

compassion **IN ACTION**

A Case for Investing in Our Community



The Power of Community

Fueling Resilience

Marie is a single working mother of three. Like many of those who turned to CAC in 2024, she had a full-time job, yet still couldn't make ends meet. When she could no longer afford both rent and food, CAC stepped in to help prevent her eviction. Marie also utilized the Mini-Market, saving up to \$800 a month on groceries, and Canopy Thrift™. Determined to improve her situation, she took a Microsoft Excel class, worked with CAC's Career Center, and attended a Career Expo. She soon secured a new job, a major step toward financial stability.

Bridging the Gap

Ms. Morgan, a full-time student working part-time, came to CAC facing eviction. She and her husband were struggling to make ends meet after his hourly wages were unexpectedly cut from \$20.00 per hour to \$17.50. At the same time, the couple's rent increased by nearly \$100 per month. They quickly fell behind on their rent. CAC pledged \$800 toward their rent and coordinated support from other partners, but they were still \$118 short. CAC covered that gap. Ms. Morgan hugged the staff as she received her check. With tears of relief, she said, "I was so scared."

"The Community Assistance Center has served thousands of residents over the years, becoming a vital part of Dunwoody—meeting urgent needs like food and housing while helping people build brighter futures through job training and English classes. Just as important, CAC offers meaningful ways for residents to give back, fostering connection and a stronger, more compassionate community."

Lynn Deutsch, Mayor, Dunwoody, GA



Sandy Springs Connects! Career Expo Spring 2025

CAC and the City of Sandy Springs are community partners at their best. We're continually inspired by how much can be accomplished when we come together as a community.

About CAC

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Since 1987

The Community Assistance Center (CAC) first opened its doors in response to the growing need among Sandy Springs and Dunwoody residents facing food insecurity and housing instability.

Activating Hope & Expanding Opportunities

Over the last three decades, CAC has evolved and expanded its programs—not only to prevent hunger and homelessness, but to empower individuals and families to flourish and thrive. Through Canopy Thrift™, career services, adult education, free tax assistance, and children's programs, we help our neighbors build lasting stability.

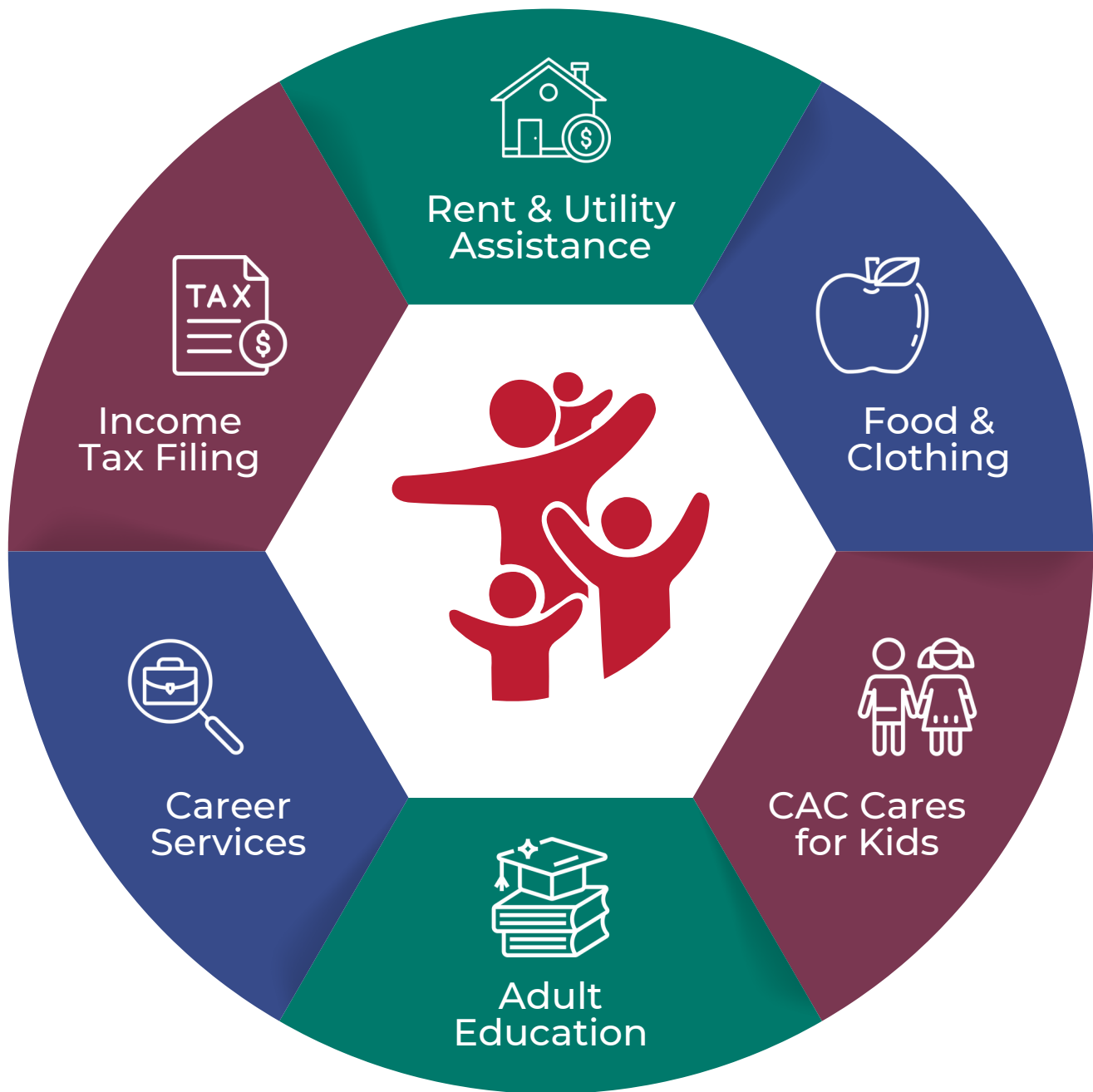
Vision

Community is the Solution

- Children do not go to bed hungry.
- Every family has safe and reliable housing.
- Families have the food, clothing, and household items they need.
- Every adult has access to skills development, training, and career coaching to attain financial independence.

Community Catalyst

Through our holistic model, we help families move from crisis to stability—building the resilience and tools they need to flourish and thrive in our community.



Impact by the Numbers

In 2025, **92%** of our clients secured stable housing and **68%** successfully resolved their crisis within 180 days of entering our programs.

Activating Hope

- 9,632 people served amongst 4,440 households
- 1,108 evictions prevented
- 1.1 million pounds of food distributed
- \$206,768 in Canopy Thrift™ vouchers honored

Expanding Opportunities

- 610 students enrolled in adult education
- 229 clients participated in career coaching
- 2,237 children served through Cares for Kids
- \$1 million in tax refunds and credits

Mobilizing Community

- 526 monthly volunteers
- 8,660 children served through our Teacher Supply Closet

The CAC Difference

CAC is a vital part of Atlanta's Northern Perimeter, activating hope, expanding opportunity, and mobilizing community to build lasting stability and a more connected, resilient future.

What Drives Our Success & Impact

- We employ a holistic approach addressing needs in food, housing assistance, education, and employment.
- We are woven into the fabric of our community through corporate, city, faith-based, and civic partnerships.
- We are driven by volunteers committed to help neighbors thrive.



Why We Need to Grow

The need for targeted, strategic interventions has never been greater. At CAC we believe every neighbor deserves a real opportunity to flourish and thrive.

We're committed to building our capacity to reach more people in more ways, not just for the next three years, but for many years to come.

Intensified Financial Pressure

- 79% of those who came for financial assistance in 2025 were working at least one job
- Nearly 80% of CAC clients spend more than half of their income on housing
- A shortage of affordable housing continues to drive rents higher
- Wages remain stagnant
- Food and utility prices have sharply increased

“I’m excited to be part of leading this campaign to enhance and grow CAC's capacity to continue serving more people in more ways. It has also been designed to strengthen our fundraising capabilities and connections and to create a lasting endowment. Both will go a long way in ensuring CAC is poised to continue mobilizing our community to bring hope and opportunities to our neighbors for years to come.”

Cece Webster, 1st Vice Chair, CAC Board of Directors



In 2025 CAC served nearly 10,000 individuals. However, this leaves a significant gap as 24,000* are at risk in our community and in need of our services.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Census

Team to Lead

Board of Directors



Doug Hunter
Board Chair
Holder Construction



Cece Webster
1st Vice Chair
The Coca-Cola Company
(ret.)



Christina Porter
Secretary
Community Member



Robert Wittenstein
Treasurer
Community Member



Neal Mulford
Assistant Treasurer
ArchwayFinCo



Sue Appleyard
Board Member
Graphic Packaging



Lauren Baksh
Board Member
Ball Corporation



Tom Bever
Board Member
Smith, Gambrell & Russell,
LLP



Jennifer Hartz
Board Member
Corporate Hartz



Stephen Levy
Board Member
Federal Reserve (ret.)



Matt Lindsay
Board Member
Mather Economics



Matthew Lulay
Board Member
Anaplan



Bianca Mazzarella
Board Member
Veritiv



Arjé McCarty
Board Member
The McCarty Group, Keller
Williams Realty



Nicole Morris
Board Member
Emory University School of
Law



Tracy Pointer
Board Member
UPS



Rabbi Ron Segal
Board Member
Temple Sinai



Kevin Stone
Board Member
Freeman Mathis & Gary,
LLP

Executive Leadership

Francis K. Horton, III
Chief Executive Officer

George Northrop
Director of Advancement

Debbie Olson
Director of Finance &
Administration

Doris Pereira
Director of Impact &
Innovation



“Demand for food assistance across North Georgia has never been higher. Meeting that demand is too much for any one organization. We have been privileged to partner with CAC for many years, not only through our core work of food distribution, but also by learning from their thoughtful and innovative approach to serving neighbors in ways that help them find pathways to prosperity.”

Kyle Waide, President & CEO, Atlanta Community Food Bank

Corporate Supporters



Community Partners



“At Mercedes-Benz, we believe in driving positive change both on and off the road. We’re proud of our partnership with the Community Assistance Center which truly reflects our deep commitment to supporting our local community. Through our work together, including investment and volunteerism, we continue to provide essential resources to those in need, making a lasting impact and expanding opportunities through our Driving Your Future mission.”

Lauren Alford, Corporate Social Responsibility, Mercedes-Benz USA

Faith-Based Partners

Atlanta North Church of Seventh-Day Adventists
Christ Covenant Church
Church of the Redeemer
Congregation B'nai Torah
Dunwoody Baptist Church
Dunwoody Community Church
Dunwoody United Methodist Church
Genesis Bible Church of Dunwoody
Holy Innocents Episcopal Church
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Kairos Church
Kingswood United Methodist Church
Misty Creek Community Church

Mount Vernon Baptist Church
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
North Atlanta Church of Christ
Northwestern Unitarian Universalist Church
Rivercliff Lutheran Church
Sandy Springs Christian Church
Sandy Springs United Methodist Church
St. Barnabas Anglican Church
St. John Church
St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church
St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
Temple Emanu-El
Temple Sinai
Peachtree Church



Dollars Needed

Compassion in Action is a three-year comprehensive campaign. Funds raised support CAC’s operations and strategic investments in program expansion, staffing, technology, and facilities.

Funding Initiatives

Program Capacity Expansion Expand our reach to serve 30% more individuals in need and progress toward long-term financial sustainability over the next three years.	\$15 Million
Capital & Capacity Expansion Expand and enhance space for Canopy Thrift™, Mini-Markets, and the new Empowerment Center.	\$2 Million
Endowment Ensure CAC has the ability to continue to meet the needs of our community well into the future.	\$1 Million
\$18 Million	

“CAC is a vital organization in Sandy Springs. If CAC didn’t exist, we would have to create it. For several decades, CAC has provided crucial assistance to our residents who may be struggling or need a hand up whether with food, shelter, or employment assistance. This new initiative is important in giving CAC the resources to serve more, serve better, and serve more deeply.”

Rusty Paul, Mayor, Sandy Springs, GA

Ways to Give

Donors to **Compassion in Action** will see the impact of their generosity firsthand. This integrated campaign brings together annual giving, major and planned gifts, grants, and individual contributions into one unified effort. Rather than funding a single initiative, the campaign offers donors a clear opportunity to support CAC's whole mission.

Immediate gifts will allow CAC to reach more people in more ways. Your generosity can transform the lives of those at risk of unstable housing and food insecurity. Furthermore, it will propel them to learn new skills and acquire better paying jobs, which leads families to financial sustainability.

Throughout our **Compassion in Action** campaign, we will work with urgency to attract all types of contributions, including gifts from current and future assets. Every gift is deeply appreciated.

Outright Gifts

Pledges • Cash • Stock • Real Estate • Tribute and Memorial Gifts

Deferred Gifts

Bequests • Life Insurance Policies • Charitable Gift Annuities • Charitable Remainder Unitrusts • Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts • Charitable Lead Trusts



“In our ESOL classroom at CAC, we build more than language and communication skills. We develop friendships that strengthen our connection to each other. It is an honor to empower our adult students with new abilities, and I learn as much from them as they learn in our classes!”

Ellen, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Teacher

George Northrop
Director of Advancement
george.northrop@ourcac.org
404-513-3894

www.ourcac.org
1130 Hightower Trail
Sandy Springs, GA 30350

