

# ANNUAL REPORT





#### Dear Friends and Supporters:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Partnership for Community Action, we bring you greetings. There is much to be excited about as we continue to make a difference in the lives of individuals we serve. Since its inception in 1966, PCA has grown from a budget of less than \$100,000 serving 60 families to a budget of more than \$20 million touching the lives of over 37,000 families last year.

Fiscal year 2006 showed a 25% increase in funding and significant gains in our services. Our Head Start programs increased their service to clients by more than 4%, LIHEAP was able to make 18% more emergency energy payments, and 800 new households utilized our various family support services. The number of Hispanic parents participating in English language training more than doubled, and the third class of our Microenterprise Initiative graduated this year. We also received accreditation for a sixth Head Start Center.

Perhaps the most noteworthy event of 2006 is the announcement of moving our headquarters to Clarkston. Early in fall 2007, we will welcome clients into our new office, which we are leasing with an option to buy. Amenities in the building include state-of-the-art classrooms, a computer lab equipped with new computers, and an observatory allowing Head Start children to be monitored by parents, teachers and administrators. We will also be hiring additional employees to work at the new location.

Our decision to move from the current headquarters on Covington Highway in Decatur has been prompted by the successful growth of PCA, which started with just three employees who served only DeKalb County. The organization now works in three metro Atlanta counties with a staff of 270.

We believe that the move to the Clarkston facility will advance the agency's commitment to providing low-income families with expanded opportunities to reach their full potential – offering a place where, truly, help meets hope.

*Lizia Augur* Chair, Board of Directors

Mohammad Saleem CEO/President



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## **Our Mission**

To strengthen individuals and families in DeKalb, Gwinnett and Rockdale counties and transition them from poverty to self-sufficiency through community-based partner-ships, low-income housing, and advocacy.

#### **Our Roots**

On March 16, 1964, in a special message to Congress, President Lyndon B. Johnson proposed a "nationwide war on the sources of poverty" in his Economic Opportunity Act: "Through a new community action program, we intend to strike at poverty at its source — in the streets of our cities and on the farms of our countryside, among the very young and the impoverished old."

Based in this desire, the Partnership for Community Action, Inc. (formerly known as DeKalb EOA), is the embodiment of the community action program Johnson envisioned. This private nonprofit agency provides opportunities for families to become self-sufficient through services and partnerships with various public and private

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organizations. PCA offers programs for child development, family support services, home energy and weatherization, small business and housing initiatives, and leadership development.

### **Our Vision**

We envision communities of strong and stable families where every person has an equal opportunity to reach his or her full potential, and where public policies and personal values give highest priority to healthy, whole individuals.

## **Head Start Policy Council**

Rashika Briggs	Cynthia Harelston
Tashi Browner	LaChandra Jones
Lydia Chapman	Margaret Joyner
Natasha Clark	Tyese Lawyer
Andrea Claxton	Rhonda Murphy
Tracey Eldridge	Kristy O'Quinn
Shenan Everett	Weyatha Reece
Kimberly Garner	Noraa Richardson
Khadeja Gipson	Mirvia Sylvia UrQuia
Cedric Glynn	Angel Washington
Sebrenia Harden	Carmen Wright



#### **Executive Staff**

Pictured, left to right:

Paul Najjar, Weatherization & Housing Manager Janine William, Human Resources Manager Mohammad Saleem, President/CEO Vickie Clubbs, Executive Assistant Vanessa Rush, Program Operations Director Auleen Atkinson, Fiscal Director Desmond Hobson, IT Manager

Not pictured: Malcolm Ratchford, Head Start Director

## **Program Highlights**

PCA began its Head Start program in 1967, in partnership with City Schools of Decatur. Today the agency has 12 Head Start sites in DeKalb County, Atlanta/DeKalb and Rockdale County serving 1,263 children and their families. The comprehensive Head Start and Early Head Start child development programs provide children from birth to age five with education, nutrition, health, mental health, social and disability services. In addition, the families of these children are actively involved in administration, operation and oversight of the program. Head Start also offers services to pregnant mothers in order





to improve the ratio of babies born healthy in DeKalb County. A full day (61/2 hours) of Pre-K educational/instructional services

are available in Rockdale County five days a week for 36 weeks (180 days) for children four years of age by September 1. Thirty-five children were enrolled in Pre-K in 2006.

For parents who need extended care beyond the Head Start/Early Head Start hours of 8:30AM to 2:30PM, extended day services — an additional two hours in the morning and four hours in the afternoon — are available at five center locations for a minimal fee.

In an effort to improve the quality of our Head Start program and chart our path to excellence, all Head Start teachers have signed MOUs (Memorandums of Understanding) requiring them to attain AA degrees by August 7, 2007, and bachelors degrees by August 1, 2008. The agency's offer to provide financial assistance to all teachers pursuing further education is still active, and all attempts will be made to accommodate teachers who do not meet this requirement by placing them in other vacant internal positions for which they qualify. By restructuring and reallocating its resources, PCA has earmarked



In 2005, I was faced with many problems in my life. One was no money to afford child care for my son Jayson while I attended classes at DeKalb Tech to complete my marketing degree. I was told about the Head Start program by a friend and went to apply within weeks he was accepted. The first year was such a blessing: Jayson was happy at his school and with his teachers, and I was doing great in school myself. I have

completed my classes and now have a growing catering business, thanks to the Partnership for Community Action. People in need don't want hand-outs, but a hand up to make it to the next level.



be offered a base pay of \$23,000, and those with BA or BS degrees will be offered \$28,000.

funds to increase salaries as well: Teachers with AA degrees will

To maximize community resources, PCA Head Start partners

with early childhood providers including YMCA, City Schools of Decatur, College Heights, and Our House, Inc.

In 2006, PCA collaborated with Dr. Frederick J. Zak of **Restoring Communities** Mentoring & Mediation, Inc., in



a Father-Friendliness Initiative to address not only the needs of fathers and father-figures, but the Head Start staff as well. As a result, we are taking steps to foster environments that encourage strong male involvement and participation.

Some notable accomplishments of the past year are:

## **Government & Agency Support**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services U.S. Department of Energy U.S. Department of Agriculture Federal Emergency Management Agency DeKalb County Government DeKalb County Department of Family & Children Services Gwinnett County Government Rockdale County Government United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta Georgia Community Action Association

#### **Individual Donors**

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7

## **Financial Report:**

# Oct 1, 2005 - Sep 30, 2006

#### **Funding Sources**

Federal	Grants

Department of Health and Human Services Head Start \$9,615,282 Office of Refugee Resettlement 100,435
Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program
Department of Energy
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 48,786
Block Grants passed through the State of Georgia
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
Low Income Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)6,612,900
Weatherization
State & Local Government
In-kind Contributions
TOTAL \$20,045,459



54%

