



CaringWorks

HOUSING • HELP • HOPE



Turning **Adversity**
Into **Achievement**

“

Homelessness is just a season in one's life. It does not depict their future.”

- Denise, CaringWorks Client



CaringWorks

MISSION & SERVICES

CaringWorks' mission is to reduce homelessness and empower the marginalized by providing access to housing and services that foster dignity, self-sufficiency, and well-being. CaringWorks offers chronically homeless clients access to housing, case management support, comprehensive mental health treatment, and substance abuse services "all under one roof."



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

2020: Our Year to Shine

When times are tough, there is only one way to push back the darkness--shine the light of hope. That is exactly what CaringWorks did in 2020. As the dark clouds of illness, loss, economic upheaval, and social injustice threatened to darken our world, the light of our mission shone brighter than ever.

We quickly adapted and even increased our efforts to provide access to housing and services, serving more clients than ever before. Instead of scaling back, we doubled-down. We expanded our staff, and launched new programs such as RISE Fulton, a permanent supportive housing

for senior women and MOVE DeKalb, a program serving single mothers with children

And as the pandemic highlighted systemic racial inequities, we seized the opportunity to do more to bring these issues to light. Through SPARC, a collaboration of providers and funders focused on racial equity, CaringWorks helped enlighten our entire philanthropic community with training on the challenges that racism plays in perpetuating homelessness in Atlanta.

Moving forward into 2021, we are committed to reducing health inequities, particularly

by providing access to behavioral health services to low-income citizens – even those who are uninsured.

We are also prioritizing community engagement through our ASPIRE program by empowering everyone we serve with improved access to voting, vaccines, education, and volunteerism.

2020 tested everyone. It challenged our systems. Shuffled our processes. And shook up the norm. The world has changed and this is our chance to write a new story. We invite you to help us claim this moment. For all those who care, it's time to shine.



CAROL S. COLLARD
PhD, LMSW

"The darker the night, the brighter the stars."

- Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Crime and Punishment*

No One Should Be Homeless. Homelessness remains an urgent issue in the metropolitan Atlanta area.

You can make a difference today. We rely on your generous support to enable and expand our work - and our work has shown that through permanent supportive housing and individualized care, over 90% of the men and women we serve can escape homelessness and lead healthy, productive lives. Please consider a donation to help end homelessness.

WWW.CARINGWORKSINC.ORG/DONATE/



CARINGWORKS IMPACT

A Story of Growth

Founded in 2002, CaringWorks has grown exponentially. In 2020, the agency served over **140** men at Hope House and helped almost **1,100** people in over **20** communities throughout six counties in metropolitan Atlanta. The mission has never changed – CaringWorks enables individuals and families to reach their goals, one person at a time.

631

Household/Families Served

1,096

People Served

90%

Of Clients Remained Stably Housed

15%

Of All Metro-Atlanta Permanent Supportive Housing

65%

Who Left Our Housing Programs Had Stable Income At Exit

87%

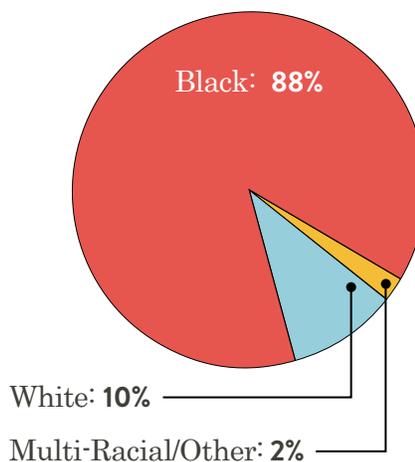
Of Donated Dollars Go To Our Programs (13% Admin Rate in 2020)

CARING DOES WORK

DEMOGRAPHICS

Individuals with disabilities	88%
Chronically homeless	47%
Female	44%
Children (under 18)	22.1%
Adults 18-45	26%
Adults 46-62	46%
Adults over age 62	8%

RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS



WHO WE SERVE



PEOPLE WHO ARE:

- Veterans
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- Formerly Incarcerated/Returning Citizens
- Single Custodial Mothers

PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCE:

- Mental Illness
- HIV/AIDS
- Substance Use Disorders



“

CaringWorks helped me grow to another level in life. It's helped me understand how to deal with life on life's term.

- Martha,
CaringWorks Client

Elevating Lives with ASPIRE

For men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, a common cold quickly becomes pneumonia...undetected high blood pressure becomes a stroke...or untreated diabetes becomes kidney failure. Ultimately, unequal access to healthcare becomes a life cut short--and that is a fact that we simply cannot accept.

At CaringWorks, we aspire to a much higher standard for our clients' well-being. So that's why we are excited to officially launch ASPIRE (Advancing a Supportive Permanent Integrated Residential Experience), a new program aimed at improving the overall health outcomes and quality of life for each of our clients.

The program centers on a customized approach that starts with our in-house nurse meeting with each client to conduct a general health assessment, set health goals, and develop a personal health plan. Then, we come alongside them with services and education to provide access to proper nutrition, exercise, mental health resources, and other positive health-affirming behaviors.



The program also includes an educational component to help clients who want to attain their GED and receive job training, as well as civic outreach including helping them exercise their right to vote. As we leverage our staff expertise and key community resources to

fuel this effort, our goal is to put an end to the devastating waterfall effect of inadequate care and help our clients thrive, not just survive.

And that's a goal to which we can all ASPIRE to.

HOPE HOUSE SPECIFIC STATS

# Men Served	142
Veterans	2%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	6%
HIV/AIDS	9%

“

After months in the Hope House program, we see large and small improvements. We recognize, honor and celebrate every improvement our clients make. Anything is possible.”

- Makoto Ikegami, CaringWorks
ASL - Therapist for the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing Homeless
Program at Hope House



COVID Can't Stop Them

In the heat of the pandemic, our homeless community struggled to cope with devastating economic pressures, physical challenges, and behavioral health needs. But CaringWorks was there to respond. We did not slow down or stop any services. In fact, we were able to increase services like food distribution and financial support to people outside of our normal client base. Public partners like the Community Development departments of Fulton and DeKalb Counties as well as private partners (United Way,

Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, and individual donors) worked together to ensure that **we helped over 500 families avoid hunger, homelessness, and isolation.**

At every turn, we rose to the challenge. Carol Collard, our President and CEO, says, “I’m so proud of our team who relentlessly pursued better ways to do the work, to advocate for the vulnerable among us, and most importantly, to show that caring does work. Nothing can stop us from caring, not even COVID-19.”

CARINGWORKS STORY

From ‘On the Brink’ to Graduate

We want to share some of the many success stories of our Caring Works clients. One of those inspiring stories is Wytheria. Wytheria went from the brink of homelessness in September 2020 and with a little support, six months later, found employment with Michelin Tires. She and her two teenage boys moved into stable, independent, unsubsidized housing.

With just three months of housing assistance and supportive services, Wytheria graduated from the Georgia Piedmont College Industrial Maintenance Program. She

received her Pre-Apprentice Certification with distinguished honors – she earned the Horace J. Johnson Leadership Award. Horace J. Johnson was a judge in Newton County who died in July 2020. According to a longtime friend, attorney Michael Geoffrey, the judge was “someone who effected change from behind the scenes. It was always with a smiling nudge and a gentle push.” Ms. Harriet will no doubt carry on the legacy left by Judge Johnson. She has been an inspiration to the Caring Works team and her peers.



Veteran-Father-Mason

We recently lost one of our most beloved clients, Dwayne “Mohawk” Smith. His brave battle with cancer in recent months was a powerful reminder of the indomitable spirit that he displayed in the face of life’s toughest challenges. He had a special place in his heart for those battling addiction—a battle that he had valiantly fought and overcome in his own life.

Dwayne carried the emotional wounds and post-traumatic stress that many of our veterans encounter and eventually succumbed to a struggle with substance abuse and homelessness that lasted for a number of years.

Dwayne applied to Project Open Arms (now CaringWorks RISE VA), a HUD permanent supportive housing program for veterans with substance use disorder, mental health issues, or medical disabilities. Shortly after gaining sobriety, Dwayne began attending daily Substance Disorder Treatment meetings at DeKalb Addiction Center and found a sponsor who would remain in that role until Dwayne’s passing.

Just three years later, Dwayne had completely turned his life around. That’s when he decided that he wanted to give back and use his experience with addiction to help others in recovery. He began leading meetings, serving as a sponsor, and studying to become a licensed Peer Support Specialist and Certified Addiction Counselor. By 2016, DeKalb Addiction Center had hired Dwayne to teach addiction classes and operate as a peer support.

Eventually, Dwayne went on to work for Blue



Point Healthcare as a Certified Peer Support Specialist/Case Manager, and he remained employed there until his passing. Dwayne was known and loved throughout the recovery community for his compassion and positivity. He leaves behind the enduring legacy of a large network of overcomers who he counseled, befriended, and encouraged.

‘Don’t Be Ashamed to Ask for Help’

Shane is one of our most inspiring success stories. He is a graduate of our Deaf Program.

Shane came to CaringWorks in 2015 but was not ready to fully commit. He found his way back in 2016, committed himself to make the right choices, and to not let anything or anyone stop him from succeeding. He is one of our 2020 Hope House Heroes and describes CaringWorks as “a bridge to build your structure for success and your future hopes.” Shane advises, “Don’t be ashamed to ask for help. The world out there is tough.” Shane has gone on to help others through the inspiration he received from the CaringWorks Team.



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CARINGWORKS

Our Housing Programs

CaringWorks provides integrated housing, health and care coordination for men, women and children throughout the metropolitan Atlanta area. The agency serves individuals who are living with disabilities such as mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

ASPIRE

Integrated health and wellness for residents

MOVE

Supportive, affordable housing and services for women and children

RISE

Supportive, affordable housing and services for adults

RISE VA DeKalb

Supportive affordable housing and services for male and female Veterans

DeKalb Bridge

Transitional housing and services for DeKalb families

RISE VA Clayton

Supportive, affordable housing and services for Clayton residents

Behavioral Health

Outpatient psychiatric services, individual and group counseling for individuals with mental health and substance use disorder

Hope House

Residential treatment and services for men

Deaf Services

One of only three residential treatment programs in the country for men who are deaf or hard of hearing



Thank You

To Idea Associates, Inc for the design of the annual report and their on-going support.

CaringWorks

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Thank You to Our Donors

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Donation list as of December 2020

The Cost of Homelessness

The bonus of CaringWorks' solution to end homelessness is not just a cost savings but ultimately the addition of contributing members to the community. CaringWorks' residents work, pay taxes, rent apartments, purchase groceries, volunteer, and join faith-based organizations. They are good neighbors and good friends. Many try to help and inspire others who are still working their way out of homelessness.

Don't do anything
\$40,000
annually

Jail
\$21,000
annually

CaringWorks
\$13,725
annually

Self-sufficiency
\$0
annually

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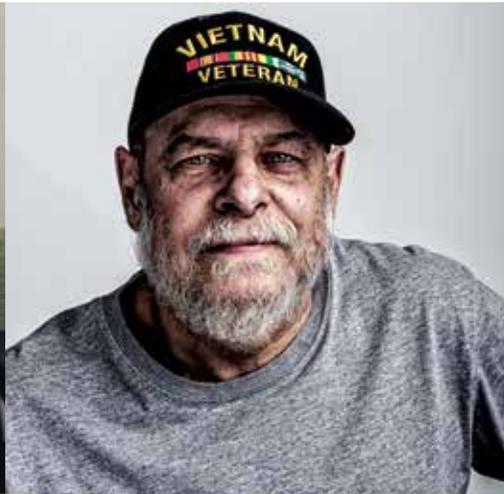
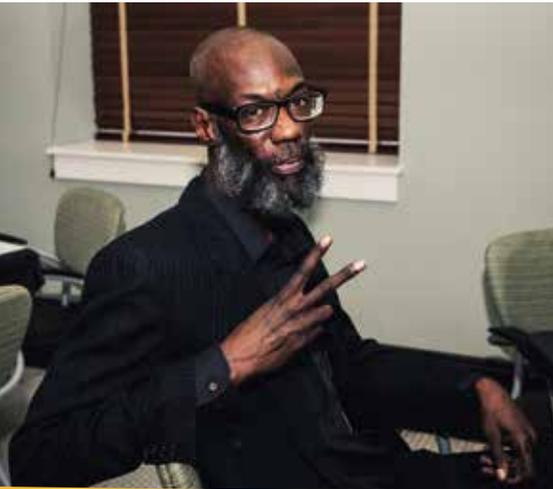
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GA Department of Behavioral Health
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Veterans Affairs

Donation list as of December 2020

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ONE PERSON AT A TIME!



“ They gave me another chance. Even after I relapsed, they were still there for me. They showed me love. I’m learning to feel some of the feelings I coped with by using drugs. I’m accountable. I am able to have a network of people to talk to.”

- Steven B, CaringWorks Client