The Greg Ellis Center

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2010 Newsletter - Summer Edition

Together we can make a difference in our community - one family at a time.



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Contact Information

Shirley Cabe Executive Director

The Norcross Cooperative Ministry (NCM), Inc. *The Greg Ellis Center* 2275 Mitchell Road Norcross, GA 30071

> Business Office: 770-263-0013

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1489 Norcross, GA 30091

Email: info@norcrossco-op.org

Website:

www.norcrossco-op.org

The "Power of One" Captures the Hearts of Many

In last year's annual report, we shared NCM's vision for 2010 — the "*Power of One*." What started in the heart of one person as an ideal for compassion and unity is transforming the hearts of many in our Norcross community.

One by one people of all ages and all walks of life are proving that there truly is power in the concept of "**ONE**." It isn't a new notion, by any means, and perhaps that is why it is capturing the

hearts of so many. It is a simple idea that says there is energy and influence when one person performs one act, or one group of people come together for one purpose helping those in need.

As you will see within this newsletter, even the smallest act of compassion from the smallest individual can make a huge difference for families in our community.

The "*Power of One*" is a model of hope that says we

NCM Statistics: Jan-April 2010

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Between January and April, NCM continued to serve record numbers through its many programs.

During this time, NCM served:

- 3,891 Families
- 906 New Families (23%)
- 12,392 Individuals
- 6,304 Adults
- 5,819 Children
- 269 Seniors

In addition, NCM:

- Distributed over <u>11,400 bags of food</u>.
- Allocated over \$222,576 in financial assistance.
- Contributed over **8,600 volunteer hours**.
- Assisted <u>40 homeless families</u> with case management totaling <u>117 weeks of temporary lodging</u>
- Provided extensive case management to <u>20 families</u> at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
 Received **162** Job Ministry service requests.



don't have to do it alone we simply need to do our part. Then, together with the efforts of others like us, we can and will make a difference in our community — one family at a time.

Critical Needs List

NCM is in critical need of the following items:

- Canned Meat
- Cereal
- Diapers (Large Sizes)
- Jelly
- Juice
- Peanut Butter
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Spaghetti Sauce

Items can be dropped off at NCM during normal donation times. (See back page for details.)



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"One" Passionate Group of 'Kids on Mission' for NCM



Meet Mitchell Whisonant-- an energetic ten year old with a real passion for serving others.

While Mitchell might not be big in size, he sure is in heart. You see, he and his friends in the

children's ministry of One Heart Church have been busy over the past six months helping families in Norcross.

In November of last year, Mitchell and his friends helped stock the NCM pantry shelves with food items collected during a church-wide food drive. This included over 200 bags of food.

In March of this year, Mitchell's "Kids on Mission" team put together 75

2010 Recap of Events

Feb 25 - Annual Pastor's Breakfast: For clergy representing NCM's 22 member churches and multiple supporting churches.

April 10 - City of Norcross Recycling Day & Food Drive: NCM received 400 lbs of food and a \$200 check from this event.

April 17 - Corners to Crossing 10k & 5k Runs & Music Fest: NCM was a beneficiary of this annual event.

April 24 - USDA Food Distribution: Joint effort between NCM, the Atlanta Community Food Bank and Nordson Corporation and spearheaded by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Distributed over 60,000 pounds of food to over 700 families.

April 26-30 - National Volunteer Appreciation Week: All week long NCM honored the hundreds of volunteers who work to keep the organization running on a daily basis.

May 8 - Stamp Out Hunger: The National Association of Letter Carriers held its largest annual one-day food drive. NCM received over 8.000 lbs of food from the Norcross and Peachtree Corners Post Offices. May 8th

personal hygiene kits for homeless families, 50 tea bag sets, 40 bags of laundry detergent, 22 bags of rice and 12 bags of coffee. Just recently, the kids in first grade through third grade collected 11 bags of food in their Sunday School classes.

It is amazing what the power of one group of compassionate kids can do simply because they care for our community.

NCM would like to personally thank the kids of One Heart Church for

their passion and love for the families who are living in Norcross.

We'd also like to invite other area children and youth groups to join Mitchell and his friends in this important work. They are proving that it's not the size of your stature

that matters, but the size of your heart and your willingness to give it away!

Together, with kids like Mitchell and his friends. we are making a difference in Norcross - one family at a time.



Carson Coles Stocking the NCM Pantry Shelves

This is the "Power of One."



NCM'S New Executive Board

In February, NCM elected a new executive board:

Co-Presidents

Jesse Joyner, Peachtree Corners Church of Christ Jack Lane, Perimeter Church

Co-Vice Presidents

Cyndy Franklin, Peachtree Corners Presbyterian Marsha White, Peachtree Corners Presbyterian

Co-Secretaries

Cathy Freeman, Christ the King Lutheran Ellen Queen, John Wesley United Methodist

Co-Treasurers

Donna Galucki, Johns Creek United Methodist Jim Sampson, Simpsonwood United Methodist

NCM's Stewardship Policy

Our responsibility is to be good stewards of the resources donated to NCM. To achieve that goal, we have policies and procedures in place to allow for smooth operation, fair distribution of limited resources, and the prevention of client fraud and abuse.

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UPCOMING NCM EVENTS

Vacation Bible School

During the week of June 7th, Peachtree Corners Christian Church will host a fun Vacation Bible School at NCM. The theme this year is "Baobab

Blast." The Baobab tree is the largest tree in Africa and is called the "Tree of Life" because it provides shelter, food and water for both humans and animals of the African savannah.

This program is free of charge for children ages 4-12, and they can come any day or every day to enjoy arts and crafts, games, snacks, music and more.

Kids will learn Bible stories each day that center on the principles of trust, love, following and care. Join us!



Life" because it provides shelter, food and water for both humans and animals of the African savannah.	each day that center on the principles of trust, love, fol- lowing and care. Join us!		Mon Tues	Mon (6/7) Tues (6/8)	FOR THE WEEK 10:00 am - Noon 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm 10:00 am - Noon
NOTE: Parents must remain at NCM while the	school		(/	10:00 am - Noon	

10th Annual NCM CareerFest

CareerFest, now celebrating its tenth year, is a co-sponsored event between the Norcross Cooperative Ministry, Georgia Department of Labor- Gwinnett & Norcross First United Methodist Church. This four-hour event is more than just a job fair! Our goal is to serve the whole person by providing career resources, as well as access to community programs that meet the individual's personal needs.

This year, career professionals will be on hand to assist job seekers in resume preparation, interviewing skills, job leads, career assessments, appropriate business attire, budgeting, special skills training and education advancement. There will also be service providers representing agencies that assist clients with food, clothing, housing, childcare, financial assistance and healthcare services.

CareerFest 2010 will be held on Thursday, July 15th from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm at Norcross First United Methodist Church located at 2500 Beaver Ruin Road in Norcross. This event is free to the community, and there will be a special hour set aside at midday to help encourage and empower job seekers. Join us!

If you would like to volunteer, register your company to participate or would like more information, please contact Leslie at 770-263-0013 or send an email to: jobministry@norcrossco-op.org.

NCM is in need of business attire, accessories and shoes (men & women) for a special pre-CareerFest client event. If you would like to donate items, please contact us.

"Back-to-School" Supply Collection Campaign

Each year, NCM helps the children in Norcross start their school year off right. Last year we distributed over 700 book bags. This year our goal is 950. You can help us by generously donating items from the lists below. Supplies are needed by July 15, 2010, and can be dropped off at NCM during normal donation times.

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Items For High/Middle School

- Backpack Style Book Bags
- Hard Cover Composition Notebooks
- 1" and 2" Three-Ring Binders
- Wide-Ruled Notebook Paper
- College-Ruled Notebook Paper
- Pencils and Pens / Colored Pencils
- Spiral Notebooks
- Graph Paper

Items For Elementary School

- Backpack Style Book Bags
- Wide-Ruled Notebook Paper
- Crayons
- Pencils and Pens
- Colored Pencils
- Spiral Notebooks
- 2 Pocket Folders with Brads
- Markers

Have questions? Want to support our back to school efforts? Send an email to: backtoschool@norcrossco-op.org. To download a full-page flyer or to get more information, visit www.norcrossco-op.org.

How Can You Join our "Power of One" Movement?

DONATE RESOURCES: NCM gratefully accepts:

- **Food**: Non-perishable food items
- <u>Clothing</u>: New or gently used
- <u>Financial</u>: Credit Card payments (via our web site) or check made payable to NCM
- <u>Matching Funds</u>: Check with your company's Human Resources Department for details
- <u>Other</u>: New/gently used toys, linens, small kitchen items, baby items, toiletries, school supplies, new/unwrapped Christmas gifts, and recycled shopping bags.

Donation Hours:	Monday-F		
	Tuesday		
	Saturday		

ay-Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm ay 9:00 am - 8:00 pm lay 10:00 am - Noon VOLUNTEER WITH US: NCM volunteer opportunities include:

- <u>Client Assistance Volunteers & Translators</u>: Mon, Wed & Fri (10:00am-2pm); Tues (6:00pm-8:00pm) & Saturday (10am-Noon)
- <u>Warehouse, Clothes Closet, Office & Special Projects</u>: Mon through Fri (9:00am-4:00pm)
- Job Ministry: Flexible Hours. Assistance is needed with calling clients, researching job leads, preparing resumes (developing, editing and proofing), and keeping the NCM job information board up-todate. We are also looking for business professionals willing to share their expertise in a one-on-one or workshop setting.
- <u>Praver Partners</u>: We need compassionate individuals who will pray for the needs of our clients. We have a prayer request box and we can email prayer concerns to prayer warriors weekly.

NOTE: <u>NCM is not able to accept</u> furniture, mattresses, computer equipment, TVs, stereos, etc.



By working together, with one unwavering purpose and one bond of unity, we can not only meet the demands of immediate crises, but we can provide programs that will transform the lives of the families we serve for many years to come. Through the POWER OF ONE, we believe that greater things are yet to come for our community. Please join us!

OUR MISSION:

Helping those in crisis by collaborating with the community to offer programs and services that transform lives through the love of Christ.

> PERMIT NO. 651 PERMIT NO. 651

US POSTAGE PAID

NONPROFIT ORG

One smile to encourage the hopeless. One prayer to lift a burden. One willing heart to volunteer. One business to donate resources. One woman living in one neighborhood to hold a coat drive. One committed church to answer God's call to serve. One body of compassionate individuals to care for our community – one family at a time.

> Norcross Cooperative Ministry The Greg Ellis Center 2275 Mitchell Road Norcross, GA 30071



Caring for the Community YOTCOSE COOPERINE Jiin NCM The Greg Ellis Center