



We believe
in making
a difference

Extraordinary

Times
Stories
Partnerships
People

2021 Annual Report

Because One Matters
was founded to help
foster children and
young adults
navigate these
extraordinary times.



Letter from Andrea

The challenges brought on by the past year have been described in many ways: unprecedented, historic, unforgettable. But when you think about all that's happened and how our donor and volunteer community, our foster families, and the talented young people moving forward with their lives have navigated this past year together, it is nothing short of extraordinary.

Our fiscal year began last January amidst global uncertainty, as the COVID-19 pandemic continuously reshaped how goods and services are delivered and how we go about our daily lives. So many uncertainties made it clear that the status quo was no longer acceptable. We had to step up and step out to make an impact. And guess what? With your help, we did it!

This past year we launched our mentorship program for high school and college students. We believe that education is essential for financial and personal success. However, statistics have shown that students from communities and homes with economic disparities lack access to the same opportunities as their more affluent peers. Thank you to everyone who signed up to be a mentor. With your guidance, they will be more fully prepared to win opportunities that may have otherwise been closed to them.

Our 2021 Back to School Extravaganza was another huge success. Volunteers and donors made back to school the fun event it should be by donating schools supplies and their valuable time to the children, youth, and parents who joined us for this special day. On behalf of all of them, thank you.

Last year we held our first-ever Fitness Fun Day hosted by Total Body Recall Fitness and M&M Fitness Factory. Proceeds from the Fitness Fun Day helped support our 5th Annual Home for The Holidays event. This event serves youths in the YESS4Youth Independent Living Program. We want to thank all the volunteers who supported the Fitness Fun Day fundraiser, those who donated and everyone who helped make Home for The Holidays a huge success.

In 2022, we plan to continue building upon the Mentorship Program and further extend our outreach in the communities we serve. We hope you will continue on this journey with us.

Thank you for your continued support,

Andrea

Andrea Barclay
Founder & CEO
Because One Matters

We have so many inspiring and extraordinary stories to share.



Building Futures — ONE LIFE AT A TIME

Gratitude!



Gratitude is a word used to express thankfulness and praise. The Bible teaches us about the power of having a grateful heart. A general attitude of thanksgiving in both the trials and blessings of life distinguishes the Christian. The apostle Paul exhorts us in Scripture to give thanks for all things, in all circumstances Eph. 5:20; 1.

I am a Haitian student from Northern Caribbean University (NCU) pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with an Emphasis in Accounting. I am very grateful to Because One Matters non-profit organization for supporting me with a scholarship. The scholarship alleviated my past-due charges and helped me focus more on my assignments and studies. Not having that burdensome debt overwhelming me was a great blessing. Once again, thank you Because One matters for investing in me. May the Lord provide abundantly to your organization so that you can help more students like me all over the world.

— Jolina G - College Student
JULY 2021

Your Donations Provided

2

SCHOLARSHIPS

While we primarily focus on helping those within our immediate community, we are occasionally called to help young people in our extended world community.

Thanks to you, we were able to extend a helping hand.

On behalf of Joel
and many more
deserving young
people like him,
"Thank you!"



Building Futures — ONE LIFE AT A TIME

Thank you!

“

I would like to extend my gratitude and let you know how appreciative I am for your help in acquiring this laptop. It really means a lot to me, and I promise I will make the best use of it as promised.

On behalf of my family, we thank you for making what we thought impossible possible. Again, I am eternally grateful.

— Joel C. - High School Student
JUNE 2021

Your Donations Provided

54
LAPTOPS

In today's world, laptops are foundational to a successful education for our young people.

Thanks to you, we are able to provide this essential tool to those in need.

With your help, we assisted families by providing **critical tech devices for in-class and virtual learning.**

Helping Families.

Help when and where it's needed

I just wanted to let you know how much of a blessing you and your organization are to our family. On Monday, my child came home sad. She said, "I was the only person in class who did not have a Chromebook or laptop." I called the school to see if any were available, and there was a waiting list. I had no idea that students needed to bring their own devices for in-class learning. I registered her two days before school, and no one said anything. Last year, she attended Meadowcreek HS online. So... I was thinking that things were back to normal when I registered her at South Gwinnett HS.

By chance, I sent you a text, and within hours you personally delivered a Chromebook to her. We were so excited. Unlike the school's device... the Chromebook you brought her was hers to keep—no more begging or waiting. HOW AWESOME!!!

AN UNEXPECTED BLESSING!!!!

Because One Matters is a wonderful organization. You give with such kindness, always a smile, and (most important to me) no judgment. You didn't stop there. You inquired about my new child in the home. Thank you for the duffel bag and Chromebook for my foster daughter. I registered her today at Snellville MS, and she has everything that she needs.

— Ms. Deloris - Foster Parent

AUGUST 2021



Preparing our young people for a career **with real-life experiences** is a priority.



Lifting Our Youth

Valuable Internship Experiences

“

If you're looking for an internship that will give you real-world experience, look no further! Upon starting with Because One Matters, I was tasked with completing many different projects for the organization, and I was able to include all of these projects on my resume. This internship truly allowed me to further my career, as the experience I gained from this internship allowed me to secure another internship and, soon after, a full-time position. The trust and creative freedom given to interns at Because One Matters is priceless.

The leaders of Because One Matters genuinely care about each of their interns, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to intern at Because One Matters.

— Christy T. – College Intern
JUNE 2021

B.O.M. & Our Partners provided

6

INTERNSHIPS

College internships help students develop professional character and provide greater opportunities for students.

Organizations benefit from student's enthusiasm, energy, fresh skill sets and new ideas.

Coming together as a community to ensure our youth **have the school supplies they need to succeed.**



Making a Difference — IN THE NEWS 2021 Back to School Extravaganza

Back to school should be a worry-free and exciting time for children. Because of you, it was a time of excitement and anticipation as the community came together to donate and distribute much-needed school supplies.

Thank you for creating beautiful back-to-school memories for our young people during an uncertain time for them and our nation. As the pandemic continued, you donated backpacks, crayons, pens, laptops, pencils, glue, paper, and most importantly, your time and presence. We are grateful for your continued support.

You helped provide
school supplies to over
350
CHILDREN

Back to school should be a carefree and exciting time for our youth. By providing them with the supplies they need to be successful, you helped lay the foundation for learning and growth.

Your generosity allowed them to focus on their education rather than how they could afford school supplies.

Everyone has a story.
A dedicated art
teacher challenged her
students to tell theirs.

The results
were extraordinary.



A big shout out to this year's judges —
Ms. Turner, Mr. Clarke, Ms. Reid,
and Mr. Duncan.

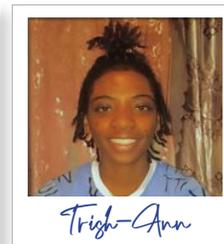
Making a Difference — IN THE NEWS Digital Storytelling Video Challenge

An exceptional art teacher, Ms. Yanique Dixon, volunteered her entire summer to both challenge and support students through our first Digital Storytelling Video Challenge. Her commitment to these students and their educational growth is exemplary. As they learned the skills involved with video storytelling and crafted their individual stories, the participating students also learned invaluable life skills, such as:

- Disciplined learning of new skills
- Resilience in overcoming challenges
- Perseverance to complete a project
- Collaboration and supporting one another while competing



Derrika



Trish-Ann

Congratulations to all the students who participated and to the first and second place Challenge winners:

Derrika and Trish-Ann!



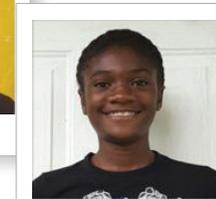
Shamar



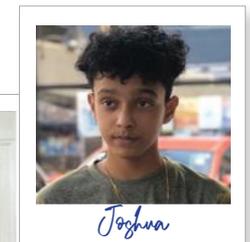
Alec



Joel



Marsilee



Joshua

You may view all the students' stories at BecauseOneMatters.org/digital-storytelling-video-challenge

You helped raise funds to support our 2021 Home for the Holidays Program.

You helped make a difference in

73

YOUTHS' LIVES



Making a Difference — IN THE NEWS Fitness Fun Day

The November 2021 Fitness Fun Day was packed with fun workouts and competitive challenges. 100% of the proceeds from the event went to support the 2021 Home for the Holidays program. Those who couldn't attend donated to the event. Total Body Recall Fitness and M&M Fitness Factory joined forces to host this important event.

A huge "Thank you!" to all who joined us for the event and to all who donated in support of the Home for the Holidays Program.



LaCreshua and Connie

A Special Shout-out to **Total Body Recall** and **M&M Fitness Factory!**

Hope to see you again in 2022!

About Because One Matters Our purpose is to...

Our goal is not to change the world but to help shape the lives of the precious young people we share it with for the better.



We are
263
volunteers

Working in
30+
industries

Serving over
5,500
foster children and
young adults

In addition, we welcomed 20 young people into our new mentorship program, and we were able to employ six interns in 2021.

Working together to ensure our youth from economically disadvantaged communities are cared for, loved, and guided toward a brighter future.

"Thank you!"

Our Community Partners



Publix

3G Chemical Solutions

LDAC Foundation

Chick-fil-A

TAGS Boutique

Goodwill of North Georgia

Target

MacDermid Graphics Solutions

Lexi N Fifth

Special Kneads and Treats, Inc.

Sam's Club

Primerica

Little Harmony

Kennesaw State University

Kares4Kids

Hermes Realty Group

The Home Depot

Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter

Central Gwinnett High School

Digital Chores

Wells Fargo

29 And Under Boutique

Cachet Corporate Gift Services

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Because One Matters Financials

Years ending December 31, 2017—2021

Full financial statements are available upon request
Form 990s publicly available



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Revenue:					
Contributions					
Individual	\$5,896	\$6,893	\$13,307	\$5,716	\$8,964
Corporate	\$2,032	\$2,000	\$5,500	\$6,400	\$6,800
In-Kind	\$5,101	\$6,201	\$8,101	\$12,900	\$22,500
Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,500
Other	\$0	\$39	\$755	\$0	\$000
Rev. Total	\$14,029	\$16,133	\$28,663	\$25,616	\$42,764
Expenses:					
Program	\$4,881	\$1,952	\$11,644	\$8,274	\$14,200
Administration	\$0	\$1,412	\$1,248	\$4,423	\$10,543
Fund Raising	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$217	\$0
Exp. Total	\$4,881	\$9,364	\$12,891	\$12,914	\$24,743

Your Donations at Work

Donations of any size can make a significant impact in the lives of those that we serve.

Here is how you have helped.



Education

21,200	Pens & Pencils
13,900	Additional Miscellaneous School Supplies
6,300	Book bags
4,900	College Bound Paper Tablets
4,900	Binders
3,700	Boxes of Crayons
1,300	Reams of Printer Paper
170	Laptops & Tablets
79	College Care Packages Distributed
6	Internships Offered
2	Scholarships

Entertainment

350	Foster Parents Appreciation
50	Children & 10 Parents—Gwinnett Stripers
65	Students & 20 Parents—Georgia Aquarium
40	Children & 15 Parents—Disney on Ice
40	Children & 10 Parents—Movies
10	Case Managers Appreciation
2	Students Full Prom Experience

Holidays & Celebrations

26,100	Meals Served
2,490	Birthday & Christmas Gifts
1,660	Birthday Celebrations
1,100	Visits to Santa, Easter Bunny & Petting Zoos
102	Graduations Celebrated
168	Youth Served
106	Children Meals & Gifts
50	Wreaths
50	Stockings
25	Christmas Trees
15	Children & 10 Parents—Aurora Theater Christmas Event

Foster Care

4,700	Foster Children Served
501	Duffle Bags with Essentials, Clothing, Toys

Vision

Provide hope, dignity, empowerment, mentorship, and economic opportunity to foster children and young adults from economically disadvantaged communities.

Goals

Foster Children

Create lasting memories for Georgia's foster children by supporting them throughout the journey—entering foster care while in foster care and transitioning out of foster care.

Mentorship

For children and young adults from communities or homes with economic disparities to prepare them for post-secondary success.





We believe
in making
a difference

Because One Matters is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to serving the needs of foster children and young adults from economically disadvantaged communities — helping them achieve their goals and dreams.



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