

We open doors to overcome and prevent homelessness. We accomplish our mission through our core programs: supportive services, job readiness, and public policy advocacy.



In 2017, through the faithful dedication and work of Central OAC's staff and 3,020 volunteer hours, 17,615 services were provided to 4,187 unduplicated guests.





#### CENTRAL OUTREACH & ADVOCACY CENTER

Opening Doors Out of Homelessness

# 2017 Annual Report

Fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. Audited financials will be available later in 2018.

### **A Change in Fundraisers**

Cheers for Change (fall event) and Central ArtWorks (spring event) are our two main fundraisers each year. We made \$21,181 during Central ArtWorks this year, the best we have ever done for this event.

As the Board of Directors talked about how to maximize our fundraisers, they decided that we would switch the timing of these events. Holding the Central ArtWorks in the fall, closer to the holiday season, could bring additional revenue. Art work, note cards, and books, make great gifts, but attendees are often not considering the holidays during the spring. The switch was approved, which meant we did not hold Cheers for Change in 2017, but we will resume our new schedule of events in the spring of 2018.

Despite our change of schedule, we were fortunate enough to be invited to take part in additional fundraisers during the fall of 2017. Each fundraiser brought new exposure of the OAC to the community and each generated monies. We are grateful to have taken part in:

- Hands Around the Hill's Wine Tasting/Silent Auction
- Carry the Torch, an event to promote the movie "Same Kind of Different As Me."
- A Percentage Night at Monday Night Garage

We are looking forward to our new schedule in 2018!









## **Staff Updates**



Ahren Cassinari-Foster has been with Central OAC for three years as the Main Frame Coordinator. He worked on a part-time basis while completing his Master of Social Work degree. Upon graduation in May 2017, he became a full-time employee of Central OAC.

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#### **Services**

## We provided the following services:

- 1,696 Birth Certificates
- 1,980 State IDs
- 961 Assists with Social Security Numbers
- 1,683 Homeless Verification Letters
- 353 Pairs of Reading Glasses
- 1,126 Medical Referrals
- 1,089 Hygiene Kits

# Through partnerships with other agencies we assisted with:

- 972 Food Stamp Applications
- 72 Social Security
   Disability Insurance
   Applications
- 133 Eye Exams/ Prescription Glasses
- 111 Mercy Care Vision Referrals
- 61 TB Tests
- 61 HIV Tests

# Through the Main Frame Job Readiness Program:

- 38 Enrolled
- 32 Graduated
- 25 Found Employment
- 78% Employment Rate

# Main Frame Graduate Quotes:

"Take this program; it will help you!" —Duncan

"Kept my spirits up. Kept me determined and focused."

—lones

"Because of my participation in the Main Frame Program, I have two jobs and am doing extremely well." —Mouzon

### **Program Highlights**

- We transitioned our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) from Pathways to Client Track in conjunction with other service providers.
- One of the goals of our food co-op program is to build community among the participants. This year they attended a play together, went out for lunch, and had a holiday party.
- The United Way has placed a team in the OAC to work specifically with Veterans experiencing homelessness.
- The Main Frame continues to produce successful employment percentages.
- April Campbell (Program Director) attended pre-arrest diversion
  meetings: a pilot effort between law enforcement and social service providers that allows police officers to divert people into
  services instead of arresting them when the criminal activity is
  related to mental illness, addiction and/or extreme poverty.
- The OAC staff took part in several different trainings to enhance the work we do on a daily basis.
- We continued our advocacy work as a member of Presbyterians for a Better Georgia.
- Brenna Lakeson (Program Assistant) started a storytelling group for our guests. The time proved to be an important addition in giving space for our guests to share their stories.







### **Statement of Financial Position**

2017 was a positive year programmatically and financially. We ended 2017 in a positive financial position with a net gain of \$34K. This was partially due to outsourcing our development work to Wellspring Nonprofit Resource. We were awarded funding again through Fulton County and the City of Atlanta (\$52K). We re-established a partnership with the United Way that created new funds (\$50K). Even though we only had one independent fundraiser, we were still able to raise \$29K. Foundations provided \$52K. Individual donations (\$78K) were extremely strong this year, and we are grateful for all who donated.

Total unaudited income \$446,139 (with in-kind donations \$527,296)

Total unaudited expense \$411,861 (with in-kind expenses \$493,018)

Our Board of Directors voted to change our fiscal year from a calendar year to a July 1—June 30 year. As a result, we will provide an additional Annual Report in July 2018.