

# COMMUNITY HELP, INC.



2014 ANNUAL REPORT



- 501(c)(3) Non-Profit
- PO Box 863 – Savannah, GA 31402
- 912-228-3539 – [www.communityhelpinc.org](http://www.communityhelpinc.org)
- Bernard Polite, President

Special thanks to International Paper for providing the printing and paper for this year's Annual Report.

# OUR MISSION

“To improve the quality of life of economically challenged families in the city of Savannah and Chatham County, Georgia through assistance to youth and senior citizens by focusing on education, economic development, and safe, secure housing”.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to Everyone,

You know, each generation wants to think of their time as special. When you look back over the years, you can see changes that have occurred and certain moments are high-lighted in time. Whether you approach this from a social, or spiritual or, scientific perspective; it becomes clear that people working together make the difference. The people of our time and the people of our community are no different. Good things happen for us when we work together. For Community Help, Inc. 2014 was such a year. While keeping our focus on the mission, we sought out opportunities to engage our partners and the people we serve. Our Mission is: "To improve the quality of life of economically challenged families in the city of Savannah and Chatham County, Georgia through assistance to youth and senior citizens by focusing on education, economic development, and safe, secure housing". Our board of directors had earlier, spent time in retreat assessing our strengths and weaknesses and once identified; we decided to take advantage of this new knowledge. We improved our collaboration with the City of Savannah, with the Historic Preservation Class of the Early College Program of the Savannah Chatham County Public School System, and with the families of sick and shut-in senior citizens in our community.

A new roof on your house will bring a smile to your face and place a twinkle in your eye- unless you have had to borrow the money to get the work done. And that of course is the rub. Too many of our seniors live in houses that need repairs and they do not have the resources to get the work done. Community Help, Inc. working in partnership with the City of Savannah and its other partners joined together in a collaborative effort that resulted in eight families receiving new roofs. For community Help, Inc. this represents a 25% growth over last year. But for those senior citizens this meant no more catch buckets, no more rotting wood and shingles, no more anxiety about what will happen when the leaks get worse.

Savannah is indeed a beautiful city. That beauty is made all the more wonderful by the historic homes, statues and other structures that deserve to be cared for - that is to be preserved. Each summer The Historic Savannah Foundation conducts a one-week camp for kids. It's called "Hands on History". It is a collaborative effort; so they have a number of partners. Elementary and Middle School students are recruited into this broad ranging and hands-on introduction to historic preservation. Community Help, Inc. has provided camperships funds for kids and assisted with the actual conduct of the camp. With this exposure, a good number of these kids are enrolled into the first year Historic Preservation Class of the Early College Program. We have continued our support to this program through classroom presentations and color commentary of the actual tours conducted by the class instructor. In working with senior citizens, you really get a sense of "how fast time flies". One generation gives way to the next. You also recognize how much knowledge and information get lost in this transition.

Our visits with the sick and shut-in are always filled with conversation and prayer. People want to talk about the things that matter to them and are important in their daily lives. We listen, we share, we learn. There are now three teams of volunteers who deliver the Wednesday lunch to fifty-six people. The need for support and care continues to grow.

There does not seem to be enough resources focused on our seniors and the issues that they must overcome. Foremost among their concerns is that the dollar does not buy as much as it used to and then comes the need for care givers. The challenge for us is to find ways to solve these problems that the seniors within our community are talking about. Remember when we work together good things can happen for our community.

Bernard Polite, President

Community Help, Inc. 2014  
Annual Report



# EDUCATION AND OUR YOUTH



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Early College Students at The Beach Institute for the Julius Rosenwald story of 5000 schools built for African Americans.



Historic Preservation Students and Mr. Bernard Polite utilize replicas of historic student desks as they listen to a presentation at the Beach Institute.



Historic Preservation Students on the second floor of the King-Tisdell Cottage, looking closely at the "Haint Blue" paint, that was used to ward off the "spirits".



Mr. Brent Armstrong, Historic Preservation Instructor receives a souvenir journal from the speaker Mrs. Stephanie Deutsch, the wife of the Great Grandson of Julius Rosenwald.





*Historic Preservation Class, students at the "Tybee Island Light Station". Mr. Brent Armstrong, class instructor (in background).*

We have continued our support to this program through classroom presentations and color commentary of the actual tours conducted by the class instructor.

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*Daniele and engineers from J.T. Turner construction explain the scope of the "Berrier House" restoration.*



*"Hands On History" summer camp, students get a first-hand view of the "Berrier House" restoration.*



*Engineer shows Historic Preservation class, the areas of restoration on the "Berrier House".*





Historic Preservation Camp takes young folks on a field trip to the Tybee Lighthouse.



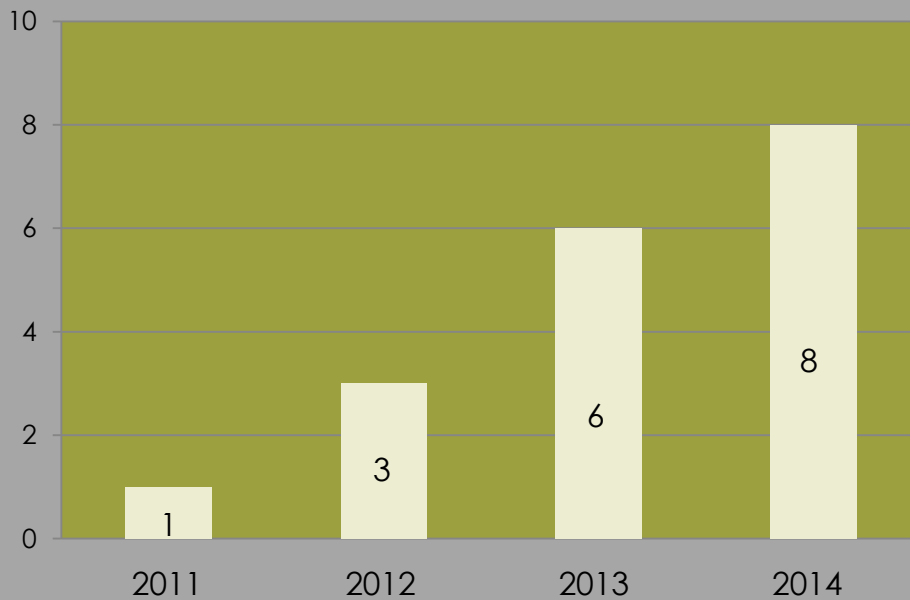




# COMMUNITY PROJECTS



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*Mr. Bernard Polite, President of Community Help, Inc. congratulates a home owner at the completion of his roof replacement.*



# Duffy Street Project



Just one of eight roofing projects  
accomplished this year.

A new roof on your house will bring a smile to your face and place a twinkle in your eye.





# HOUR OF POWER





# Hour of Power Meal Distribution January 2014 – March 2015

<u>Month</u>	<u>Served On-Site</u>	<u>Delivered</u>	<u>Total</u>
January 2014	177	248	425
February 2014	286	280	566
March 2014	302	304	606
April 2014	290	304	594
May 2014	147	276	423
June 2014	217	285	502
July 2014	300	301	601
August 2016	319	295	614
September 2014	309	292	601
October 2014	295	310	605
November 2014	193	276	469
December 2014	144	320	464
January 2015	285	296	581
February 2015	233	285	518
March 2018	346	294	640
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3843</b>	<b>4366</b>	<b>7728</b>
Avg. Total Meals per Week			105
Avg. # Meals Delivered per Week			56

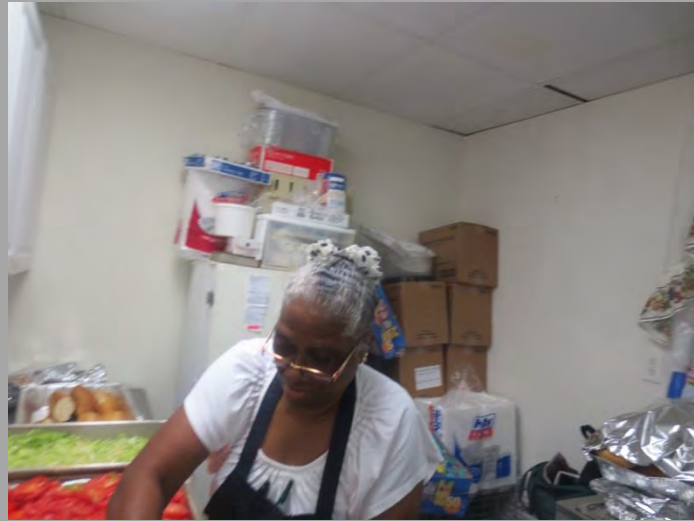
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Our mission would not be possible without the volunteers who work so diligently.



# OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Bernard Polite, President  
Community Volunteer  
Retired Manager, International  
Paper Co.  
Member: St. Philip Monumental  
AME Church

Mrs. Claudia Clarke, Secretary  
Vice President and Senior Lending  
Officer  
Carver State Bank  
Member: Speedwell United Methodist  
Church

Mr. Charles Nelson, Treasurer  
Community Volunteer  
Retired Supervisor, International  
Paper Col.  
Member: St. Philip Monumental  
AME Church

Rev. Marsha Verdree  
Associate Pastor, St. Philip  
Monumental AME Church

Mr. George Bowen  
Retired Military  
Former Education Administrator  
International Consultant

Atty. Bonzo Reddick  
Attorney and Part-time Pro-tem  
Magistrate Judge  
Member: Living Hope  
Community Fellowship Church

Mr. Keith Lord  
Information Technology  
Youth Futures Authority  
Member: St. Philip Monumental  
AME Church

Mrs. Ruby Lipscomb  
Retired Educator  
Member: St. Philip Monumental AME  
Church

Dr. David Smith, Jr.  
Chief of Staff  
Savannah State University

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Good things happen for us when we work together. For Community Help, Inc. 2014 was such a year. While keeping our focus on the mission, we sought out opportunities to engage our partners and the people we serve.



New Board member, Dr. David Smith, with Dr. Kenneth Eugene, Edward Chisolm, and Jan Skutch.



The Board at work.



Board members receive grant from International Paper.





Mr. George Bowen and Mrs. Ruby Lipscomb, Directors, work on Community Help, Inc. projects. Mrs. Lipscomb is one of our new Directors.





# COMMUNITY HELPS, INC.

Putting it all  
together.





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