



Busy Working Mom Mentors, Too

Our featured mentors always say time is not an issue, but even busy Amy Rogers, mother of three and new foster mother of a nine-year-old boy, urges and encourages others to step up and mentor!

Rogers mentors nine-year-old Justasshia, teaches at Siler City Elementary, and she and her husband, teacher and auctioneer Michael Rogers, are also active at Joy Baptist Church. "Finding time now is easier than when we didn't have children," Rogers said. "I know what to expect from children now, and Justasshia enjoys just the routine things we are already doing, like going to ballgames, hanging out at home, and having supper together. When I was without children and mentoring for four years, I mistakenly thought I had to entertain. Mentoring can be challenging, but open communication is the key, with both the child and his/her family."

Justasshia's mother, Angela, said, "Oh, yes, we do get along well. It's like she's my mentor, too. Having Amy as a mentor has turned our life around for the good. It's a godsend. She has not only helped Justasshia, but our whole family. Amy is very wise, and Mr. Rogers, too. They even introduced us to church. I admire them for their patience – not just patience with the kids, but with life. Do you know what I mean?"

"She came at just the perfect time, being there for us during a transition time from a stress-

ful home situation. She took the children's minds off things – like taking them swimming or calling and asking, 'May I take them for ice cream this afternoon?' " She doesn't think of only Justasshia, but all of the children. Justasshia's mother shared her appreciation for Chatham County Together!, especially for sending Justasshia and her siblings to camp this summer. "It would have been unaffordable for me, and it was so convenient to go to Asheboro where I work. They learned a lot."

Volunteer Coordinator Shirille Lee was equally as pleased. "We started out looking for a short-term experience for just Justasshia, and ultimately found funding and a special arrangement at Randolph County YMCA for all three children for nine weeks. Its director called me to negotiate the funding, and it was collaboration among them, Girl Scouts, and our Triangle Community Foundation camp scholarships. Mom was so relieved to have them cared for there while she worked," she said.

Rogers recently recruited two Siler City Elementary teachers as mentors. "I feel everyone has four hours a week to spare to improve the lives of children. Kids are our future, the way I see it," Rogers exclaimed.



Amy and Justasshia

COMING UP

October 25	Pittsboro Street Fair
November 1	Project Symphony *
November 11	Burrito Bash *
December 1	Siler City Christmas Parade
December 6	Goldston Christmas Parade
December 7	Pittsboro Christmas Parade
December 13	Pre-Posada Fundraiser *
January 25	Night in Italy *
May 2	Lobster Sale Pickup

* Learn more about these events on [page 2](#)

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." – Anne Frank

HOW YOU CAN HELP...UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

Project Symphony

November 1, 7-9 pm
Hill Hall, UNC-CH

Enjoy the premiere of *Project Symphony*, a classical music experience written by former CCT! youth, Ari Picker, and performed by members of the NC Symphony, UNC Orchestra, and other local talents.

Proceeds to benefit CCT!

Tickets are **\$30** for Gold-premium seating, **\$20** Silver level seating and **\$10** for Bronze. Tickets available online at the www.ProjectSymphony.org website and limited seating selections available via paper tickets at the CCT! office. Contact Tracy McInturff for tickets by calling 542-5155, ext. 405.

Burrito Bash

November 11, 6-9 pm
General Store Cafe
Pittsboro

Join us for music and a burrito dinner. This event will raise funds for CCT!, the Partnership for Children and Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center. Enjoy music by CCT! heroes Ann and Max Drake, The Laine and Avis Duo, Rusty McIntosh and other guest appearances!

Tickets are **\$12 in advance** or **\$15 at the door**. Checks should be made payable to the Partnership for Children and can be picked up at any of the above agency offices.

Pre-"Posada"

December 13
First United Methodist
Church, Siler City

In Hispanic culture, the Posada is a time marked with families visiting one another in their homes, sharing a meal and exchanging gifts.

Bake/Craft Sale - **3:30 pm**
Eat-in/Take-out Plate Sale
5-7 pm
\$7 per dinner

Polaroid pictures with
Santa for sale
Music

Night in Italy

January 25, 2009
5-8 pm
Council on Aging
Pittsboro

Enjoy an evening of fellowship, candlelight and an exquisite feast of Italian fare and homemade desserts.

Silent auction at 5 pm,
dinner at 6 pm.

\$30 per person.
Sponsorships of \$150, \$250 and \$500 are needed. 2 free tickets included with \$250 and higher sponsorships.

Make your reservations with Pam Johnson by calling 542-5155 ext 401.

Congratulations Extended!!

- ★ to Alison Uhlenberg and Orlando Meza on the birth of their daughter, Olivia Jayce Meza!
- ★ to volunteer mentor, Stacy Gray, on her recent marriage!
- ★ to Theresa Robertino, recipient of United Way's 2008 Chatham County Outstanding Volunteer Award on September 28th. Theresa has been mentoring two CCT! youth since May 2005, and we are indebted to her for her dedication to this agency and the youth she serves. Theresa regularly brings the CCT! staff fresh baked cookies and treats, which is a real pick-me-up during report time. Thanks, Theresa! You are a star!



- ★ GOOD WORK! These CCT! students made the honor roll: Aaron B., Kendrick E., Marquise H., Lorianne S., Maggie S., Christie R.

- ★ Best of luck to these fine young adults for completing high school and moving forward:

- Christie Roberson - Bridgeman
- Quincy Brooks - CCCC
- Tony Degraffenreidt - CCCC
- Shequel Fox - UNC-Charlotte
- Tanya Smith - CCCC
- Ernestine Carter - Livingstone College
- Charity Alston - Durham Tech
- Jurreal Burton - CCCC

THANKS to these volunteers for helping with our Fundraising Committee: Nancy Tanguay, Elizabeth Anderson, and Bob McConaughy

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all of our contributors, especially:

- A \$15,000 grant from the Chester and Jessie May Clark Endowment Fund of Triangle Community Foundation that will be used to support our Governor's One-on-One Mentoring Program.
- Forty-two kids made it to camp this year, thanks to the "2008 Send A Kid to Camp" program of the Triangle Community Foundation, Chapel in the Pines, the Fearington Women's Club, Salvation Army and Pittsboro Presbyterian Church.
- Thanks to Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church for school backpacks!
- The Carolina Meadows Outreach Committee raised \$1510 in their Back-to-School Drive! Thanks!
- Thanks to Forrest Greenslade for the Board retreat he facilitated this summer and for the complimentary copies of his book "The Simple-Minded Manager."
- "Breakfast for Dinner" - The Kiwanis Club raised \$1,690 for Chatham County Together! during "Breakfast for Dinner" on August 22nd. Thanks to our patrons and to the Kiwanis Club, CCT! volunteers and youth for working the event and our patrons for a great night of fellowship and best pancakes in town!



CCT! 101

Chatham County Together!'s mission is to encourage at-risk youth and young adults, ages 6-17, to become healthy, self-sufficient, and contributing members of society by:

- Fostering positive mentoring relationships
- Encouraging academic success
- Teaching valuable skills
- Offering family advocacy and support one-on-one, in small group and/or family settings,

and is put into action through its programs (see below).

Mentoring

Our three mentoring components follow the same model – to match an adult volunteer one-on-one with a youth, ages 6-17 from Chatham County. The only differences among them are the youth they serve and the number of hours required of volunteers. All volunteers are required to complete a screening process which includes a training and orientation session, an application, an interview and passing a criminal and driving check. All volunteers are asked to commit to one year. Staff provide ongoing supervision, support and activities for volunteers and youth and monitor school performance of youth.

- **The Governor's One-on-One program** is part of a statewide network that serves those youth who are "at-risk" for being involved with the Office of Juvenile Justice or law enforcement, as well as youth who have been diverted from Juvenile Court or are on probation. Studies show that mentoring these youth of-promise result in tremendous improvements in academic success and reduction in re-offending.

- **United Way Mentoring** supports CCT!'s work with younger youth with most of the referrals coming from Chatham County Schools and/or parents. For kids who are waiting for a mentor, we offer what's called "Guided Growth" activities, and include these kids in any event that would increase their self esteem, social and recreational skills, decision making and academic skills. These activities may be large and small group activities, camp placements, community service projects or tutoring.

- **Mentoring Children of Prisoners** – In 2003, CCT! was selected by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children, Youth and Families, to provide mentors to children who have one or more parents in prison. CCT! is the only agency in this area that specifically provides programming for this group of kids. CCT! estimates that there are more than 136 children of prisoners in Chatham County who may be eligible. If you know of a family that has an incarcerated parent, please contact us so that we may offer our assistance to them. If you are new to Chatham County Together!, please let us show you how easy it can be to make a difference in the life a child, particularly these kids struggling with the loss of one or more parents due to incarceration.

Family Advocacy

is a parent skill-building component that teaches parents and youth ways to work collaboratively with the Office of Juvenile Justice, Department of Social Services, mental health providers and the schools. Staff work with parents to strengthen their parenting skills, address their children's problem behaviors and identify their strengths. Along with Family Advocacy is the supplemental service called Project Upgrade. A number of teens have turned around their grades for the better, improved their communication skills and participated in community service projects and recreation activities.

Chatham New School (CNS)

CNS has been providing an alternative educational placement for Chatham County students since 2001. Youth are transferred from their home school when it is deemed that their behavior precludes them from attending their regular school. Students continue their classwork at CNS and are provided with activities and support so that they don't fall behind in academic credits. Problem behaviors are also addressed. Continuation of this program past January 2009 is uncertain and contingent on receiving alternate sources of funding.

Hablando Claro/Plain Talk

Hablando Claro/Plain Talk is a teen pregnancy prevention program primarily serving Latino adults in Siler City. CCT! boasts not only being the first program of its kind in North Carolina, but also part of a national network of programs created by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Hablando Claro/Plain Talk promotes and teaches parents how to communicate effectively with their adolescents about risky behaviors. Promotoros, or Walkers and Talkers, recruit families to participate. Through "Home Health Parties" friends and neighbors gather to share food and stories, learn factual information and ask questions. Nationally, these programs have shown lower pregnancy rates among teens by 10% when parents become "ask-able adults."



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Walk

Contributions since last newsletter - THANK YOU!

Aaron & Mary Honeycutt	Domino's Pizza	Jo Sanders	Raymond Greenlaw
Andy's Cheesesteaks & Cheeseburgers	Don Schoene	Joan Harding	Raymond Mones
Anna Louise Reynolds Fund of Triangle Community Foundation	Donna Carle	Joan Hill	Richard & Ingrid Parish
Annette Beatty	Dorothy Swartz	John & Beth Benham	Richard Bird
Arthur & Irma Baron	Douglas & Dinah McAllister	John & Cathy Stow	Richard Paisner & Christie Weiner
Avis & Larry Autry	Dr. Marion Restivo	John & Evelyn Ullman	Rita Baldwin
Bennett & Elizabeth Owens	Dwain & Maryanne Warne	Julia Johnson	Robert & Patricia Goetz
Betty Ashburn	Ed & Connie Berry	Julie Ensign	Robert & Pamela Downen
Betty Atkinson	Efrain Ramirez	Keith & Jenny Megginson	Ron & Carolyn Sidor
Bill Doyle	Elisa Yanchunas	Kelly Kotoris Moody	Ronald & Janet Lander
blossom	Elizabeth Anderson	Kim Skeen	Rosalie Morris
Bob & Gloria Wilkins	Emmaus Baptist Church	Laura & Frank Partin	Roy and Jean Proffitt
Bob Downen	Eno River Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans	Lawrence & Nita Glickman	Ruby Holt
Bob Holton	Eric Scholz	Lee & Betty Parker	Ruth Andrews
Bob McConaughy & Patricia Blanton	F. Abbott & Margaret Chapman	Linda Pennypacker	Ruth Katz
Bob McKinley	Fearrington Women's Club	Lorraine Warren	Ruth Roundy
Bonnie Vargo	Forrest Greenslade	Lumina	Sage Academy
CAD Futures	Fredy's Catering	Lyanne Spangler	Sam & Carolyn Taylor
Carleton and Emily Lee	Gail & William Greene	MEAC	San Felipe
Carolina Brewery	Gail Curry	Marco Chiappetta	Scott and Martha Rutherford
Caroline and George Unick	George & Nansi Greger-Holt	Margrit & Henry Goldstein	Shakori Hills
Carolyn Lail	Gerald and Helen Michael	Maria & Stuart Nickerson	Smithfield Chicken and B-B-Q
Charles Billings	Ginger Harris-Pike	Marilyn Band	Spring Lane Theatre
Chatham County Arts	Gracie Herzog Robinson	Marion & Diane Thomson	Stephen and Elaine Hudak
Cheryl Ganter	Gracie Herzog Robinson	Marion and June Horton	Steve Bobrowski
Chester and Jessie May	Guy Baird	Marty Brooks	Suzi Miller
Clark Endowment Fund of Triangle Community Foundation	Gwen Overturf & Eddie White	Mary Smith	Thaddeus & Candace Bonus
Christie Silbajoris	Heidi & Jeffrey Lineberry	Maureen Berry	The Friendly Florist
Chuck Anderson & Nancy Easterling	Herbert & Jane Huth	Michael and Judy Harrelson	The Page & Otto Marx, Jr. Foundation
Circle City Screen Printing	James Douglas Stuber	Micky Gonzales	Thelma Binkley
Claire Brown	James MacDonald	Mott Blair	Theresa Robertino
Computer Therapy	James & Kathryn Bishop	Mr. and Mrs. Don Davidson	Todd Meath
David & Diane McGrath	Jan Clark	Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church	Tom & Laura Vanderbeck
David & Phyllis Chapman	Jane Palkoski	Our Neighborhood School	Town of Goldston
David & Jan Misenheimer	Jane Schell	Pat Merwarth	Townsend's
Deborah Hite	Jeff Bouton	Patricia McCann	Triangle Fitness
Dolores Tewksbury	Jeff and Tracy Parker	Patricia White	Uzal & Carroll Martz
	Jerry and Kathryn Fowler	Phyllis & Barry Burns	Waffle House
	Jim & Cathren Brooks	Pittsboro Discount Drug	Weaver Street Realty
	Jim & Mary Schoonard	Progress Energy	Welshie & Farrel Potts
	Jim & Sharron Kirkman	RBC Centrua	Yolanda Viveros
	Jim White	Raleigh Little Theatre	
	Jimmy & Catherine Jones		

YES, I want to contribute to Chatham County Together! and help meet the goal of \$58,000 for the fiscal year!

Name _____

Email address _____

Address _____

Chatham County Together! is a private non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible. _____ Amount

My donation is in honor/memory of _____

_____ include address for us to send acknowledgement

Please send me a Volunteer Application.

ONLINE GIVING

You can now make a secure contribution online!

Visit us at

www.chathamcountytogether.org and click CONTRIBUTE.

Every dollar you contribute supports programming that benefits hundreds of Chatham families.

Easy Donation with Food Lion Purchases

If you have an MVP card from Food Lion, would you please take a moment to register it on their Lion Share program? <https://www.foodlion.com/IntheCommunity/ShopandShare/>.

Each time you shop at Food Lion, a portion of your purchase will be donated to CCT!

NEW MATCHES



Carrie Overgaard & Aileah

Vini Leonard & Brianna
 Carrie Overgaard & Aaliyah
 Marissa Jelks & Devante
 Donna Ray & Tori
 Daniel Haithcox & Seth
 Bill Doyle & Victor
 Ruth Roundy & Amara
 Mary Ellen Sacca & Marreco
 Rey Hilario & Cesar
 Gwen Snyder & Yesenia
 Allison Buckner & Maria
 Kevin Klingel & Ashlee



Victor & Bill Doyle



Marissa Jelks & Devante



Marreco & Mary Ellen Sacca



Vini Leonard & Brianna



Amara & Ruth Roundy



Daniel Haithcox & Seth



Rey Hilario & Cesar



Donna Ray & Tori

VOLUNTEER NEEDS ARE GREAT!

CCT! currently monitors 48 mentoring "matches" with another four almost ready to go! Our waiting list of 80 youth has been reduced, but we have a long way to go. If your time is tight, consider mentoring 30 minutes a week through our Lunch Buddies program.

Contact Shirille Lee, coordinator for our Mentoring Children of Prisoners grant.

Director's Note

Like everyone else, Chatham County Together! is feeling stress and uncertainty in these rocky economic times. Our commitment to serving youth and families in our community remains steady, but our financial needs are even greater now than in years past. Due to budget shortfalls, we need more of your financial support to maintain current levels of service. Come join us. Together we can help young people right here in our community to become healthy, caring and successful adults.

– Kim Caraganis

Welcome New Volunteers!

Saranne Wilson, Cindy Adams, Nina Comiskey, Whitney Farrar, Brittany Lasater, Michael & Kelly Adelman

Group Activities

88 youth have taken part in these activities that teach social responsibility, artistic and recreational skills. Help us to continue to fund this type of programming!

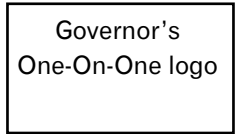
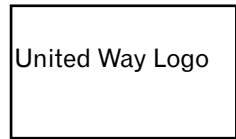
- Shakori Hills Spring Festival, Silk Hope
- Carowinds
- Raleigh Little Theatre, Peter Pan
- Side Street Gallery Art Workshop
- Pedestrian Assessment Workshop
- Family Movie Night, Siler City
- Lumina Movies
- Jordan Lake Orienteering Workshop
- Fun in the Sun, Siler City





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 www.chathamcountytogether.org

NonProfit Organization
 US POSTAGE PAID
 Permit No 52
 Pittsboro NC 27312



Chatham County Together! is a private non-profit agency that encourages young people ages 6 to 17 to remain in school, stay out of trouble, and make better choices. When possible, CCT! provides a caring adult volunteer for each child. We carefully monitor school attendance and performance, and provide tutoring, support, and advocacy to improve academic and social skills.

CCT! Staff/Support Staff

- Kim Caraganis
- Roy Barnes
- Shirille Lee
- Pam Johnson
- Maria Soto
- Tracy McInturff
- Gwen Overturf
- Hugo Gallegos

2008-09 Board of Directors

- Jim Kirkman, Chair
- Bob Hoerter, Vice Chair
- Rita Marley-McKenzie, Treasurer
- Avis Autry, Secretary
- Curtisteen McCrimmon
- Bruce Murray
- Patty Wall Poe
- Dee Reid
- Fabian Sparrow
- Page Vernon

Please welcome Bruce Murray and Patty Wall Poe to the new Board!

Our gratitude for serving on our 2007-2008 Board goes out to: Barry Burns, Kathy Fowler, Ginger Martin-Purvis, Richard Parrish, Ruth Roundy, Annette Williams.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

A Classical Garden Party was the theme for our 2008 Volunteer Appreciation. Musicians from the UNC-CH Orchestra, NC Symphony and community orchestra members performed at Ari Picker's *Project Symphony* fundraiser at the new Fearington Garden Terrace for CCT! volunteers and community members. "Chatham County Together! was an important part of my youth, and I wanted to do something to give back," said Picker during intermission. Project Symphony is Picker's new non-profit, designed to bring classical music into communities and raise money for other non-profits. Don't miss the November 1 event at UNC-CH's Hill Hall to benefit CCT! See page 2 for more details.



Computers for Kids

To date, 14 computers have been refurbished and distributed directly to middle and high school students in Chatham County. Jeff Bouton and newly recruited Lloyd DeWald lead this effort and are working towards obtaining sizeable donations to meet the demand of kids who need technology to survive today's expectations in school. If your company or corporation would like to make a tax deductible contribution, we will gratefully accept cash to purchase software and donations of quality parts, cases, video cards, memory sticks and monitors. Please contact Tracy McInturff before dropping off your donation to make sure that it will meet our minimum specifications.

