OUR MISSION

The mission of Ninth District Opportunity is to advocate for families in need and to promote access to opportunities which facilitate movement towards self-improvement, self-reliance, and self-determination.

Garrison Baker
Board Chair

Patsy Thomas
Executive Director

P.O. Drawer L, Gainesville, Georgia 30503 phone: (770) 532-3191 www.ndo.org
NINTH DISTRICT'S SERVICE AREA

Weatherization Programs
- Weatherization Assistance Programs
- Home Energy Assistance Program
- Georgia Power Program
- PSC Gas & Water Heater Program

Community Services
- Community Service Block Grant
- Emergency Food & Shelter Program
- Homeless Prevention/Rapid Re-housing
- SSI Advocacy
- Work Experience Program

Child Development Programs
- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Child & Adult Care Food Program
- Georgia Pre-Kindergarten Program
"Community Action" was a brand new concept in 1964 when the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 was first signed into law. The monumental piece of legislation embodied the idea that the poor knew best what their problems were and how best to allocate resources to resolve them. Enlisting “maximum feasible participation” of the poor was then, and still is today, of paramount importance in the Community Action effort. In the several years that followed, numerous community action agencies were formed. On May 31, 1967, Ninth District Opportunity, Inc. (NDO) was legally incorporated and a staff of about fifteen people opened an office in Gainesville, Georgia. The fact that most of the Agency’s service area encompassed a large part of the Ninth Congressional District and the fact that Congressman Phil Landrum of Jasper, Georgia, played such an important role in establishing the Economic Opportunity Act, prompted the Board of Directors to give the agency its name.

Ninth District Opportunity has undergone tremendous growth and major changes in its 50 years of operation, but has remained a vital and effective social service organization. From its beginnings, NDO has grown to over 500 staff members with an annual budget in excess of $40 million.

The work is to great and important for Ninth District Opportunity to do alone. The Agency has dozens of collaborative partners within local communities, working closely with local governments, volunteers, school systems, universities, public health, state agencies, utility companies, concerned citizens, civic organizations, faith-based entities, businesses and other non-profits to positively impact the lives of low-income citizens.

Ninth District Opportunity is an effective mobilizer of resources for the poor at the local level through training, education, program development, counseling and guidance. While countless changes have occurred over the past 50 years within NDO and our communities, our goal of providing opportunity for low-income citizens to work and live in decency and dignity has remained unchanged.
Ninth District Opportunity experienced a tremendous loss in September 2017 with the passing of its Executive Director, Janice A. Riley. Ms. Riley was one of only two NDO Executive Directors. Ms. Riley worked in the Cherokee Head Start program in 1970 prior to joining Ninth District Opportunity’s Head Start Central Office staff in 1972. In addition to Executive Director, Ms. Riley served as Head Start Parent Involvement/Social Services Coordinator, Special Projects Coordinator, Assistant Head Start Director, Equal Opportunity Officer and Director of Community Service Programs. Ms. Riley’s dedication to helping those less fortunate reached farther than Ninth District Opportunity. She served on numerous state and national boards relating to human services including the Georgia Growth Strategies Commission, the 21st Century Commission on Quality Work Force and the Governor’s Employment and Training Council.

“We are inextricably linked in the circle of life. To presuppose that we are unaffected by those who are less fortunate will not extricate us from the dire consequences of poverty. Every life deserves an opportunity”.

- Janice A. Riley
REVENUES

Head Start & CACFP Programs
- $28,772,159

GA Pre-K
- $4,912,993

CSBG Related Programs
- $6,888,783

GEFA Related Programs
- $316,631

Other Agency Administered Programs
- $251,761

Agency Administration
- $1,303,793

Total: $42,446,120*

*Total does not include carry-over funds from previous fiscal year.

Fiscal Reports are submitted to OHS, DHS, HUD, DFACS, and GEFA to comply with grant requirements and to assure the continuation of funding.
**EXPENDITURES**

- **Head Start & CACFP Programs**
  - $28,941,355

- **GA Pre-K**
  - $4,836,963

- **CSBG Related Programs**
  - $6,919,582

- **GEFA Related Programs**
  - $307,485

- **Other Agency Administered Programs**
  - $280,933

- **Agency Administration**
  - $1,303,793

**Total:** $42,590,111

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**Audit**

The effectiveness of the Agency’s fiscal management is reflective in the overall positive results of the independent audit conducted by Alexander, Almand, & Bangs. The audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 found that the Agency complied with the terms of its funding. The auditor’s report expressed an unmodified opinion for the financial statements of Ninth District Opportunity and for compliance for its major programs. No significant deficiencies were found in the internal controls or in areas required to be reported under Uniform Guidance.
NDO BY THE NUMBERS

Total Persons Served: 24,855
Total Families Served: 14,418
Total Early Head Start/Head Start Children served: 2,476
Total Early Head Start/Head Start Families Served: 2,283
Average Monthly Head Start/Early Head Start Enrollment: 100%; ADA – 87.12% HS and 85.99% EHS
Percentage of Income Eligible Children Served in Head Start: 94%
Established Partnerships: 412

Gender: Female 66%, Male 34%
Race: Black 36%, White 60%, Other 4%
Insurance: Yes 70%, No 30%
Disabled: Yes 33%, No 67%
Education: HS Graduate 18%, Some College 29%, College Degree 46%, Non-Graduate 7%
Age: Senior (65+) 46%, Adult (18-64) 29%, Child (6-17) 18%, Young Child (0-6) 7%
Family Type: Two Parents 61%, Single Parent 21%, Adults/No Child 12%, Single Person 8%
HELPING PEOPLE REALIZE THE POSSIBILITIES

Income Management
- 2,044 Families
- Increased Household Resources
- 94 Families
- Decreased Subsidies

Employment
- 84 Unemployed Individuals
- Obtained New Employment
- 36 Newly Employed Individuals
- Increased Employment
- 57 Newly Employed Individuals
- Maintained Employment 90 Days
HELPING PEOPLE REALIZE THE POSSIBILITIES

Health and Medical

2,947 Families
Obtained Healthcare Assistance

8,132 Persons
With disabilities served

27,536 Families
Obtained Food Assistance

93% Early Head Start and Head Start Children
Were brought up-to-date with age-appropriate preventative & primary healthcare

93% Early Head Start and Head Start Children
Were brought up-to-date with age-appropriate preventative & primary oral healthcare

18% Early Head Start and Head Start Children
Were determined to qualify for disability services.
HELPING PEOPLE REALIZE THE POSSIBILITIES

Housing and Energy

- 39 Homes
  Received Weatherization Rehabilitation Assistance with an average energy savings of 29%

- 12,561 Families
  Received Supplemental Heating Assistance

- 280 Homeless Families/Individuals
  Obtained Safe/Affordable Permanent Housing

- 548 Families at Risk of Homelessness
  Maintained Housing
The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in center-based preschool classrooms. CLASS includes three domains of child-teacher interactions that support children’s learning and development: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support.
Our Head Start program uses the Work Sampling Online System (WSO) for child assessment in multiple domains. WSO provides ongoing documentation of children’s skills, knowledge, behavior, and accomplishments over ten major areas: physical health, social/emotional development, approaches to learning, logic and reasoning, language development, literacy, mathematics, science, creative arts, and social studies. On-going documentation allows for continuous progress monitoring and differentiation by teachers which enables them to identify instructional needs to form flexible student groupings, child interest areas, and individualized instruction.

### Percentage of Children Proficient in Each Domain for the 2016-2017 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>3 Year Olds</th>
<th>4 Year Olds</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perceptual Motor/Physical Development</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>95.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social/Emotional Development</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>94.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approaches to Learning</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>92.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Development</td>
<td>89.2</td>
<td>92.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy Knowledge and Skills</td>
<td>87.1</td>
<td>90.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognition Mathematics</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>87.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognition Scientific Reasoning</td>
<td>85.2</td>
<td>91.9</td>
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The CCR Family Outcomes Survey measures parent opinion on how much they and their families have benefited from their Head Start experience. A total of 1,798 families completed the survey in the spring of 2017. The vast majority of parents talked enthusiastically about how their families had benefited from Head Start. Overwhelmingly, parents and guardians found Ninth District Opportunities' services very helpful.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of parents/guardians finding the program helpful or very helpful:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Well-Being</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parent-Child Relationships</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Families as Lifelong Educators</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Families as Learners</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Family Engagement in Transitions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Family Connection to Peers &amp; Community</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Families as Advocates &amp; Leaders</strong></td>
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Additionally, the data demonstrated Ninth District Opportunities’ family engagement work appears to be supporting child development across the full range of child development. *Families as Lifelong Educators and Families as Learners* demonstrated the strongest connections. The largest correlations were found on the area of English Language Development.

70.37% of families attained their goal for themselves and their children.
The Early Head Start & Head Start program completed its first year of a five year grant cycle. It has not received a review by the Office of Head Start for this federal grant.

Ninth District Opportunity Inc.’s Early Head Start and Head Start programs are in full compliance with the standards and regulations of the following programs:

- Georgia’s Child Care Services
- Georgia’s Dept. of Early Care & Learning and Bright from the Start – Pre-K
- Georgia’s Dept. of Early Care & Learning’s Child and Adult Care Food Program

Other Achievements

- 19 centers are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.
- 2 centers are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
- 20 centers have been rated by Georgia’s Quality Rated Program with 10 centers receiving the top rating of 3 stars.