

Helping Communities Thrive

For Generations to Come



We help because every community matters

Improving the quality of life for all people in the communities where we live and work is important to us at Georgia Power. We know that every citizen, community, business and institution across Georgia plays a role in the sustainability of our state's economic vitality.

That's why we continue to invest in programs that improve academic outcomes, promote a workforce ready for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers, and help grow healthy and resilient communities. We're committed to making economic prosperity and well-being attainable for all Georgians through our five focus areas of giving, including education, arts, environmental, civic and community engagement and health and human services.

Through our commitment to education, Georgia Power and Georgia Power Foundation, Inc. invested over \$6M in Georgia's students and educators in 2017, with a special focus on STEM subjects. In addition to charitable investments, we've also partnered with schools to bring Learning Power to almost 83,000 students (PreK – 12) in 74 different counties.

This statewide education initiative provides hands-on, interactive learning that helps enhance students' academic achievement, provides energy efficiency concepts to students and builds awareness for careers in the energy industry. Since its inception, more than 452,000 students in 119 different counties have benefited from Learning Power in the classroom and summer camps.

In 2017, Georgia Power and the Georgia Power Foundation, Inc. supported nearly 1,300 non-profits across the state – many that focus on inspiring the next generation. Through financial support, volunteerism and board service, our employees and retirees remain dedicated to Georgia's communities.

We invite you to look at some of the many ways Georgia Power is committed to making communities thrive for generations to come. We are proud to call this state home and to be 'Citizens Wherever We Serve.'





Message from
Paul Bowers
Chairman, President and CEO of Georgia Power

Across Georgia, our employees work tirelessly to provide safe, clean, reliable and affordable energy to 2.5 million customers, but we know our role encompasses more than just keeping the lights on.

Last year, many of our 7,500 employees put service before self, dedicating thousands of personal volunteer hours to charitable giving and education initiatives in their communities. Our company and the Georgia Power Foundation partnered with approximately 1,300 service organizations on initiatives designed to improve the lives of Georgians every day.

We believe that it is our responsibility to build a better tomorrow for our families, friends and neighbors. For us, this starts by investing in the next generation of students. We recognize the impact that instilling strong Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and literacy skills can have on their future, and the future of our state.

For more than 130 years, Georgia Power has grown to be one of the most respected companies in the state – in no small part because of our steadfast commitment to the communities we serve.

As you review our Citizenship Report, we hope that you will be inspired to invest in the next generation of Georgians, too.

Paul

“Building a better tomorrow
for the next generation is critical
to the success of our state.”

— Mike Anderson, President and CEO of the Georgia Power Foundation, Inc.



Message from Mike Anderson

Senior Vice President, Georgia Power

President and CEO of the Georgia Power Foundation, Inc.

At Georgia Power, we believe in being “A Citizen Wherever We Serve.” Our employees are dedicated to educating the next generation of Georgians and building the future for our state by investing their time, resources and skills in educational programs in every region across our five giving focus areas:

- Improving education;
- Strengthening health and human services;
- Protecting the environment;
- Enriching arts and culture;
- Collaborating with civic and community organizations.

In 2017, the Georgia Power Foundation, Inc. and Georgia Power contributed more than \$16 million and supported over 1,297 non-profit organizations across Georgia. Additionally, our employees and retirees volunteered more than 147,000 hours, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to making a difference in our communities. Over \$6 million were dedicated to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education initiatives.

Building a better tomorrow for the next generation is critical to the success of our state. Our dedicated employees and retirees are constantly looking to invest in and improve the lives of others. We are proud to share a few examples of our investments across the state of Georgia.

Mike

We help because every community in Georgia matters

Georgia Power's commitment to citizenship dates back to the very beginning of our company's existence, and for more than a century our employees have quietly devoted themselves to not only providing the best electric service but also enriching the lives of their neighbors and communities. We have many ways through which we give back all across the state from Dalton to Valdosta, including:

Citizens of Georgia Power (Citizens)

With 48 chapters statewide and more than 4,000 members, consisting of employees and their spouses, our Citizens chapters work with community organizations.

Ambassadors

Our statewide volunteer service organization for retired employees and their spouses, Ambassadors, is made up of more than 2,000 members active in 19 chapters across the state of Georgia.

Georgia Power Foundation, Inc.

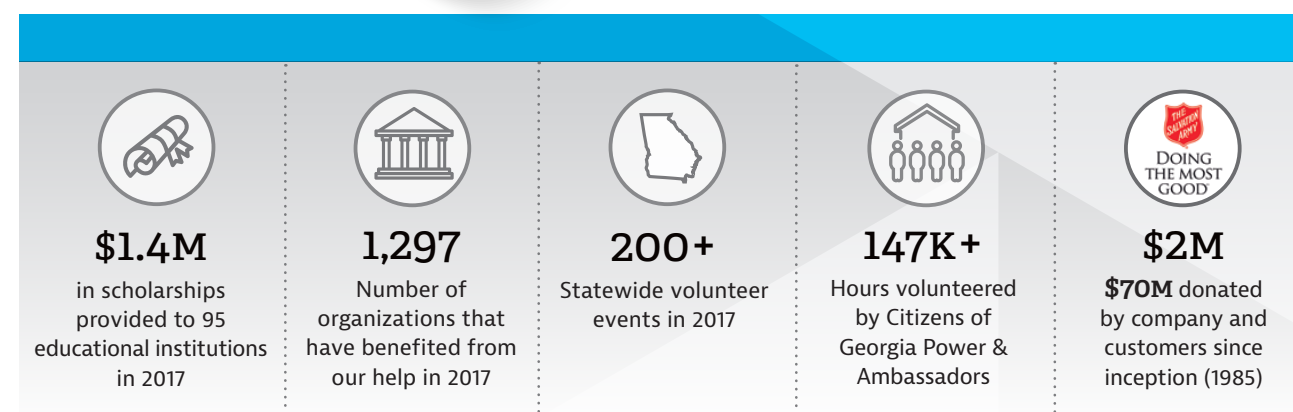
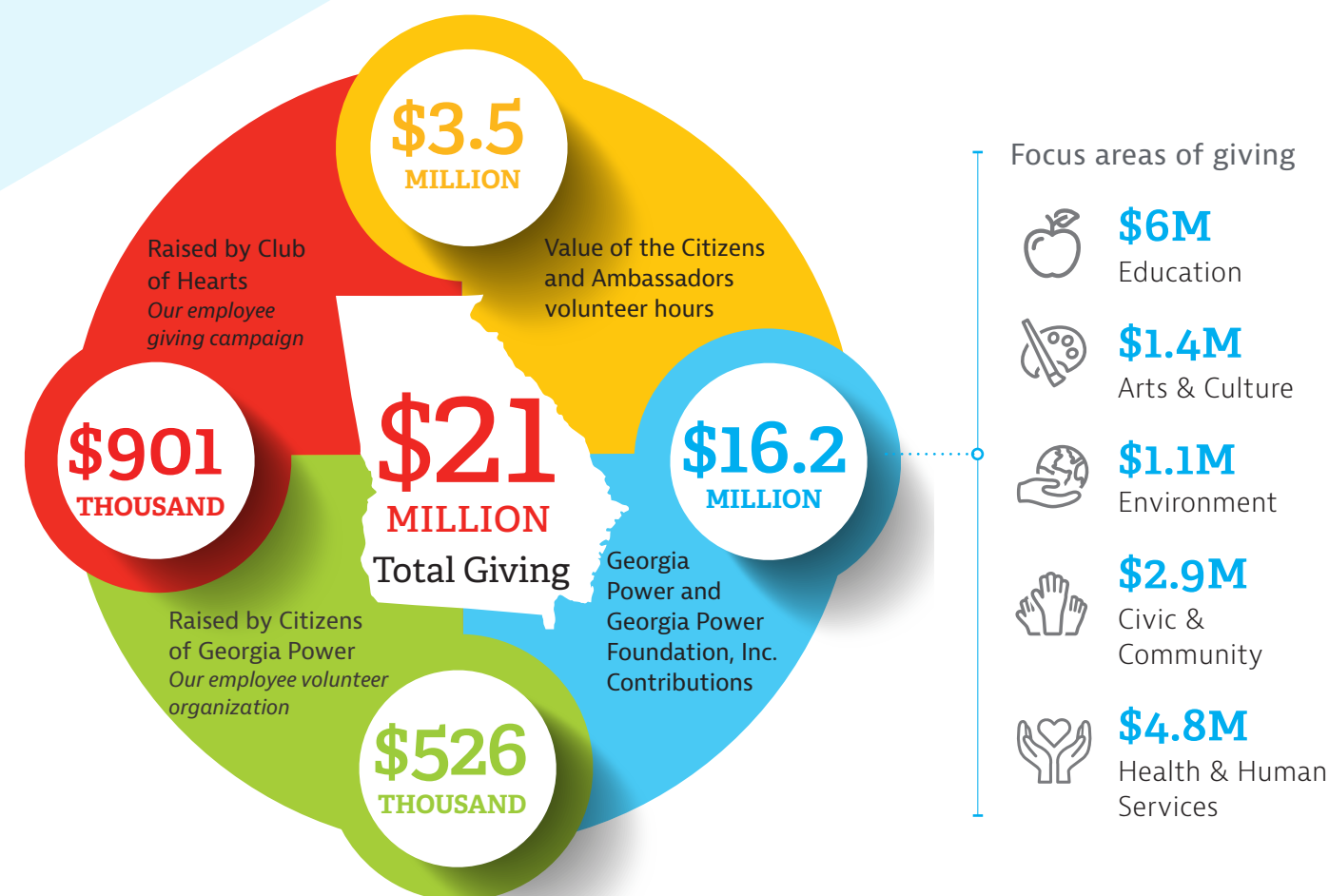
As our company's non-profit arm, the Georgia Power Foundation, Inc. is the platform which allows Georgia Power to sustain its strategic giving initiatives. Since its inception 30 years ago, we have invested more than \$176 million in Georgia.

Corporate Giving

Our company makes charitable donations to hundreds of organizations and initiatives throughout our service territory, which includes 155 of the state's 159 counties. Our charitable giving is designed to focus dollars on issues critical to the success of our company, customers and shareholders.

2017 Charitable Giving

Georgia Power has called the state home for more than 130 years. Every year, our company, our employees and our retirees renew their commitment to build a brighter tomorrow for the next generation of Georgians. To support this, we have invested millions of dollars, our skills and time to communities across the state. We're proud that our emphasis on education has provided more than \$1.4 million in scholarships to 95 educational institutions in 2017, because to us, every child and every community matters.



Creating opportunities through learning

Suzanne Sharkey, local manager, Waynesboro, Ga.

Georgia Power and the Georgia Power Foundation are dedicated to improving and strengthening educational initiatives to ensure our state has a skilled and trained workforce. We are committed to advancing students' experiences in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and enhancing teacher quality by focusing on providing educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to motivate students toward STEM professions.

Bringing STEM initiatives to life through robotics

Did you ever think about building a robot? More than 5,000 students are doing exactly that each year in Georgia. Through GeorgiaFIRST's annual FIRST Robotics and FIRST Tech Robotics competitions, 7th-12th grade students are challenged to work on teams to design and build a robot, and compete in high-intensity events that allow them to discover the rewards and excitement of an education or career in Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics.

For the last six years, Georgia Power has supported FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics, a non-profit that strives to encourage student participation in mentor-based programs that inspire

young people to be science and technology leaders.

According to **Suzanne Sharkey** Georgia Power's local manager in Waynesboro, Ga., that's not all participating students learn. Sharkey, who serves as a coach

and mentor for an all-girls FIRST Tech Challenge robotics team, believes, "we are helping them with skill sets they are going to use every day for the rest of their lives. The girls are being exposed to a world and possibilities they may never have known existed."



5,000
students
involved in program



1,000+
robot repairs
by Georgia Power volunteers

Engaging students through workforce development opportunities

Another way Georgia Power supports FIRST Robotics is with a custom-built portable machine shop. Originally built by Georgia Power to support students at robotics competitions, the trailer travels statewide to support the company's workforce development initiatives.

Last fall, high school students had the opportunity at SkillsChallengeUSA to learn more about jobs and skills in the construction-related industry.

Georgia Power's **Flint Shepherd**, a methods & training specialist in Macon who travels with and supports this trailer, had the opportunity to show participating students some of the tools the company uses on the engineering and maintenance side of the business.

"Students seemed impressed and some

had not considered this area as an opportunity before," said Shepherd. "Georgia Power's involvement in this

program helps heighten students' awareness about available construction-related and technical job opportunities."



Bridging the summer learning gap with Atlanta students

Horizons Atlanta is striving to close the opportunity gap for kindergarten to eighth-grade students through high-quality academics in an engaging summer learning environment. In addition to focusing on reading and STEM, and participating in the arts, college and career exploration, and field trips, students also learn to swim.

"We believe that every child in Atlanta – regardless of where they live – should have the same chance at making a positive impact on his or her community," said Mary-Kate Starkel, associate director.

During the six-week summer learning program, Horizons provides tuition-free programs to public school students in need and partners with various local independent schools, colleges and universities to host the programs all across Atlanta.

Education at every stage of life

For almost 50 years, Literacy Action has been a grassroots driver of free adult learning services to advance adults toward employment, better wages and post-secondary education. With one in six adults (about 800,000) in Atlanta at low literacy levels, the organization is striving to ensure adults receive the education that will enable them to pursue their goals and improve their lives.

"Once you learn how to read, you can teach yourself to do so many things," said **Lauren Lambiase**, a Georgia Power employee and Literacy Action board member. "Reading empowers individuals to improve their lives."

To help adults learn to read, Literacy Action offers more than 175 free classes, including adult basic education, English as a Second Language, and conversation, in three 15-week semesters.



Courtesy of Horizons Atlanta



Courtesy of Literacy Action



Courtesy of 100 Black Men of Atlanta

Empowering young men through mentorship

For more than 30 years, 100 Black Men of Atlanta (BMOA) has dedicated itself to empowering young people from underserved communities to gain educational and career opportunities.

According to board chairman Larry Johnson, "The 217-member 100 BMOA, including several Georgia Power employees, are part of a national organization of influential men who are personally committed to mentoring, tutoring, coaching, counseling and financially contributing to youth in Atlanta."

Through the organization's flagship program – Project Success – underserved youth from Atlanta Public Schools who are first-generation college students, participate in a multi-year program that includes mentoring and education support services.

Since 2006, Georgia Power has sponsored the organizations' 100 Scholars Robotics Alliance that is designed to inspire students' interest in STEM fields.

World-class STEM training at Ron Clark Academy

Georgia Power and the world-renowned Ron Clark Academy (RCA) in Atlanta continue to provide new skills and training for Georgia educators through the

annual PowerED Fellows program. PowerED Fellows receive a three-day professional developmental experience at the Ron Clark Academy focused on implementing STEM activities, promoting academic rigor and creating a climate and culture that promotes success in the classroom. Since the beginning of this partnership over four years ago, nearly 300 fellows from more than 85 Georgia schools have completed the training.

In conjunction with the 10th anniversary of the Ron Clark Academy in November 2017, the Georgia Power Foundation announced its continued commitment to the program.

New Teacher Grants



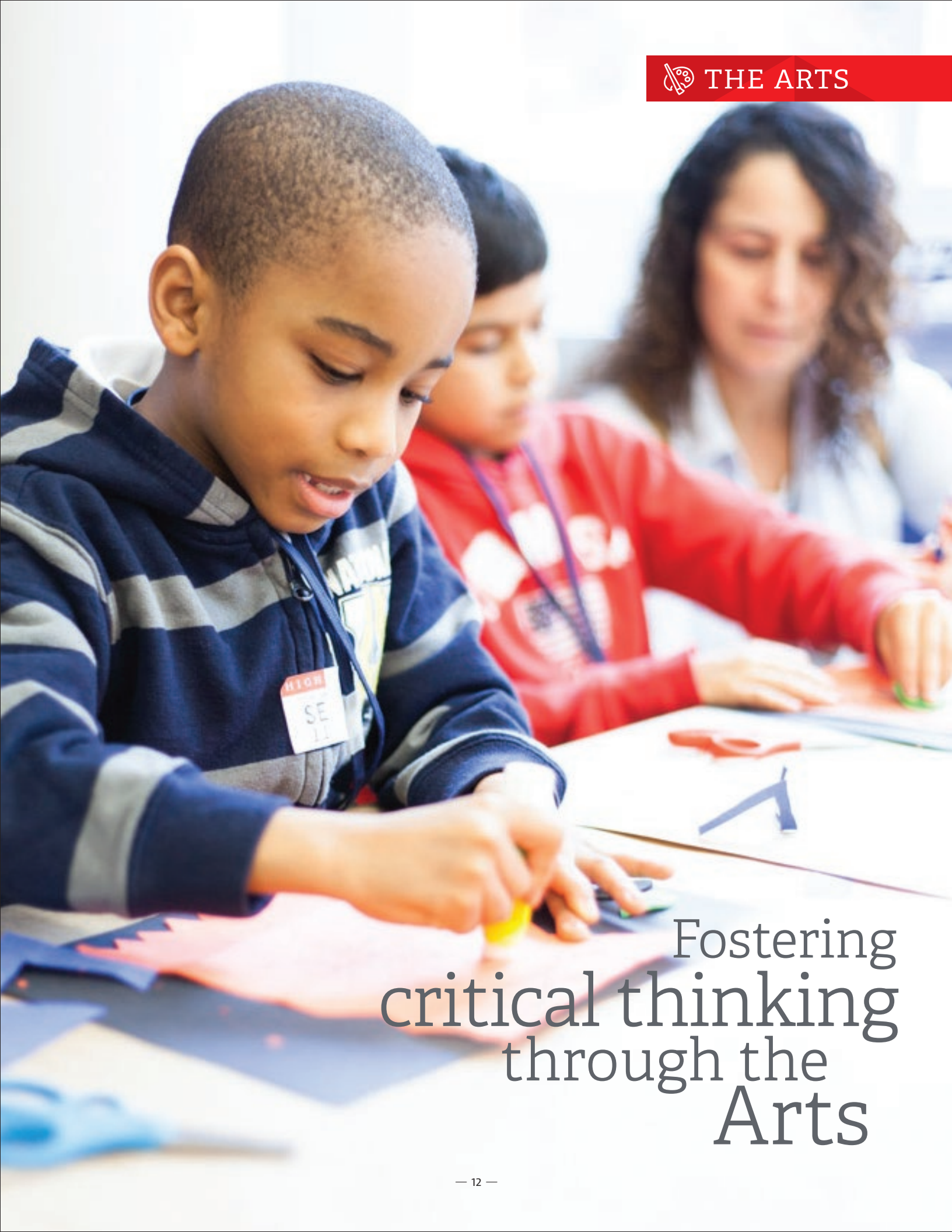
Creating an engaging classroom with new teacher assistance grants

Every teacher has the desire to create an engaging learning environment in a well-resourced classroom.

In partnership with the University System of Georgia, Georgia Power has given a total of \$445,000 to 445 new teachers over the last 14 years. Outstanding teaching graduates – heading to public school classrooms in Georgia – are nominated by each of Georgia's 21 public colleges and universities with a College of Education.

They receive \$1,000 grants for classroom supplies, materials and equipment. In 2017, 45 new teachers representing a broad range of school districts, grade levels and curriculum areas in the state received these grants.





Fostering critical thinking through the Arts

Courtesy of the Woodruff Arts Center

Georgia Power and the Georgia Power Foundation are committed to preserving the arts in the communities where we live, work and serve. We are dedicated to causes that support local and regional arts, because those initiatives ensure the arts remain a part of Georgia's rich heritage and help foster critical and creative thinking, strengthening our state's economy.



Courtesy of the Woodruff Arts Center

Students improve creative problem solving skills through art and engineering

How is an artist similar to a scientist? Students are learning just that on their visits to the Woodruff Arts Center's High Museum of Art in Atlanta when they participate in a STEAM guided tour and interactive workshop.

During the two-hour STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) program, kindergarten through eighth-grade students utilize the museum's collections as evidence of creative problem solving.

"Research proves the art education we

deliver improves literacy and education outcomes and closes the opportunity gap," said Alvin Townley, the Woodruff Arts Center's director of corporate philanthropy and veteran programs.

More than 54,000 students from across the state, including 7,900 in the STEAM program, visit the museum annually. Almost 55 percent of these students who attend schools that receive Title I funds received free museum admission and bus transportation.

During the workshop in the paint and color science lab, a teaching artist introduces different pieces in the High's collection to highlight the different uses of paint and color. Students then move from station to station in the lab to experiment with various painting processes and materials, and experience firsthand how artists experiment to find creative solutions. In the docent-led tour of the museum's art, students see how artists use resources and nature, design and use resources and nature, design and structure

3,000+
students
attended the High Museum's
STEAM program with help
from the Georgia Power
Foundation, Inc.

"Research proves the art education we deliver improves literacy and education outcomes and closes the opportunity gap."

— Alvin Townley, *Director of Corporate Philanthropy and Veteran Programs, Woodruff Arts Center*

light and color, and shapes and patterns to create art.

For almost 50 years, supporting education programs at the museum and the Woodruff Arts Center's Alliance Theatre and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra has been a big part of Georgia Power and the Foundation's support for the arts.

Creating opportunity through dance

Alvin Ailey, an African American choreographer and cultural leader who founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York City, believed dance was for everybody. Today, the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation is striving to use the power of dance to enrich and positively impact childrens' and adults' lives across the United States, including in Atlanta.

Using dance as the centerpiece for engagement, the dance foundation is partnering with Atlanta's cultural community to present performances, classes, workshops and education programs in schools. Incorporating Ailey's vision to use the beauty and humanity of the African American heritage and other cultures to unite all people, the dance

foundation is providing programs through Destination Dance Ailey Atlanta, including workshops and summer camps for youth ages 11-14 from underserved communities.

The Georgia Power Foundation has been a proud supporter of Alvin Ailey for over 15 years.



Courtesy of the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation



Courtesy of the Atlanta Shakespeare Company

Bringing the language of Shakespeare to life

Founded in 1984, the Atlanta Shakespeare Company's (ASC) theatre – The Shakespeare Tavern Playhouse brings together a bright and talented group of professionals who interpret, direct, produce and perform the works of William Shakespeare.

"In 2017, twenty-seven thousand middle and high school students across Georgia and the Southeast have witnessed first-hand the Shakespeare plays they have only read about in books. We believe that studying Shakespeare is best when active, engaged and energetic. Witnessing a live performance of his work is key to comprehending the nuance in his stories and themes," Laura Cole, director of education and training said.

The Georgia Power Foundation provided funding to help support tour programming costs, including providing discounts to schools that receive Title I funding.



Courtesy of the Tubman Museum

Exposing central Georgia students to culture and the arts

The Tubman Museum – named for Harriet Tubman, the "Black Moses" who led hundreds of slaves to freedom – has grown to become one of the nation's largest African American museums, and an educational and cultural resource for the entire southeast region.

"The museum provides visitors with an opportunity to learn about African American art, history and culture through tours,

concerts, performances and films, classes and camps," said Dr. Andy Ambrose, executive director. The museum also serves students in central Georgia through after school programs, including Title I schools.

During summer and school breaks, the museum offers camps for students. Students receive a guided tour of the exhibits and learn stories behind the artifacts, and participate in workshops, and art or drumming classes.

Connecting theatre to the classroom

Each year, students in 12 cities from across the United States compete in the August Wilson Monologue Competition for the opportunity to perform in the national finals on Broadway – compliments of Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company.

"The competition, which is open to all Georgia high school students, focuses on the plays of August Wilson's American Century Cycle, also known as The Pittsburgh Plays," said LaTeshia Ellerson, head of development. "The competition's goal is to build partnerships with schools and theaters across the country."

By adding theatre into the lives of students, True Colors Theatre Company hopes to promote respectful dialogue among cultures and foster an appreciation for diverse viewpoints.

Bringing performance arts to the island

Tybee Post Theater's doors weren't always open since its construction in 1930 as a movie house for soldiers stationed at the Fort Screven Army base. However, today the theater is a popular venue where Tybee Island residents and visitors can enjoy community theater.

"The theater strives to serve our community with programming that wouldn't be possible without the financial support of institutions, such as Georgia Power Foundation," said Jim Kluttz, board chairman of the Friends of the Tybee Theater.

While the island's population typically is about 3,500 for most of the year, that total increases to 15,000-20,000 during the summer months.

At Georgia Power, we believe that preservation of the arts is essential to Georgia's legacy.

Supporting the well-being of the next generation



Courtesy of Camp Sunshine

Georgia Power and the Georgia Power Foundation partner with organizations and programs designed to meet a variety of community, family and individual needs. Georgia Power's giving helps hundreds of non-profit agencies that promote positive change and touch thousands of lives across the state. We fully understand that the health of a community is only as strong as the well-being of its citizens.



Courtesy of Camp Twin Lakes

Impacting the lives of children through summer camp

Developing confidence and strength in the next generation

Before Camp Twin Lakes opened in 1993, adequate support for camp programs for children with serious illnesses, disabilities and other life challenges did not exist. Today, because of Georgia Power board member and founder **Doug Hertz's** vision to fill this need, therapeutic camp experiences are now provided year-round to help these campers grow in confidence and experience the joys of childhood.

In 25 years, the camp has grown to serve Georgia's children at three medically supported campsites in Rutledge, Winder and Warm Springs and at local children's hospitals in metro Atlanta, according to Lindsay Bucci, marketing & communications specialist. In collaboration with a network of more than 60 non-profit camp partners, Camp Twin Lakes annually brings together more than 10,000 children and teens with diverse diagnoses.

"Unlike other organizations that are dedicated to programs for a specific diagnosis, Camp Twin Lakes is the only organization in Georgia dedicated to providing camp opportunities for a wide array of children facing a variety of serious illnesses and life challenges, including cancer, sickle cell disease, foster care and muscular dystrophy," said Bucci.

Camp Twin Lakes subsidizes 70 percent of direct camp costs for every camper served; more than 72 percent of campers attend camp at no cost to their families through the Camper Scholarship Program.

"Doctors and nurses often say the power of Camp Sunshine is as impactful in a child's cancer journey as their treatment."

— Sally Hale, *Executive Director, Camp Sunshine*

Providing hope by letting kids be kids

From its humble beginnings 35 years ago as a one-week camp where 44 kids with cancer could be kids again, Camp Sunshine has grown exponentially. Today, more than 400 campers and 225 volunteers participate in summer camp, which takes place over two separate weeks.

Additionally, Camp Sunshine now offers programs year-round, including nine weekend camps, recreational programs and educational programs for the entire family, according to executive director Sally Hale. In 2017, Camp Sunshine provided 170 free programs to more than 900 families living throughout Georgia or whose children are being treated in Georgia.

"We're changing lives. Kids tell us they don't feel so alone. They are around friends who understand and have a similar type of experience," said Hale. "Doctors and nurses often say the power of Camp Sunshine is as impactful in a child's cancer journey as their treatment."



Courtesy of Cristo Rey student and Georgia Power intern Mariah Jackson

Educating young women on the 'magic' of construction

What's the hottest thing going this summer? It's MAGIC! That's what Mentoring a Girl In Construction's website touts because high school girls now have the opportunity to participate in a free, one-week day camp designed to introduce them to exciting careers in construction.

With only nine percent of females working in the construction industry, the camp aims to educate young women on opportunities in the field.

According to Renee Conner, MAGIC Camp co-founder and national executive director, "This opportunity to gain marketable skills and experience the exhilaration of successfully performing difficult tasks builds self-confidence and boosts self-image."

Each summer about 100 girls – 25 girls

in each of four camps across Georgia – can participate.

Georgia Power serves as one of the camp's main sponsors and provides mentors, volunteers and guest speakers.

One of the company's employee resource groups – Technical Women in Georgia (TWIG) – partners with all four camps to provide hands-on activities and speakers each Friday during the camp and arranges tours of company work facilities.

Natalie Caster, a TWIG member and employee at Plant Scherer, coordinated a tour and science-related activities for a group last year. "It's an opportunity to talk about what we do here at Georgia Power and how women are needed in the workforce. As our workforce ages, these girls may be some of the next that come into our business."



Providing better tomorrows for young men in the community

Bald Ridge Lodge, a stabilization and assessment center in Forsyth County for at-risk boys, is changing lives one person at a time.

Since the facility opened almost 10 years ago, approximately 400 young men ages 12-21, who are in need of protection, direction and supervision, have received assistance with a safe haven and counseling in a therapeutic environment.

The majority of residents served have suffered psychological trauma, physical abuse and neglect, sexual abuse, and drug/alcohol abuse, said Heidi Snarey, executive director. While at the lodge, residents receive customized service plans that cater to their specific educational, social and psychological needs.

The young men, many of whom are behind on their education, may learn life skills, receive counseling, mentoring and tutoring, and learn to interact with others their own age.

About 80 percent of the young men are from Forsyth County and the rest are from around the area.



Courtesy of Flowering Branch Children's Shelter

Educating and loving the youth of Bartow County

Through Flowering Branch Children's Shelter in Cartersville, Ga., Advocates for Children is making a positive difference in the lives of abused, neglected, homeless and runaway youth. The shelter offers residents a safe, nurturing place where they may stay for weeks, months or even years.

"With rampant rates of drug abuse and teenage pregnancy, the children of Bartow County and northwest Georgia continue to be at an alarming risk for physical and sexual abuse, and neglect.

"Through our shelter and other programs and services, Advocates for Children is working to generate more positive and healthy outcomes for children who have been victims of abuse, domestic violence, and neglect," said Karen White, executive director.

Youth receive case management services, individual and family counseling, development of social and independent living skills and assistance with achieving a high school diploma, GED and entrance into college.

Leading healthier, happier lives for the children of northwest Georgia

Since 1927, Open Door Children's Home has provided for the needs of the neglected, abandoned and abused children of northwest Georgia and helped them live a healthier, happier and more productive life.

Today, the facility in Rome, Ga., which houses 20 children in two homes (one for girls and one for boys), is continuing to provide crisis intervention, and emergency and extended care for youth ages 12-18.

According to Lynn Rousseau, executive director, a therapeutic environment permeates every aspect of care that includes basic needs of living, medical, dental and psychological care, and assistance with activities of daily living, including academics. The children work with local therapy providers and receive tutoring from volunteers in Rome's school system and Berry College.

"We work hard to make their life as close to their nuclear family as possible," she said. The children – from Floyd and surrounding counties – have weekly family visitation, and enjoy regular fun activities and outings on and off campus with other residents.



Building stronger communities for the youngest Georgians



Courtesy of Frank Callen Boys & Girls Club

Georgia Power and the Georgia Power Foundation believe in building strong communities to ensure Georgia remains an attractive state to live, learn and do business. That's why, in 2017, we contributed over \$2.9 million to civic and community organizations. Strong communities are an integral fiber in the fabric of our state, and by maintaining positive relationships with organizations is one way we remain dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for everyone in Georgia. Our commitment to initiatives that build and improve the places where we live, work and serve is fundamental to our business and to building a brighter future for our state.

Extending positive youth development in the community

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America have helped put young people on the path to great futures since 1860. To reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens, the Clubs provide a world-class experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enter their doors.

With Clubs throughout the state, Georgia Power and the Georgia Power Foundation are proud to support mainstay programming that is focused on academic success, STEM, sports and fitness, character and leadership training and healthy lifestyles.

"The Club gives kids hope that they don't have to be stuck where they are," said Danielle Paul, resource development director for Frank Callen Boys & Girls Club in Savannah. "They can do anything they want to do and we can help them achieve that."

At the Boys & Girls Club of Central Savannah River Area, youth participate



Courtesy of Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta

in summer camps that focus on STREAM, which includes science, technology, robotics, engineering, art and math. Results show that these programs are working, with 98 percent of those who participate graduating from high school.

Similar programming to reinforce academic enrichment and school engagement of youth is in place at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Chattooga, Gordon, Murray and Whitfield through Project Learn, a program for high-yield learning activities.

"Project Learn is an overall, encompassing program that touches the children's soul, mind and body," said Craig Dunn, director of development for the Chattooga, Gordon, Murray and Whitfield Club.

The strategy is based on research demonstrating that students do much better in school when they spend their non-school hours engaged in fun but academically beneficial activities.

At the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta, 4,000 youth participated in after-school programs, summer camp and athletics that influence the whole person.

"It's an exciting time to be here," said Brian Flemming, president and chief professional office at the Valdosta Club. "The reason we have been successful to this point is because of the people who support us."



15 Grants
supporting
Boys and Girls Clubs
across Georgia in 2017

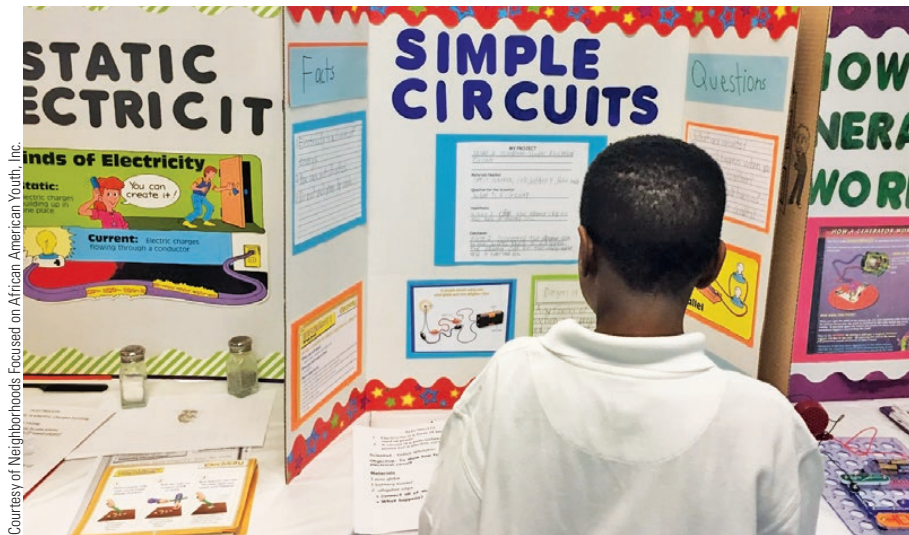


Courtesy of Boys & Girls Club of Central Savannah River Area



Courtesy of Boys and Girls Clubs of Chattooga, Gordon, Murry and Whitfield counties

Our commitment to initiatives that build and improve the places where we live, work and serve is fundamental to building a brighter future for our state.



Courtesy of Neighborhoods Focused on African American Youth, Inc.

Establishing a path for success through study hall

With a heart-driven desire to positively change the outcomes of youth living in economically impoverished neighborhoods and first-hand experience leading this type of initiative in her childhood neighborhood, Cheryl Livsey Bursh founded Neighborhoods Focused on African-American Youth, Inc. (NFOAAY).

To realize this change, she knew neighborhood residents – particularly parents – had to organize around their youth and establish an academic support infrastructure.

Today, NFOAAY is addressing academic, social, and emotional needs of pre-K to middle school students through Community Study Hall (CSH), an after-school program in two

public housing units in Columbus, Georgia. As part of the program, students receive tutoring, homework assistance, life skill workshops, educational field trips, college visits, library sessions and more.

CSH is offered at no cost to the parents and includes homework assistance, mathematics and reading remediation, technology instruction, STEM and life skills workshops, and one-on-one instruction for low-performing students.

“Like Georgia Power, we are committed to improving the quality of life for Georgia citizens and believe that education is a key determinant for a brighter future,” Bursh said.

Program results are showing desired outcomes, too. Students that routinely participate in three or more consecutive years are graduating from high school and have a desire to attend college.



Courtesy of the Latin American Association

Empowering students to pursue higher education

The Latin American Association had a good reason to celebrate in 2017 when 23 Cross Keys High School seniors, who had participated in the organization’s year-round program for Latino youth since sixth grade, graduated from high school.

“All of the students in this program – known as the Latino Youth Leadership Academy (LYLA) – graduated,” said Eliezer Velez, managing director of education. “These students never gave up. No matter their personal situation, they were able to overcome any obstacles, and they will be the first in their families to pursue higher education.”

The LYLA provides year-round programs to 320 Latino middle and high school students at six predominantly Latino schools in DeKalb and Gwinnett counties to ensure they stay in school and graduate from high school.

Georgia Power has been a supporter of the Latin American Association for several years and many employees have served as mentors, and helped address the STEM gap for Latino students.

Making the dream of home ownership a reality

Atlanta Habitat for Humanity knows the responsibilities of home ownership can seem overwhelming – maybe even scary – for first-time homebuyers. That’s why the largest non-profit single-family homebuilder in Atlanta and Fulton County invests in comprehensive training and education programs that provide homeowners with the skills and capabilities they will need to be successful.

Since 2016, this program has helped qualified homeowners make critical home repairs that reduce health or safety hazards, or improve weatherization so homes can be safe, dry and accessible.

The repairs – valued at \$600,000 annually – include roofs, gutters, storm windows and secured doors, and help people to live comfortably. These critical home repair programs reach the wider community to the benefit of the whole neighborhood.

Sloane Evans, a Habitat board member and vice president of human resources



Courtesy of Citizens of Georgia Power

at Georgia Power, shares that’s why it’s important for the company to be involved. “It directly aligns with our corporate responsibility statement that ‘we are citizens wherever we serve’ and that it is our responsibility to enhance the communities in which we engage and leave them better than they were when we came.”

Each year, 12,000 – 15,000 volunteers provide more than 130,000 hours of service to build and renovate 50-60 houses and support Habitat’s ReStore and operations.



Protecting and enhancing our communities for decades to come



Courtesy of Fernbank Museum of Natural History

Georgia Power and the Georgia Power Foundation are committed to being good environmental stewards through education, partnerships and projects that result in conservation, restoration and increased environmental awareness. We focus on these efforts that make our communities great not only for the present, but to create a better Georgia for the next generation. Georgia Power supports environmentally focused organizations and programs that teach students the importance of air and water quality, preservation of natural resources and protection of endangered species.



Courtesy of Fernbank Museum of Natural History

Inspiring life-long learning of natural and environmental history

At the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, science and the natural world come to life for students as they explore educational exhibitions, experience films in the giant-screen theater and engage in curriculum-based programs.

The museum, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2017, is one of the most popular cultural attractions in Atlanta. New outdoor learning opportunities are now available to students with the recently opened Fernbank Forest and WildWoods.

With the addition of 75 acres, students can now explore more than two miles of paths winding through the Fernbank Forest and view the natural world through two tree pods suspended in the canopy.

"The Fernbank Youth Education Initiative served more than 400,000 people in 2017, engaging them with science, environmental and cultural education that broadens their worldview and creates shared family learning opportunities," said Kayla Rumpfeldt, public relations coordinator.

Youth Education Initiative

400K people participated in shared learning opportunities

"Of this number, 17,000 of the 60,000 students who visited last year were from low-income families and received scholarship admissions assistance."

Ron Hinson, formerly Georgia Power's chief financial officer and recent retiree, has served on Fernbank's board of trustees for five years and just began a two-year term as chairman of the board.

"The programs they can do are phenomenal. The museum is always filled with students. Clearly, there is a need to have educational resources available to students where they can learn about nature and science. Local school systems are looking for ways to enhance the education of students," he said. From the new on-site amenities, to the

hands-on and unique learning experiences curated by their teaching scientists, Fernbank is in a stronger place than ever to fulfill their educational mission.

"This mission is to inspire life-long learning of natural history through immersive programming and unmatched experiences to encourage a greater appreciation of our planet and its inhabitants," said Rumpfeldt.

Other educational programs offered to support this mission include Urban Watch, which connects middle and high school students with Fernbank Forest; Discovery Days for families with children; and summer STEM-focused programming.



Courtesy of Smith-Gilbert Gardens

Extending a garden of possibilities to students

At the City of Kennesaw's Smith-Gilbert Gardens, a 16-acre site with more than 3,000-plus species of plants, students in Cobb County are uncovering one of north Georgia's hidden gems.

"Approximately 1,800 students from schools within Cobb County and home-schooled students participated in the growing number of field trips and program series last year," said Ann Parsons, executive director.

During the 45-minute school field trip, students can visit all areas of the garden and experience different aspects of nature, including learning about plants, their parts, functions and variations.

Children attending Title I schools receive discounted admission to the garden.

"We're losing a connection with nature," Parsons said. "With our field trips, children have a chance to be outside and see nature, and see how text in their textbooks come to life. It's a wonderful way for a school to connect their science programs with the gardens."



Courtesy of Georgia 4-H

Educating youth beyond the classroom with Georgia 4-H

When it comes to youth leadership, Georgia 4-H earns the honor as the largest youth leadership organization in the state. Founded in 1904, the organization reaches more than 168,000 youth in all 159 counties each year and helps encourage them to become better citizens and grow into responsible, active adults.

Participating students achieve this through hands-on learning experiences focused on agricultural and environmental issues, agriculture awareness, leadership, communication skills, food and nutrition, health, energy conservation and citizenship.

"So many of the skills children acquire in 4-H help prepare them for the workforce," said Arch Smith, state 4-H leader and director of 4-H. "We are helping children realize their goals and attain things they thought were impossible at one time."

Protecting our greatest natural resource

Since 2010, Chattahoochee RiverWarden has worked to protect and provide stewardship for the middle Chattahoochee River basin from West Point Lake in west Georgia, to the Florida state line in Georgia and Alabama.

Educating the community on what a clean river is and should be is one part of the organization's responsibilities, according to Henry Jackson, executive director. Through meetings and communication with homeowners, stakeholders and community residents, the RiverWarden shares information that will help raise awareness of the importance of a healthy river basin.

One education campaign that the organization has worked in partnership with Georgia Power on is the management of hydrilla, currently one of the most notorious invasive aquatic plants in the United States. Both work in partnership to advise on how to control this plant and why it's important to stop its spread.



Courtesy of Elachee Nature Science Center



Courtesy of 21st Century Leaders' EarthCare

Educating the next generation of Earth stewards

The 1,440-acre Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve in Gainesville is one of Georgia's largest protected spaces and it serves as an ideal outdoor classroom for the Elachee Nature Science Center's innovative educational experiences.

In 2017, the nature center served 33,000 students from 215 schools, representing 25 counties and 26 school systems in Georgia. As an outreach initiative, Elachee's skilled instructors also take selected standards-based STEAM programs on the road to students in their classrooms.

In the past three years, the nature center, which focuses on promoting environmental understanding through education and conservation, has seen a 10-12 percent increase in school program participation. Grants help schools – many that receive Title I funds – to participate in these programs that teach next generation Earth stewards the science behind the environment.

Inspiring future Georgia leaders

For the last 10 years, select Georgia high school students statewide have had the sought-after opportunity to participate in a week-long, environment-focused leadership development program on a state college campus.

"The program, which includes participants' lodging, meals and expenses, is all part of the 21st Century Leaders' EarthCare: The Leadership Challenge for the 21st Century," said Bob Watson, the organization's executive director. "The program exposes students to various environmental and leadership challenges through interactive workshops, plant tours and roundtable sessions with Georgia Power business leaders."

The goal of the program is to inspire high school students to take on leadership positions, explore career opportunities and give back to their communities.

"It is this value and the commitment to our youths' success that brought me to be actively involved with the 21st Century Leaders organization," said **Danny Lindsey**, board member and Georgia Power's senior vice president for power delivery.

Two-thirds of the students who participate are minorities, 60 percent are female and in any given year, 35-50 percent are low-income students.

A servant heart for others: supporting our friends in Puerto Rico

When three hurricanes – Harvey, Irma and Maria – hit the United States and Puerto Rico late last year, Georgia Power and Southern Company were quick to respond with disaster relief assistance.

Employees from across the Southern Company system, including employees of Georgia Power, contributed \$122,000 to the American Red Cross to support relief efforts with Southern Company Charitable Foundation matching these funds. In addition, the Georgia Power Foundation gave \$100,000 to disaster relief efforts.

For some of these employees who were from Puerto Rico, the hurricanes were very personal. Two of these employees, along with their colleagues, coordinated a collection of relief supplies at Georgia Power’s Plant Bowen in northwest Georgia to send to their homeland.

For **Sayra Rodriguez-Perez**, a Georgia Power employee at the plant who hails from Puerto Rico, the relief supply drive was deeply personal because she still has family on the island. Items collected included baby products, cleaning supplies, hygiene products, pet food and dry food. “It touched me to see all of my co-workers caring for us,” she said. “I’m very grateful for all the support given to us.”

In addition, some members of AMIGOS, the company’s Hispanic and Latino employees resource group, coordinated personal supply drives at Georgia Power’s headquarters, its Forest Park facility and Plant Vogtle.

As 3.5 million Puerto Ricans struggled to cope with making ends meet following the aftermath of these hurricanes, including no electricity as the power grid was rebuilt, employees also collected and sent gift cards to the island’s residents.

During the holidays, the Citizens of Georgia Power’s general office chapter, a service organization for the company’s employees at corporate headquarters, and AMIGOS partnered to collect \$965 in gift cards.

“Supporting our internal and external communities is a priority for AMIGOS, and Puerto Rico is a big part of both,” said **Misty Fernandez**, the ERG’s president in 2017. “We were intentional about timing our support over the holidays to let their community know that we are still thinking of them and supporting them. The gift cards to Walgreens, Walmart and CVS Pharmacy gave families more flexibility in buying what they most needed during the holiday season.”

According to **Danna Clary**, Citizens’ general office chapter president in 2017 who assisted with the drive, the three businesses were chosen because they had re-opened and were geographically dispersed on the island. “We had a huge advantage about the island’s situation because some AMIGOS committee members had family members living there.”

Floor representatives at Georgia Power headquarters helped promote and collect the gift cards of varying amounts and Fernandez identified a charity in Puerto Rico to help with distribution of the cards.

Courtesy of the American Red Cross

Matt Goff named 2017 Preston Arkwright Award winner

In honor of the great legacy started by our first president, Georgia Power introduced the Preston Arkwright Award in 2016 to recognize a top volunteer that lives out our company's standard of being "A Citizen Wherever We Serve." This annual award is presented to a Georgia Power employee who goes above and beyond to embody the true meaning of citizenship.

Matt Goff, a forestry and right of way supervisor, was honored as the recipient of the second annual award in 2017 for his impact in the community.

During his 15 years at Georgia Power, Goff founded the first clay shoot fundraiser in 2009 to benefit Electric Kids, Inc., a Citizens of Georgia Power charity that provides assistance to the children of deceased or disabled employees. Through those efforts, he has raised nearly a half-million dollars for the charity and raised more than \$90,000 in 2017 alone.

Finalists for the award are selected by a panel, and the winner chosen by employee voting. As part of the honor, Goff received a \$5,000 donation to a non-profit of his choice and selected Electric Kids, Inc. as the recipient of the funds.

"I am humbled to be selected as this year's Arkwright Award winner as I feel that I am only one part of a fantastic group of people that serve our communities. To be able to share the story of Citizens of Georgia Power and how we have been able to give back to children in need has been incredible."

— Matt Goff, Forestry and Right-of-Way Supervisor,
Georgia Power, Atlanta, Ga.



Employees shine a spotlight on service

Across the state, over 3,700 employees and their spouses are members of one of 48 Citizens of Georgia Power chapters, an internal volunteer organization that encourages giving back to the community.

For at least one non-profit organization in Henry County that Georgia Power’s Customer Care Center’s (CCC) Citizens chapter members regularly volunteer at, it’s “truly a blessing.”

“I can’t put it into words what Georgia Power’s involvement means to our organization. Every year they outdo themselves with donations,” said Teresa McIntyre, executive director of Helping In His Name Ministries, Inc

A food pantry in Henry County, Helping In His Name, is just one of the local organizations that the chapter assists each year. In 2017, the CCC Citizens chapter recorded 10,533 volunteer service hours of the state organization’s 80,311 hours.

Members of the chapter volunteer on a quarterly basis at the food pantry and assist with an annual canned drive. Last year, the chapter held a pizza party contest at the CCC to encourage employees to bring in canned goods for the pantry. The drive netted almost 2,200 items of food.

“I think it’s important that we make a difference. We’re fortunate we have the largest chapter and resources, and it’s important that we use resources properly and get out and help our community,” said **Kimberleigh Mueller**, an accounting specialist at the CCC and the chapter president for 2016-2017, who is one of the CCC’s almost 500 employees. “I always tell members we have the biggest hearts. It’s all above and beyond our regular job duties. Everyone shows up and is willing to help and get things done without hesitation.”

To raise funds, the chapter is known for holding creative events and activities, including pizza parties, jeans days and bake sales. In 2017, the chapter was the top fundraising team for Henry County with \$31,243.

“The Customer Care Center chapter is our largest chapter in the state with more than 400 members. The impact the chapter has on the communities around the Center, as well as on the other Citizens chapters is immeasurable. Their work, over many years, is the embodiment of being “A Citizen Wherever We Serve,” said **Chris D’Andrea**, Georgia Power’s manager of volunteer services.





200+

Statewide
volunteer events

147K+

Volunteer
hours

by Georia Power employees
and retirees



2017 Citizens of Georgia Power Chapter Presidents

Rachel Bailey – *State President*

2017 Club of Hearts

Karlo Ramos – *Chairman*

2017 Ambassadors

Garnett Grubb – *State President*

2017 Citizens of Georgia Power Chapter Presidents

Lisa Battle-Johnson – *Albany*

Mike Roper – *Americus*

Chris Lewis – *Athens*

Linda Goble – *Augusta*

Zach Taylor – *Bainbridge*

Kevin Hill – *Brunswick*

Efronzer Jones – *Carrollton*

Ryan Poole – *Cartersville*

Brittany Spivey – *Clayton*

Cyla Harrell – *Columbus*

Lee Cronan – *Conyers*

Kimberleigh Mueller – *Customer Care Center*

Melanie Taylor – *Dublin*

Josh Gwinn – *Effingham*

Darlene Worley – *Forest Park*

Charles Henley – *Gainesville*

Danna Clary – *General Office*

Cornell Washington – *Gwinnett*

Jackie Brown – *Heart of Georgia*

Karonda Ivery – *Hinesville/Jesup*

Kimberly Allen – *Jefferson Street*

Regina Adkins – *Kingsland*

Brittani Harris – *Metro East*

Karla Iglesias – *Metro South*

Eric Swann – *Metro West*

Tim Nipper – *Milledgeville/Plant Branch*

Dawn Gilmore – *North Fulton Area*

Tabitha Stewart – *Northwest Mountain*

Tina Oliver – *Piedmont*

Ellen Floyd – *Plant Bowen*

Rebecca Theakston – *Plant Hammond*

Kareem Owens – *Plant Hatch*

Tim Van Hagen – *Plant McDonough*

Krystal Reeves – *Plant Scherer*

Stephen King – *Plant Vogtle*

Elmo Rooks – *Plant Wansley*

Bobby Harper – *Plant Yates*

Don Lightfoot – *Rome*

Brenda Figueroa – *Savannah*

Lonnie Shaw – *Savannah Generation*

Cicely Sikes – *Statesboro*

Byron Cox – *Tallulah Falls*

Tiffany Hall – *Tifton*

Carla Cole – *Thomson*

Tina Daniel – *Valdosta*

Cliff Wall – *Vidalia*

Kevin Thomas – *Waycross*

Justin Lee – *Waynesboro*

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