# UPWARD INWARD OUTWARD FORWARD

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



# MISSION & WISION OF ECM MISSION & WISION MISSION

Buckhead Christian Ministry (BCM) provides life-changing services for individuals and families experiencing various stages of hunger or homelessness in Atlanta.



Vision

A community free of hunger and homelessness.

# Letter from the President & CEO



October 1, 2019

#### Friends:

In 2018, BCM looked Upward. As the new President and CEO, prayerful supplication for guidance and support seemed to be the best strategy-and it worked! As we close fiscal year 2019 and envision the year ahead, I am exhorting BCM's staff, volunteers, donors, board members, and even program participants to look *Inward*. This past year, BCM reached all our growth goals, doubling both emergency financial assistance and the Foundation 3 housing program, and tripling *Budget for Life*<sup>™</sup>. We also began the processes of expanding Buckhead THRIFTique and renovating the food pantry, both of which will be completed in the coming year. Such Upward trajectory is exciting-it motivates staff, volunteers, and donors; it gets our first-in-class programs into the lives of more community members. At the same time, such growth requires reflection and introspection. BCM is beginning to perceive its potential for extraordinary results, but we want to make sure we know what positive change we are truly seeking and how best

to realize it. Aristotle said, "Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom." So, as we celebrate the tremendous accomplishments of FY2019, which you will read about in this annual report, I invite you to join me and all of BCM in keeping with this advice so that we may discern our highest and best purpose as a ministry and social service provider. In a prosperous community like ours, there is no excuse for hard-working residents to struggle to meet basic needs, live paycheck to paycheck, and teeter on-or fall over-the precipice of housing and food insecurity. Therefore, we must take the time to deeply discern how we as a ministry, a city, and a faith community are going to fully live out the calling to love our neighbors as ourselves. This year, join BCM as we look Inward so that by knowing ourselves we will make the wisest decisions for the community we serve.

Thank you for a fantastic FY2019. I look forward to serving with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Keeva Kase

# **BCM Welcomes a New Board Chair**

Shirley Davis, a first generation immigrant from New Zealand to the United States, has a natural affinity for serving others, which has been made clear through both her professional life and her extensive leadership within BCM. Before starting her own legal consulting company, Shirley trained as a Critical Care Nurse and worked at Emory for years, attending to the needs of countless patients. She is also a past President of the American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants and helped author one of the first textbooks published on legal consulting.



Shirley is a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church, where she serves on the Session. She joined The Seeds of Change Society in 2013, which she would later chair for two consecutive years. Since then, her involvement with BCM has consisted of mentoring eight clients as a coach in the *Budget for Life™* program, serving on the Board since 2016, and chairing the Development Committee, prior to being named the Board Chair. Shirley is a woman on a mission, and we're thankful that BCM is the mission she's accepted the call to help lead.

## Shirley Davis, Board Chair

"Buckhead Christian Ministry is there for those who need emergency assistance in the worst of times and for others who want to become self-sufficient for life through our *Budget for Life*<sup>™</sup> and *Foundation 3* programs. It is wonderful to be a part of a life-changing ministry!"

# **BCM BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Donna Barwick Attorney

Elizabeth Bresnahan iBERIABANK

**David Burge** Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP

Judy Burge Orchard

Jamie Butler Atlanta Metropolitan State College

Terry Clements Equifax

William deButts Edge Cap Partners

**Rev. William Givens** Buckhead Baptist Church **Sharmeen Hawkins** Paragon Pinnacle Restaurant Group

**Titania Jordan** Bark.us

**Pat Meadors** Piedmont Hospital

**Araya Mesfin** UBS

**F. Keene Miller** Ackerman & Co.

Diane Moffett Community Volunteer

**Stephen Newland** North Point Community Church

Sadler Norris Benefit Communications, Inc. Linda Outlaw Hewlett-Packard, Retired

Bert Ponder Merrill Private Wealth Management

Michael Rich Emory University

John Shepard ZWJ Investment Counsel

Rosie Stokes Community Volunteer

Laura Warren Community Volunteer

Athalie White Millions of Tiny Robots

# INITIATE

# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

BCM helps people in crisis meet their basic needs by providing food, clothing, employment support, and financial assistance paying rent, mortgage, or utility bills.



12,169 BAGS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED





THANK YOU for your prompt assistance during my time of need. Words can't express how much the rental assistance program helped my children and I. May God continue to bless you, the organization, and the people that contribute to you.

> - an Emergency Assistance client to their case manager



Volunteers from Salem Bible Church visited the renovated food pantry to shelve and organize donations.

#### Dear BCM + MS. Trazier,

Thank you SO MUCH! Your financial assistance, guidance & encouragement his hulped me tremendously! We all fail down sometimes due to various circumsonis, but as long as we keep striving to git back up... there will be better days anced is you all have helped me get back up. Forever Gratebul,

Regina

# INGRAIN

# FOUNDATION 3

By supporting *Foundation 3*, you help working families experiencing homelessness find hope through safe housing, stable employment, and education.









Bethany and her two children entered the Foundation 3 program in August 2018. Shortly afterwards, she was involved in a car accident, which left her with a totaled car and accident-related injuries that prevented her from working for several weeks. Consequently, she lost her job as a waitress and was without income for three months, despite having applied for a number of jobs. She eventually took a job that paid well, but which was not on a bus line. Because of this, she quickly accumulated inordinate monthly transportation expenses related to work and childcare. In June, Bethany's case manager referred her to a foundation that gifts select applicants with a safe, reliable, and debt-free used automobile. She was selected to receive the gift based on her application and determination. The gift of a car will permit Bethany to have renewed independence and increased income.

All quotes, stories, and photos are real. Names have been changed to protect the privacy of our clients.

# INVOLVE EVENTS

Budget for Life<sup>™</sup> June Graduation Celebration, Tee it Up golf tournament, The Seeds of Change Society Member Luncheon, and the Volunteer Appreciation Brunch.

### BUDGET FOR LIFE™ JUNE GRADUATION CELEBRATION

The Budget for Life™ graduation celebrates how a community can come together to share life experiences, help each other grow, and develop financial skills that can change the future of families' financial wealth.

> -Michelle Ramirez, Director of Financial Education



Bruce Demps, Budget for Life<sup>™</sup> Instructor, a Budget for Life<sup>™</sup> graduate, and Shelley Payne, Budget for Life<sup>™</sup> Specialist.





Participants of the 2018 Tee it Up Golf Tournament, including Co-Chairs Sadler Norris and Jason Campbell.

BCM'S Tee it Up Golf Tournament continues to serve as a major fundraising event for the ministry. We have a wonderful venue in Peachtree Golf Club and a loyal group of sponsors whose donations help make a positive impact in the lives of many Atlanta families.

- Sadler Norris, Tournament Chair





Keeva Kase and Seeds Chair Cynthia Harris.



"Over the years, I have seen The Seeds of Change Society provide invaluable support to many BCM programs through both financial gifts and volunteer participation. I have enjoyed being a part of a group of women who are dedicated to not only financially assisting those in need but are also dedicated to serving them as volunteers within the organization."

- Seeds member Laura Warren

### **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BRUNCH**

On November 10, 2018, BCM hosted its first Volunteer Appreciation Brunch at the InterContinental Buckhead. The event featured the talents of the Harlem Globetrotters and recognized the years of service of BCM's beloved volunteers.



A member of the Harlem Globetrotters with Board and Seeds of Change member Laura Warren.



Seeds of Change members Lori Mayfield, Christy Roberts, and Diane Moffett.



Volunteers Jahnetta Williams, Evelyn Kemp and guest Barbara Jackson Dixon.

I've been a part of the BCM family for almost two years since relocating from NYC and it has been an enriching experience since day one.

*– Jahnetta Williams,* THRIFT*ique volunteer* 

2019 Seeds Keynote Speaker, Michelle Littles, a *Foundation 3* participant.

# INVALUABLE

# VOLUNTEERS

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS in FY19: **650** Volunteers that served individually: **197** Volunteers that served as a group: **453** 

### Volunteer hours per program in FY19













"I am forever grateful for the opportunity to arrive at THRIFT*ique* and meet and greet someone who desires my assistance or opinion on their selections. I always leave knowing that another satisfied customer has come and gone!"

- Volunteer Evelyn Kemp

# ÎNTEGRATE

# UNITED IN MINISTRY

BCM was founded by six Buckhead-area churches, and is today a cooperative ministry of more than 30 churches joined in mission, vision, and ministry.

- Atlanta Christian Church Brookhaven Baptist Church Brookhaven Presbyterian Church Buckhead Baptist Church Buckhead Church Cathedral of Christ the King Cathedral of St. Philip Christ Covenant ChristChurch Presbyterian Church of the Apostles Covenant Presbyterian Church Freedom Fellowship Church
- Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation Holy Spirit Catholic Church Morningside Baptist Church Mount Paran Church of God New Hope AME Northside Church Northside Drive Baptist Church Northwest Presbyterian Church Passion City Church Peachtree Baptist Church Peachtree Church Peachtree Road United Methodist Church
- Saint Anne's Episcopal Church Salem Bible Church Sardis United Methodist Church Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church Skyland United Methodist Church St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church St. James United Methodist Church St. Luke Lutheran Church Trinity Presbyterian Church

### Love Atlanta, an outreach branch of Passion City Church, brought more than 70 volunteers to BCM during their week of service.



# INDEPENDENCE BUDGET FOR LIFE

The 22-week *Budget for Life*<sup>™</sup> program mixes financial classes and one-on-one coaching to help low-income workers avoid eviction and achieve financial strength.



713 TOTAL CASE MANAGEMENT HOURS SPENT



# **Total Amount Put Into Savings: \$66,578**



"Buckhead Christian Ministry has helped me to get my life back on track. The staff, instructors, and volunteers were very helpful and gave me the support I needed in order to learn how to budget and save. Although it was a challenge when I first started the program, throughout the months, it became easier. All I can say is **thank you.**"

-Melanie B.

# INSPIRED B

# HERE I STAND



The eldest of seven, Cynthia Crisp is no stranger to hardship. As a child, she bounced between two vastly different lifestyles: one with her mother and six younger siblings living on welfare in "one of the most dangerous and notorious projects in Chicago," the other with her father, a TV and movie writer who created three well-known sitcoms and one hit movie in Hollywood. The life she lived with her father, however, was equally as nefarious as the projects. No "lesser of the two evils" here.

As an adult, after withstanding the challenges of living in crimeriddled Chicago and walking away from a 21-year marriage, she became a single mother of three. To protect her youngest daughter from gang violence, Cynthia resigned from her salaried position at a major bank and moved first to Nevada and then to Atlanta to begin a new journey as a supervisor for Sam's

Club for three years. Later, as a newly hired manager for their competitor, just two weeks in, she was faced with another major decision and, again, chose to put her family first. She walked away from her new job and spent four months helping her son recover from emergency open-heart surgery.

When she returned to Atlanta, she found work as a temp for different government agencies, but with the inconsistent pay, she fell behind in rent. That's when she first turned to BCM for rental assistance. However, a six-month period of stagnancy made it impossible for her to pay her rent and she lost her apartment. She says of this time, **"I couldn't sustain."** 

She began working as a commission-only sales associate at a furniture store the same day she lost her apartment. For four months she lived out of her car, seeking hotels with the best nightly rates. Eventually, she saved up enough to rent an apartment again, but her fluctuating pay tied her to the palpable fear of homelessness. That's when *Budget for Life*<sup>™</sup> interjected and helped her draw closer to her goal of financial stability.

However, even after graduating from the program in June of 2018, Cynthia was still working within the financial restraints of a commission-only job. In order to attain real financial stability, what she really needed was a salaried position. With help from her case manager, Michelle Ramirez, Cynthia landed a job in-house as BCM's Executive Liaison. In less than a year, she transitioned from program client to part of the staff. Cynthia celebrated her one-year anniversary at BCM in September of 2019.

# Through your support of BCM, Cynthia regained the momentum she needed to prosper and inspire others.

Cynthia is a prime example of the challenge we have tasked ourselves with of looking *Inward*. Her commitment to *Budget for Life*<sup>™</sup> required reaching within herself to extract strength and application. Because of her success, we too were able to look *Inward* and hire from within our own four walls.

#### FY19 operating revenue: \$2,784,671

#### 38% 54% 9% 23% 5% 16% 11% 5% 8% 3% 18% 3% 10 20 30 40 10 20 30 40 50 Emergency Assistance & Food Pantry Donations THRIFT*ique* THRIFTique Partner Churches Investment & ■ Budget for Life<sup>™</sup> Other Income In-Kind Donations Foundation 3 Government Volunteer Services Events Total Operating

FY19 brought significant growth to the ministry. The renovation of the food pantry and addition of the position of Food Pantry Manager, coupled with the beginning stages of doubling the square footage of THRIFT*ique*, as well as bringing in a COO, put the operating budget to the test. However, thanks to the backing of generous donors, we finished the year under budget. This degree of financial strength allowed us to begin FY20 with the confidence to both follow through on ongoing projects and approach new opportunities for improvement within our ministry.



"This current expansion at THRIFT*ique* is so exciting and something we're all looking forward to, now that it nears completion. Shoppers are excited to hear we will be able to offer more furniture, decorative items, appliances, books, and electronics. The future looks bright for Buckhead THRIFT*ique*. my very favorite place to volunteer!"

-Meryl Dilcher, THRIFT*ique* volunteer

FY19 operating expenses: \$2,712,186

The Seeds of Change Society

The Seeds of Change Society honors philanthropic women committed to BCM's women and children in crisis by donating \$500 or more per year.

#### Gold

Laura Abernathy Karen Boor Shirley Davis Zandra Horkan Amy Kistulinec Diane Moffett

#### Silver

Beth Abernathy Tammy Kushel Suzanne Masters Lori Mayfield Chelle Pope

#### **Bronze**

Charlotte Beltrami June Bishop Laurie Coleman Valarie Easterling Cindy Ferguson Cynthia Harris Melba Wynn Hill Elizabeth Lear Katherine McMaster Christy Roberts Margot Shuford Ann Strader Holly Street Jean Underwood Lisa Wargo Laura Warren

### Member

Anne Averett Cheryl Balog Janie Barker Wardlyn Bassler Donna Baumstark Elizabeth Beck Gina Boyd Elizabeth Bresnahan Jamie Brownlee Judy Burge Jamie Butler Laura Bynum **Rosalie Castleberry** Anne Connolly **Carla Corley Meredith Daniel** Donna Davidson Lin Daws Janis Day Mervl Dilcher **Elly Dobbs Betsy Dorminy** Elise Drake Nan Easterlin Lenore Egan

**Cindy Ethridge** Pam Fellows Helen French **Katherine Fristoe** Judy Ginn Louise Gracey Pamela Hayes **Brooks Heiser** Lori Heys Angie Hoyt Patti Hudgin **Diane Jones** Elinor Jones Ellen Jones Vivian Jones Jennifer Kahn Becca Kamerschen Lauren Kase Frances Kerr

**Perrin Kibler Bonnie Kimmerly** Nancy MacDonald **Charlotte Margolin** Anne Marin Susan Mason Kim McCollam Joanna McDonald Stacey McGrath Georgeann McGrew Nancy McWilliams Nandy Millner Wendy Moore Bridget O'Donnell Susan O'Farrel Julie Ostrowski **Carolyn Patterson** Marianna Patterson Nancy Patterson

**Amv Pauls** Susan Peterson Mary Gilbreath Pope Stephanie Quattlebaum Helen Rossetti Susan Roush Peggy Shepard Mary Kelly Speed **Rosie Stokes** Holly Stroud Carol Terry Chris Testani Stacev Triesch Linda Wessels Henny Whelchel Marion Williams Angela Williamson Jennifer Wood Michele Woodroof



# THE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

The President's Circle is a council of men and women committed to BCM's vision. Members provide strategic guidance, access to personal networks, and resource development.

| <b>Robert Shuford</b><br>Co-Chair | Jamie Brownlee   | Suzanne Masters    | Solon Patterson        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
|                                   | Rebecca Clements | Lori Mayfield      | <b>Christy Roberts</b> |
| <b>Margot Shuford</b><br>Co-Chair | Bob Cramer       | Diane Moffett      | Mark Roberts           |
| Beth Abernathy                    | Carl Drake       | Wendy Moore        | Jean Underwood         |
| Brent Adams                       | Pete Green       | Craig Mullins      | Stephanie Yates        |
| Rev. Bill Britt                   | Melba Hill       | Sadler Norris      | Whit Yates             |
| Mike Brown                        | Susan Mason      | Marianna Patterson |                        |

## DONORS

#### 100,000 + - (100,000.00 +)

Buckhead Church Fulton County Department of Community Development Ann and Bob Holder The Waterfall Foundation, Inc. The Zeist Foundation, Inc.

#### \$50,000 - \$99,999 - (\$50,000.00 + )

The Atlanta Women's Foundation Tammie & Mike Brown Peachtree Presbyterian Church Penny Hill Impact Fund

#### \$25,000 - \$49,999 - (\$25,000.00 + )

**Elizabeth Grisham Brown** Benevolent Fund Cathedral of Christ the King The Cathedral of St. Philip Holy Spirit Catholic Church Angle and William Hovt Northside Church Hallie and John Olsen Peachtree Road **United Methodist Church Piedmont Healthcare** Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church Peggy and John Shepard The Patterson Family Foundation **Trinity Presbyterian Church** United Way of Greater Atlanta, Inc. Emily and Derik VanVleet

#### \$15,000 - \$24,999 - (\$15,000.00 + )

The Ammon Foundation Jackson Spalding United Way Directed Gifts Wieuca Road Baptist Church ZWJ Investment Counsel

#### \$10,000 - \$14,999 - (\$10,000.00 + )

Anonymous (2) David Borland The Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Foundation Char-Griller Covenant Presbyterian Church Beth and Tommy Holder Order of St. Lazarus Cecelia and David Ratcliffe Jessica and Chris Reichart Lindsay and Gordon Williams The Emily Winship Scott Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999 - (\$5,000.00 + )

Laura and Robert Abernathy Akers Foundation, Inc. Anonymous (2) Karen and Steve Boor Elizabeth and John Bresnahan Builder's Insurance Group **Cunningham Associates Heating** & Air Conditioning Shirley and Michael Davis Kappy and William deButts Ramona Dickson and James Hipple Elise and Carl Drake Nan and Ed Easterlin John and Mary Franklin Foundation, Inc. The Evelvn and Frank Gordy Foundation Lara and Sam Holmes **IBERIABANK** Ida Alice Ryan Charitable Trust Intercontinental Hotel Buckhead Amy and Mark Kistulinec Mary Ryan and Henry G. Kuhrt Foundation Laura and Craig Mullins Lori and Ric Mayfield Amber McElduff **Diane and Matt Moffett** Sadler Norris Northside Drive Baptist Church Northwest Presbyterian Church **PFW Advisors LLC** Rheem Manufacturing Securian Financial Group **TD** Ameritrade **VOYA** Financial Wells Fargo Foundation Jodie Williams and Don Shaw Frances Wood Wilson Foundation

**\$2,500 - \$4,999 - (\$2,500.00 + )** Dr. Andrew and Beth Abernathy Jamie Brownlee and David Russell Linda and Andrew Bruner Buckhead Lions Club Atlanta Foundation Judy Burge Karen and Thomas Carroll Susan and Thomas Carroll The Catholic Foundation of North Georgia, Inc. ChristChurch Presbyterian The Cobb Community Foundation Meredith and Billy Daniel Leslie Diehl **Evergreen Construction Brooks and Craig Heiser** Lori and Edward Hevs Patricia and Henry Holder **Cindy and John Ethridge** Tammy and Glenn Kushel Thomas H. Lanier Family Foundation Dr. Deborah Lee and John Peifer Suzanne and Michael Masters Ryan McWilliams and Michael McWilliams Carter and Bill Monroe Wendy and William Moore Mount Paran Church of God Linda Outlaw and David Kitchens Piedmont Charitable Foundation, Inc. Bert and Rhonda Ponder **Chelle Pope** Christy and Mark Roberts Vonda and Craig Shoemaker Margot and Robert Shuford Todd Shutley St. James United Methodist Church **Rosie and William Stokes** Janie and James Stratigos The Tull Charitable Foundation Thomas H. Pitts Trust Laura and Eugene Warren Kay and Bob Younglove

### \$1,000 - \$2,499 - (\$1,000.00 + )

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Lisa and Joseph Aultman Leigh Ann and Tim Avres Anne Averett Kelly Basinger Ellen and Duncan Beard Elizabeth and Andy Beck Berman Greater Good Endowment Fund June Bishop Gail Brackett **Buckhead Rotary Foundation** Sally and David Burge Sara Jean and Fred Burke Jamie Butler Jason Campbell **Casal Family Fund** Janet M. Chapman Kelly and James Chasteen Christ Covenant Buckhead Corporation Elaine and Thomas Christopher Rev. James A. Clark **CLC Foundation Inc. Rebecca and Terry Clements** Betty Jean and William Cole Laurie and Ronald Coleman Sally and Bob Cramer **Colleen and Brad Crosby** Susan Daffer Charlotte and Dave Beltrami Sherri and John Dickens Meryl Dilcher **Discovery Class of** Peachtree Presbyterian Church Ms. Susan K. DiZerega Valarie and James Easterling Dr. Burton and Jennifer Evans **Cindy and John Ferguson** Stacy and Ted French Linda and Daniel Gerding Judy and Bill Ginn Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation Cynthia and Greg Harris Susan and Scott Hawkins Margaret and Rodger Herndon Melba and William Hill Melanie and Howard Hong

Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document. If we have omitted anyone or made any errors, please accept our sincere apologies and contact **development@bcmatlanta.org** so that we may correct our records.

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### **BCM's LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS**

BCM's Legacy Society is comprised of individuals who have generously included BCM in their estate planning.

#### **MEMBERS:**

Dr. Andrew & Beth Abernathy Dr. Emile T. Fisher Stephen & Rachel Newland Christy & Mark Roberts Margot & Robert Shuford





# **Looking Inward**

Last year, we set our sights on projects and growth. This year, we began to look *Inward*, a strategy we believe will optimize our *Outward* trajectory. We're looking to streamline our services, communications, and goals, and have concluded that, in order to transform, we must transcend the conditioned boundaries of our thinking. BCM believes that we have been called to reflect inwardly so that we may perfect our services outwardly. Our goals for FY2020 are:

- Complete and implement a new strategic plan
- Launch a modernized and unified *Budget for Life*<sup>™</sup> course
- Unveil an expanded and contemporized THRIFTique
- Implement "client-choice" technology and fresh foods in the food pantry



### Leave Your Legacy with BCM

Including a gift to Buckhead Christian Ministry in your will or living trust allows you to offer future support without giving up assets today. You can leave us a specific asset, a specific dollar amount, or a percentage of the residual in your estate.

- Yes! I put BCM in my estate plan already contact me for the details.
- Ok, I'll think about it contact me because I have questions.

Your name:

Email address:

Please mail to Buckhead Christian Ministry 2847 Piedmont Rd. NE Atlanta, GA 30305 or email **BCMLegacySociety@bcmatlanta.org**