



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Center for Family Resources  
995 Roswell Street NE  
Marietta, Ga. 30060  
Contact: Susie Ivy, Communications Manager  
Office: (770) 428-2601  
Cell: (770) 630-2713

# Thanks for Giving 2008 Food Distribution Makes History

## *Lost Mountain Middle School Food Drive Rises Above the Rest*

**Marietta, Ga. (December 11, 2008)** The Center for Family Resources (CFR) would like to give thanks for the supporters of *Thanks for Giving 2008*, the largest distribution in our history! Because of the generous support from local schools, colleges, businesses, volunteers, individuals, civic and religious organizations, CFR provided food boxes to **1,370 families**, a 25 percent increase from 2007.

More than 150 food drives helped support *Thanks for Giving 2008*, a 50 percent increase from 2007, including 56 schools and colleges, 62 businesses and civic organizations, and 33 individuals. The support of Cobb County and Marietta City Schools was integral to the success of the food distribution. CFR is pleased to announce **Lost Mountain Middle School** as the overall largest food drive participant, providing nearly 3,000 food items. Also, Harrison High School and Burruss Elementary School were the largest high and elementary school food drives.

"The food drive participation from the schools quadrupled from our efforts last year," Jennifer Cain, CFR Development and Volunteer Coordinator said. The increased demand we saw at registration meant the food coming in had to be greater than ever and the schools really helped us meet that challenge. We could not have gotten this done without them."

The coordination and execution of *Thanks for Giving 2008* relied entirely on the support of local individuals, schools, businesses and religious and civic organizations. Sponsors included Lockheed Martin, Turner Construction and Subcontractors, Cobb County Civic Center, Marietta Daily Journal, Audrey Bender, Butch Thompson Enterprises, Inc., James Dalton, Keith Davidson, Davis Elementary School, Genuine Parts Company, Georgia Power, Madelyn Merle, Radio Disney, Repro Products and The Color Spot, Republic Services of Georgia, Solvay Pharmaceuticals, UPS, Vinings Rotary Club, Advantage Office Solutions, Alan Cox Automotive, ARCADIS, Angie Bolton, Chatfield Contracting, Inc., Compass Display Group, Creamer-Pearce, C.W. Matthews, D & H Construction, E. Smith Heating and Air, Eastminster Church of Marietta, Russell Fitzgerald, Great Lakes West, Pam Hickox, J.D.'s Barbeque, Kaiser Permanente, Kroger, Karen Morris, OCI Chemical, PBS&J, Publix, Tri-State Utility Products, Inc., and Wild Wing Cafe.

"As the economy slowed this year, we saw more and more families face real need, many having to ask for help for the first time," Debbie Abernathy, Thanksgiving Task Force Chair said. The businesses in our community were also suffering, with dwindling revenues and tight budgets but even with these tough conditions Cobb businesses dug down deep and held food drives, helped transport food, sorted, distributed and provided great financial support too. I was just amazed at the generous giving from so many businesses large and small – Cobb really does take care of its own."

In October, CFR registered more than 1,400 families in need to receive Thanksgiving food baskets. Unfortunately, because of the volume of families in need this season, more than 220 families were turned away. If the level of need continues to escalate in 2009, we will work to increase our donation and distribution efforts even further. In 2007, CFR provided Thanksgiving baskets to nearly 1,100 families. For more than 20 years, CFR and the Department of Children and Family Services have partnered to provide Thanksgiving food baskets to families in need in Cobb County.

Distribution of the food boxes to registered families took place on Monday, November 24 and Tuesday, November 25 at the Cobb County Civic Center.

For more information on CFR program and services, visit [www.TheCFR.org](http://www.TheCFR.org).

*Since 1960, CFR has helped thousands of low-income families with employment, education, and housing services; leadership development programs; mentoring opportunities; and temporary financial and food assistance. **Guided by organizational values of Family, Integrity, Results, Service and Teamwork**, the staff at CFR is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty by helping families acquire the resources they need to become independent and self-sufficient.*

995 Roswell Street NE  
Suite 100  
Marietta, GA 30060

tel: 770.428.2601  
fax: 770.423.2234  
[www.TheCFR.org](http://www.TheCFR.org)

###