is a lasting investment in your North Fulton neighbors, like the Jacksons (below) and the Walkers (page 3). We cannot thank you enough for your support.

Wishing you and yours peace and happiness this holiday season,

Erin Fortney, Executive Director

## The Jacksons: A Continuum Story

**W**e met Carolyn at the Roswell Day of Hope in 2010. She was searching for affordable housing for herself, her adult daughter and her daughter's two young children. Unfortunately, we did have anything that would accommodate this family, but asked them to stay in touch.

Not one to be discouraged, Carolyn did stay in touch, calling each month to see if we had a vacancy. She had come too far: Carolyn had battled a substance abuse problem and had successfully completed the rehabilitation program at Mary Hall Freedom House. She then went on to graduate from

Every Woman Works, and has held two jobs—one full-time and one part-time—ever since.

In late 2010, our 3-bedroom Hembree Forest home became vacant. After an extensive four-month renovation was completed by our wonderful volunteers, the Jackson family moved into the home in March.

As the Jacksons progress and work with their mentor, they are excited about what the future holds. By the end of 2012, they will be ready to purchase the home in which they live. They are truly a success story of the North Fulton Continuum of Care.

## Mark Your Calendars!

Join us for our Pancake Breakfast on **Sat. 2/11/12** at **Roswell Presbyterian Church!** Details coming soon!

## Our Wish List

- Office supplies (pens, Sharpies, dry erase markers, Mr. Sketch markers, etc.)
- Index dividers
- Copy paper/ cardstock
- Flip charts
- Easel

## Staff Members

**Erin Fortney**  
Executive Director

**Canita Allen**  
Program Assistant

# Advocating for Change

Find A Way Home is one of several non-profit agencies in North Fulton County that serve the housing needs of low- to moderate-income families. Each of these agencies provides separate and distinct services that span the spectrum of needs from crisis situations and homelessness to homeownership. Together, we form the North Fulton Housing Continuum of Care.

In March of this year, Continuum hosted a Windshield Tour that enabled our elected officials and community leaders to see first-hand the services that each organization provides. We began at North Fulton Community Charities and traveled from there along the Continuum, ending at one of Habitat for Humanity's Roswell communities.

At the Windshield Tour, we also unveiled our new Continuum graphic (below). The

illustration was designed by volunteer graphic designer Leesha Jones. It is part of a joint effort by all of the Continuum organizations to increase awareness and understanding in the community about available services, as well as needs that remain unmet.

The Windshield Tour was a wonderful event that provided officials and leaders a first-hand look at the housing needs of low- to moderate-income families in the community. As partners seeking to alleviate housing crises, the Continuum organizations also emphasized the need for the development of even more affordable housing options in North Fulton to fill the unmet needs. Together, we are truly accomplishing great things for those in need in our community!



# Client Spotlight: Meet The Walkers



The entire program has been so beneficial. When we began, [our financial situation] was a mess – we didn't know how or where to start and we were lost. Now we've been coached on how to budget and what steps to take next. At the time we started, we were \$10,000-15,000 in debt and we've knocked that down to about \$2,000. We also have over \$1,500 in savings, and that account balance increases every month! Our family now has a future to look forward to. These are things we can teach our kids, and our kids' kids, and we just say thank you to Find A Way Home.

*"Our family now has a future to look forward to."*



**YES, I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to Find A Way Home today!**

Please accept my donation of  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1000 (President's Circle)  other amount: \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed a check made payable to **Find A Way Home**.

Please charge my credit card:  MasterCard  Visa  American Express

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date (mm/yy): \_\_\_\_\_ Authorization code: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you wish, you may designate a gift in memory or honor of a person.**

In memory of (name and date of death): \_\_\_\_\_  In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please acknowledge memorial or honorarium to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return completed form in the enclosed envelope, or mail to: Find A Way Home, 89 Grove Way, Suite 101, Roswell, GA 30075.*

**Thank you for your generous support!**

*Find A Way Home is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law and IRS regulations. Please consult with your tax professional.*



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[www.facebook.com/FindAWayHome](http://www.facebook.com/FindAWayHome)



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***Building a Stronger Community, One Home at a Time***

## 2011 President's Circle

Anonymous  
Brooks, McGinnis & Co.  
Mike and Emily Chandler  
Will and Rae Colley  
Charles and Kathy Curtis  
Crawford, Merritt & Co.  
Dr. Terry and Mickie Holder  
Richard and Joan Huguley  
Jack L. McGinnis  
Roswell Presbyterian Church  
Roswell Woman's Club  
Site Technologies

## 2011 Memorial and Honorarium Gifts

Randy and Lisa Beech, *in memory of Chris Evans*  
Gregg Parker, *in honor of the Parker and Fortney Families*  
Dave Ward, *in memory of Albert and Charlotte D. Neely*

***We appreciate your generous support!***

***We count on contributions from community members like you in order to continue providing high-quality, low-cost housing and educational programs in North Fulton.***

***For more information on how you can contribute, please see page 3 inside.***