

Helping Other People be Empowered

2018 IMPACT REPORT

You help us provide a solution to a systemic problem, realizing that there is a direct correlation between income levels and education. H.O.P.E., Inc. remains the only program with a holistic approach to addressing the emotional, financial, and educational needs of single parent families struggling to obtain a college degree to better themselves and their children.



OVERALL IMPACT

2018'S DATA CONTINUES TO SAY INCREDIBLE THINGS ABOUT YOU!

YOU'VE ALLOWED US TO ASSIST 56 SINGLE PARENTS YTD, AND 30 GRADUATES HAVE INCREASED THEIR INCOME <u>ON AVERAGE</u> FROM **\$21,333** TO <u>AN</u> <u>AVERAGE</u> **\$43,722**. THAT IS MAJOR FOR THESE GRADUATES!

Based on the 57% of graduates who responded to our survey in March of 2019, your impact over a nine-year period looks like this:



have purchased a home, while 10% are still in the process of purchasing homes

40%

were the first to graduate from college in their families





of our graduates have completed 2-year degrees have completed 4-year degrees have completed graduate degrees

We were even more impressed with which counties you impacted low-income single parents in college the most, as of May 2018.



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of our graduates have incomes between \$30k and \$40k a year, which is

250% above the poverty level



completed their degrees within six years

What's even better, they went from being unable to save, **to 80% of them saving an average of \$1,057!**

When they started the program, 70% of the graduate's credit ratings on average was 560, but now their scores on average is 611 or greater, **a 51-point average score change.**

OVERALL IMPACT

Not only have you changed the outcome of 56 families, but you have *inspired 107 children!* You are changing generations!

Our **MISSION** is to empower, encourage, and equip low-income single parents to obtain a college degree, develop essential life skills, and ultimately become self-sufficient. We do this by providing our single parent students with:

- 1. Financial Assistance for housing and childcare
- 2. A facilitator to connect our students to community resources
- 3. Financial Literacy and a game plan for financial independence
- 4. Counseling resources and success coaching

Our **VISION** is to see our single parents and their families break the cycle of poverty and become hopeful and self-sufficient, and increase their contribution to society.

Our **VALUES:** We believe in education; we believe in family; we believe in giving to those in need; and we believe in overcoming obstacles and statistics.



PROGRAM IMPACT

This year, you've changed the lives of **20 singleparent families**, and **37 children**, 33% of which are first-generation college attendees in their families.

100% of our participants had an income 250% below poverty level, with an average income of \$18,226.

18% attend school in Gwinnett County.

Academics

With an average of a year in the program, our current participants have shown great growth. 100% of our program participants are on track to graduate on time. In less than six year's time, as our goals encourage.

Savings and financial stability

Before starting our program, 73% of our participants did not have a savings account. **NOW, 82% OF THEM DO, WITH 18% OVER \$500.**

27% of our participants own a home already.



pursuing an associate's degree, while 27% are obtaining a bacelor's degree

82%

credit scores increased by an average of 65 points, and 27% increased by **100 points**

We had **three parents graduate** from college. One increased her income by **\$28,000**, and all were offered job opportunities in their career field. We expect to see eight more graduates in 2019, and we're very excited to see how things will change in their lives.

Resources from our partners

Habitat for Humanity Atlanta showed up in a big way for our participants with it's My Money, My Future program. The program was designed to help our participants get prepared for home ownership with a step-by-step process that includes financial education, one-on-one counseling with certified housing couselors, and it also allowed our participants the opportunity to receive \$300 if they completed the program and maintained a bank balance of \$200.

Gwinnett Chapter of the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers (GAWL) partners with our

organization and provided 15 chef prepared turkeys with sides to complete an



awesome dinner for the Thanksgiving Holiday. This was a great gift to our families, and they truly appreciated it! **THANK YOU SO MUCH SHARMIN & THE WOMEN OF GAWL!** **Rainbow Village**, thank you for always allowing us to use your great Community Center and facilities for meetings and workshops! Thank you, **Perimeter Church**



for your awesome help. Because of you, we have been able to supply **105 book bags full of supplies** to students in elementary, middle school and high school over the last 3 years!

Our corporate partners, **Market Source**, show up for us every year for the past three years! This year they helped us by providing a grant to cover expenses for two of our families, and they supported those families during the holiday seasion. **WE APPRECIATE YOU SO MUCH!** Also, some of you donors and the awesome men of the **Lawrenceville-Duluth Alumni Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.,** adopted ALL of our single parent families for Christmas this year, for the second year in a row, providing **114 holiday gifts this year alone! THANK YOU!**

AMANDA'S STORY

My name is Amanda, I moved to Georgia from Rhode Island with my daughter and husband in April 2013.

Things quickly deteriorated, and I found myself in a very mentally abusive relationship with two small children, and a husband who had a serious addiction to narcotics. I was able to leave the relationship after a year and a half of being in Georgia. I found a job that was so supportive and sensitive to my situation that one of the owners let me move into one of her properties. Even with working



50+ hours a week, I was still 3 months behind in rent, and I was living paycheck to paycheck, always trying to just keep the utilities on. There was even one month I had to go without power (I rented a generator). I decided that the only way I would be able to make ends meet is if I had a degree.

I started at the University of Phoenix Online University in September 2016 but this took more time away from work and even more time away from my kids. This is when I found H.O.P.E. I was looking for rental assistance on the United Way 211 website, and I decided to apply in December 2017 and was accepted into the H.O.P.E. Program in May of 2018. Thanks to Ms. Kenita and the services provided by H.O.P.E., I was able to keep paying for my son's childcare so I could go to work as my childcare assistance ran out in November of 2017. I was also able to get caught up with my rent and stay current ever since.

The benefits have been endless, and it is not just financial gains. The financial assistance has taken so much stress off of me that I am happier person and so are my kids. I am able to spend quality time with my kids now. Although my schedule remains extremely busy. I do not have to work every free minute I have and it also allows me to be able to budget my finances better.

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Thank you, Ms. Kenita, all of the donors, and participants for getting me through this chapter in my life. My children and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

2018 OPERATIONAL IMPACT

WE'VE CONTINUOUSLY EXPRESSED OUR DESIRE TO GROW AS AN **ORGANIZATION, AND IMPACT MORE LIVES. WELL, THAT'S EXACTLY** WHAT HAPPENED IN 2018! WE ADDED STAFF!



"Working with HOPE has changed everything!"

When I left my career in corporate America to find more meaningful

and fulfilling work, I never expected to find it "in my own backyard". Kenita and I have been good friends since high school, and I had been a HOPE monthly donor for years. When I realized I would have some free time as I started my job search, I naturally called Kenita to find out how I could volunteer more time. I was not expecting that she would have a part time position available.

It did not take long for me to fall more deeply in love with HOPE's mission and participants. It also gave me the added bonus of continuing to put my business analyst, process improvement and project management experience to good use. And, while I always enjoyed what I did. I now finally also enjoy WHY I do it as well.

"I can truly say that working with HOPE, does NOT feel like work. I am grateful that I get to spend my days contributing to such an awesome mission. I am truly blessed to have found HOPE!"

Total assets increased by 67%

\$14,500 Total income increased by \$54,076! ``` ėėėėėėėė Thirty-five new donors

Gave more assistance

\$22,925

(84%) more to be exact

Foundations gifts increased by \$54,250 an 89% increase from the \$32,500 given in 2017



YOU'RE AMAZINGLY AWESOME!

We want to personally thank every monthly donor, sporadic donor, corporate partner, foundation partner, community partner, strategic partner, volunteer, and program service provider for supporting our mission at H.O.P.E. Inc. Since our inception, our program has grown beyond what we could have imagined and we truly appreciate you for continuing to support our cause.

When you sow into our mission, you are supporting a vision that will grow and develop beyond Georgia! We hope that you will continue to enjoy the ride!

WE HOPE THAT YOU CONTINUE TO GROW WITH US

"IF YOU HELP THE POOR, YOU ARE LENDING TO THE LORD - AND HE WILL REPAY YOU!" - PROVERBS 19:17



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