

JAN 2025



**DEDICATED TO SERVICE.
COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY.**



ENERGIZER NEWSLETTER

A Statewide
newsletter
for Citizens of
Georgia Power



Georgia Power

State President's Message

Jason Bennett



Greetings and Happy New Year!

Reflecting on last year, we achieved remarkable milestones under Patrick Harris’s leadership. As I step into the State President role, I am enthusiastic about the momentum we have built and what it will mean for 2025. I can already see the enthusiasm by the number of MLK day projects that have been posted on social media or entered on the calendar to be completed at a later date. Thank you for the participation by all of you in these projects.

As we begin 2025, I want to encourage each of you to identify a charitable organization in your area that has not yet benefited from a service project by Citizens. Our members are involved with numerous organizations across the State, and this is a great opportunity to extend our impact. This aligns well with our theme this year of Dedicated to Service, Committed to Community.

In closing, I would like you to ponder a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King. Dr. King said, **“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is ‘What are you doing for others?’”**.

Thank you for your continued dedication and support.

Yours in Service,
Jason Bennett

2025 State Board

State President Jason Bennett	Secretary Tina Presley
1st VP Kelli Newman	Treasurer Jennifer Simon
2nd VP Jarred Rankin	Asst. Treasurer Cindy McLeroy

State Coordinator & Volunteer Services Manager
Chris D’Andrea

Chapter Relationship

Atlanta Area Eric Swann	Macon Area Jonathan Daughtry
Alpharetta Area Andre Person	Augusta Area Christina Newton
Smyrna Area Drew Uptain	Columbus Area Carrly Lovvorn
Jonesboro Area Crystal Matthews	Savannah Area Daisja Johnson
Rome Area Jonathan Blair	Valdosta Area Brandon Moore
Athens Area Hannah Warner	

Community Investment Director Ben Hodges	Club of Hearts Liaison Charlie Ross
Social Media Director Geneva Powell	Ambassadors Liaison Erica Bankhead





Metro South

Metro South members rallied around a request from Make A Wish Georgia's Chief Development Officer Lindsi Pearson to help complete a wish for a 12 year old boy suffering from Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. All Alnik wanted is to have his own space to play video games and watch movies with his friends. Lindsi's desperate plea for help assembling furniture was all the volunteers needed to hear to come to the rescue. In Lindsi's words,

"We had most of the room complete but desperately needed a group to help us come in and put together the furniture for the room! Krista came through and introduced us to the local GA Power team! They went to the house and truly made the entire wish come to life!"





Athens

Thanks to Athens Citizens volunteers, three different families were able to experience the joys of Christmas and see their kids smile when they saw their stash of gifts.

Athens Citizens members dug deep in support of the North Carolina Black Mountain's Children's Home. Their donations went toward purchasing food gift cards to help feed kids they support.

Chapter member also found time to donate snacks and drinks to University Cancer and Blood Center for their patients to enjoy while getting their treatments.



Carrollton

Brandon Smith and his family made time during the holidays to serve, entertain and support members in their community that might not have been as blessed. Part of their effort was organizing a blanket drive. Their effort and compassion collected 300 blankets for those in need.



Joanna Isbell started the year off with her first Red Cross blood donation and was proud to receive a t-shirt recognizing her effort.

Retiree Chuck Fuller and his wife Melissa spent some time on the Greenway cleaning up. Even brought their dog along to help!





Golden Isles Ambassadors

Golden Isles Ambassadors installed their 2025 officers at their December meeting. Outgoing co-presidents Jimmy and Janet Rogers welcomed incoming officers Addrianne Wiggins, 2nd Vice President, Toni Metz. Recording Secretary, Tean Jackson, President, Marilyn Daly, 1st Vice President, and George Ellis, Corresponding Secretary. Treasurer Lois Duncan was not in attendance. Look forward to working with this great team!

The Golden Isles Georgia Power Ambassadors recently made a trip to the Ritz Theater, Downtown Brunswick to enjoy "A Christmas Carol", presented by The Golden Isles Arts and Humanities Assn.



Carrollton

A little cold didn't stop Carrollton Citizens members and their families from helping sort and deliver 52 large bags of food to Little Free Pantries in Carroll, Haralson, and Heard Counties. Most of the pantries were empty when Volunteers arrived.





Plant Yates

Thanks to all the Plant Yates Citizens volunteers for braving the cold to support their MLK Day event at One Roof. Your dedication to service and commitment to the community made a huge difference.

Vogle

Vogle volunteers sorted and organized the Salvation Army- Center of Hope's food pantry and clothing/ bedding storage. That evening many of them returned to help serve in their soup kitchen. Great project, great experience, great turnout!



Dublin

To honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, the Dublin Chapter worked to refresh the landscaping surrounding the MLK Monument and Park here in Dublin. We placed new mulch, planted drift roses, installed a permanent trash can to promote responsible disposal of litter and hired a local Company to power wash the sidewalks and concreted area around the monument. The MLK Monument was constructed to commemorate Dr. Kings first public speech at the First African Baptist Church. The monument serves not only as a reminder of a historic moment, but inspires other people, young and old, to consider how they can effect social change. The project bridges social and economic gaps, creating links to African American achievement through art and education, inspiring social action and unity. By being "A Citizen Wherever We Serve", we are advocating and honoring Dr. Kings legacy. What an honor for us to be a part of the rich history that surrounds this site. Big thanks to all our members that came out to serve!



Savannah Generation

Savannah Gen volunteers assisted the Effingham County United Way in packing up nearly 4,000 books for Pre-K through 2nd grade students throughout Effingham County. These books are given to those students as part of the Read United initiative, which teaches the students the importance of learning how to read. Volunteers sorted the individual books by class, and went the extra mile by delivering these books to each school.



Valdosta

Citizens volunteers from Valdosta joined up with Valdosta Street Feed to prepare and serve meals. The weather shifted their efforts to one of the local shelters, but volunteers also made deliveries throughout the day.





Volunteers from North Fulton Citizens showed up in force at Mary Hall Freedom Village for the third year in a row! Classrooms, closets and pantries were sanitized, cleaned and organized. Special thanks to Mary Hall Board member David Meiselman for working with the staff at Mary Hall to have a special project just for the kids!! They all worked hard!



North Fulton

Got a great note from Jennifer Simon about North Fulton's King Day project at Bald Ridge Lodge.



"We had a successful day with Bald Ridge Lodge a non-profit in Cumming, GA. This great organization is a 12-bed Group Home for young men who have been removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect or trauma providing safe and stable support. A little chilly for spreading mulch and painting, however the sun was shining, and so were our amazing North Fulton volunteers for "A Day On Not A Day Off"."



Savannah

Savannah Citizens and their families returned to support Tharros Place, a local shelter for survivors of human trafficking for girls between 12-17. The cold weather did not stop the yardwork, furniture building, organization, and donation cleanup. Justine Keller, Citizens and Tharros Place Board member, spoke of the great impact each Georgia Power visit has had for the girls. With 21 volunteers, we were able to complete many projects for Tharros Place in one day. We were excited to see such progress since the last Citizens event with Tharros where we painted and helped with the interior renovations before any girls were housed there. This was a great first project of the year and a way to acknowledge Human Trafficking Awareness month.





Vidalia and Plant Hatch

Volunteers from Vidalia and Plant Hatch Citizens chapters came together on King Day to help some elderly residents with yard cleanup still left from Hurricane Helene. As the saying goes, many hands make like work. Special thanks to all the volunteers and for the team from W.A.R. Outdoor Services for coming out in the cold to help seniors in our community.





Southeast Region External Affairs

Alan Volskay, SE Region Area Manager, partnered with the Liberty County Boys and Girls Club, to serve pancakes and sausage to MLK celebration attendees.



Customer Care Center

The Customer Care Chapter orchestrated an inspiring event that brought together over 60 passionate volunteers who assembled essential hygiene care packages and spearheaded a heartwarming food drive, all in support of the incredible Helping in His Name Food Pantry. Thanks to Jaqueline Taylor for organizing this great event!





General Office, Metro East and Atlanta External Affairs Team

This MLK Day, Citizens GO chapter teamed up with the Atlanta External Affairs Team Jefferson St, Metro East Chapters, and Hands On Atlanta for an epic day of giving back. Our awesome volunteers came together to assemble bags packed with interactive STEAM-focused lesson plans and supplies for the bright young minds at Hope Hill Elementary School. But that's not all – volunteers also penned some heartfelt, inspiring notes of encouragement for the students and teachers, spreading positivity and cheer all around. What a fantastic way to celebrate and honor MLK's legacy by making a difference!



Metro West

Metro West Citizens of Georgia Power celebrated MLK Day of Service at the North Georgia Angel House. Volunteers improved the grounds of the facility, which has been serving youth since 2006 by providing shelter, life skills, educational assistance, and clinical services.



Metro West Citizens of Georgia Power commemorated MLK Day of Service at Serenity Empire Assisted Living. Volunteers engaged in activities such as playing Bingo with residents, cleaning various common areas and closets, organizing items, distributing gifts, and sharing lunch with the residents.



Athens

Athens Citizens returned to City of Refuge this MLK day to continue our work from last year! Volunteers were able to build tables to help support continued demand, and sort and organize household staples. It was a great way to kick off our year and honor Dr. Kings legacy!



Gainesville

The Gainesville Chapter of Citizens worked to load four pallets of person-in-need (P.I.N.) boxes as a service project for MLK Day. That is enough to send multiple meals to each of Georgia Mountain Food Bank's roughly sixty agencies.



Statesboro

A great MLK Day of Service with the Statesboro’s Citizen’s chapter! We had the opportunity to serve almost 200 meals at the soup kitchen.



2025 TARGET DATES AND DEADLINES

20 Monthly	Energizer Chapter Submissions DUE Post to Circuit and Citizens Facebook	October 6-7	State Board Officers will go through selection process for State Officers to serve on State Board during 2026
January 31	2024 Financials uploaded in electronic folder	October 10	State Board Committee Chair application due to State Office
February 1	State Office verify financials and service hours	October 30	Chapter Information for Annual Meeting DUE to State Office
February 5	State Board Meeting-241 RMB	November 6	State Board Meeting – 241 RMB
February 6	Leadership Summit	November TBD	Citizens Annual Business Meeting
February 28	2024 Chapter Financials Completed	December 8	2025-Chapter Officer information DUE
June 15	Educational Loan Fund (ELF) Applications DUE	December 12	Chapter Surveys to be returned to the State Office
June 17	Summer State Board Meeting	December 16	All year-end donations distributed and prepare financials for audit and income tax forms
August 11	State Board Officer Nomination forms due to the State Office (Current State Board members only)	December 31	All 2025 Service Hours entered into Volunteer Microsoft forms
September 19	Annual Business Meeting Invitations Emailed to all Citizens Leaders		

