Adventure Bags™

Providing security and comfort to a child in crisis.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





Adventure Bags, Inc.

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Executive Director's Message



Dear Friends and Supporters of Adventure Bags,

As we come to the close of another year, I am filled with gratitude and a profound sense of purpose. Adventure Bags, Inc. has continued to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children facing crisis situations, thanks to your unwavering support and dedication.

In the past year, we have witnessed countless stories of hope, resilience, and transformation. Every Adventure Bag we provided became a symbol of hope for a child in their darkest hour. These bags, filled with overnight essentials and comfort items, have helped restore a sense of security and comfort to so many young lives.

Our mission to provide children with something to call their own and remind them that someone, somewhere is thinking about them remains at the heart of all our efforts. We have partnered with agencies such as the Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS), domestic violence shelters, fire departments, law enforcement agencies, homeless shelters, and other organizations that serve Georgia's most vulnerable children. Together, we have made a profound impact on these young souls, offering them a lifeline during their initial 24-48 hours of displacement.

In addition to our core mission, we have expanded our outreach efforts to raise awareness and engage the community further. Our fundraising events, volunteer initiatives, and partnerships with local businesses have strengthened our presence and allowed us to serve even more children in need. The support and enthusiasm from our volunteers and sponsors have been nothing short of remarkable.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to our dedicated team, our generous donors, and the countless individuals who have contributed their time and resources to make Adventure Bags a beacon of hope. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones, but there is still much work to be done.

As we look ahead to the future, our commitment to the children of Georgia remains resolute. We envision a world where no child has to face the trauma of displacement alone, and we will continue to work tirelessly to make this vision a reality.

In closing, I invite you to join us in reflecting on the profound impact Adventure Bags has made over the past year and renew our collective commitment to providing comfort and security to the children who need it most. Together, we can be the difference in their lives.

Thank you for being a part of this incredible journey and for your unwavering support.

With gratitude and determination,
Misty Manus
Executive Director
Adventure Bags, Inc.

Agency Overview



Adventure Bags, Inc. is a non-profit based in Winder, Ga. It was founded in October of 2011 and has been serving children across Georgia through partnering with agencies and community collaboration.

Built from a recognized need to service those entering the foster care systems, Adventure Bags was born. Our Founder, Debbie Gori & Chairman of the Board, Tracey McMahon identified that kids entering Georgia's Department of Family & Children Services care, where entering with very little to call their own. Those that might have a few belongings might have their items in a garbage bag. They were missing daily essentials and comfort items.



Our support has grown beyond the foster care community to support Georgia's homeless/domestic violence shelters, emergency services, school systems - just to name a few. Wherever there are children in crisis, Adventure Bags wants to be there to bring them feelings of security and comfort

Our Mission:

To serve displaced children across the state of Georgia offering them bookbags filled with overnight essentials & comfort items during uncertain times.



Our Vision:

To ensure every child facing uncertainty, is given the opportunity to feel loved and have something to call their own. Through our bookbags, and the agencies we part with, our desire is that Georgia's most vulnerable children will know that someone somewhere is thinking about them.

COVERING GEORGIA

As of 2023, we have served children in all 159 counties in Georgia.

PARTNERSHIPS / BAG FULFILLMENT

Since 2011, we have supported over 157 agencies through bags fulfillment. This year we fulfilled orders from over 63 agencies



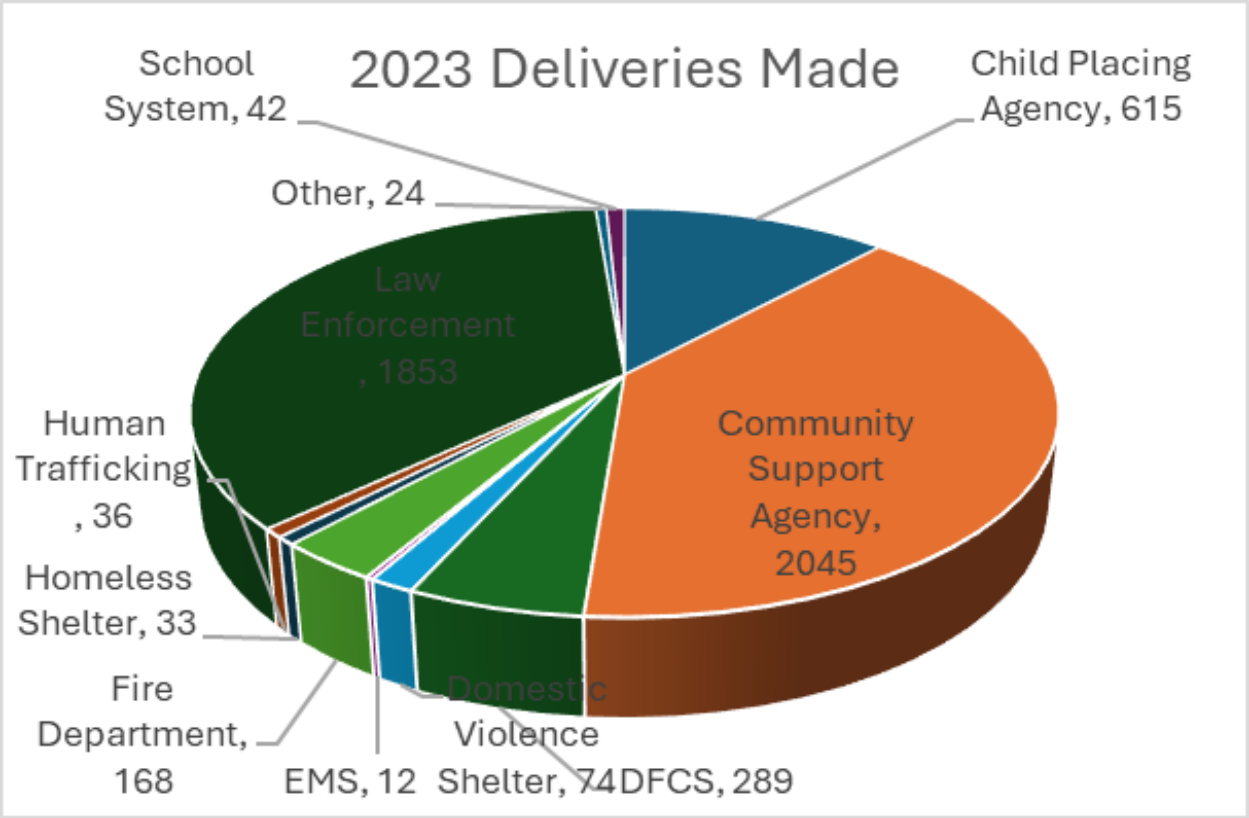
EXPANDING PAST GEORGIA'S BORDERS

In December, we had an opportunity to support hurricane victims in Kentucky. Providing a total of 25 bags, across 4 counties.

2024 VISION

AB will work to grow the network of agencies in the surrounding counties of our HQ. Focusing efforts will help to relieve some logistical challenges in order fulfillment.

Adventure Bags: By the Numbers



Total Bags = 5,191 * $50 / Bag = $259,550.00

Programming

Total Bags Delivered 5,191

Help Us Help Heroes

Bags Delivered	2,033
Agencies Served	206
Law Enforcement	126
Fire Departments	12
EMS	1

One Bag At A Time

Bags Delivered	3,0158
Agencies Served	69
Child Placing Agencies	10
Community Support Agencies	38
DFCS	9
Domestic Violent Shelters	2
Homeless Shelters	4
Human Trafficking	2
School Systems	2
Other	3
	1

Help Us Help Heroes

"Our first responders risk their lives to help others. The least we can do is make sure they have the resources they need to do their jobs." ~Ben Nelson

Help Us Help Heroes





PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our "Help Us Help Heroes" program is an effort to extend our services and form partnerships with first responders across Georgia. We have received feedback from our current first responders agencies that our bags have made an impact when it comes to serving the children in their communities.th churches to build up funding for the community first responders that we began focusing on. This program was launched in the Spring/Summer of 2021. In 2023, our annual initiative was to partner with Law Enforcement across the state of Georgia. We successfully served over 2,000 children through our, "Help Us Help Heroes Program," in 2023.

One Bag At A Time

“Along, we can do so little; together we can do so much.”
~Helen Keller

One Bag At A Time





PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our "One Bag At A Time" program we are able to partner with agencies such as the Department of Family & Children Services, Child Placing Agencies, Domestic Violent Shelters, Homeless Shelters, Community Support Agencies, School System Social Workers, Pediatric Psychiatric Facilities, Human Trafficking Agencies, along with other agencies that provide direct services to child in crisis situations. In 2023, we had the pleasure of serving over 3,000 of Georgia’s children through partnering agencies such as those listed above.

Volunteer Opportunities

"Along, we can do so little; together we can do so much."

~

Volunteer Highlights













Volunteer Hours 4,264

Miles for Deliveries (Oct. – Dec.) 1,850+

Year End Financial Review



2023 Revenue Collected

- Fundraising Proceeds
  - $44,871.89
- Grants Awarded:
  - Restricted (only to be used for supplies for bags) $49,700.00
  - Unrestricted (to be used as the agency sees fit) $41,000.00
- Individual Donations
  - $26,446.55
- Corporate Sponsorships
  - $30,206.94
- Organization/Club Donations
  - $40,889.69

2023 Expenses

- Salary
  - $74,956.93
- Program
  - $57,457.68
- Overhead
  - $30,418.26
- Fundraising
  - $15,103.70

Growth Plan

- **Expand Partnerships:** We will continue to partner with agencies we currently have relationships with, however we will focus on forming new partnerships with Sheriff's Departments and Child Trafficking Agencies across the state.

- **Increase Fundraising Efforts:** To expand our client-base, we will need to focus on fundraising efforts or securing support from communities throughout the state. This may include organizing events, seeking grants from foundations that support child welfare, and encouraging individual and corporate donations. Collaborate with local businesses for sponsorship opportunities.

- **Enhance Outreach and Awareness:** Raise awareness about Adventure Bags' mission and impact in other areas of the state. Use social media, a well-maintained website, and regular newsletters to keep supporters and potential donors informed. Share success stories and testimonials to showcase the impact of your work.

- **Streamline Operations:** Ensure efficient operations to maximize the number of Adventure Bags distributed. Consider optimizing the supply chain, inventory management, and volunteer coordination to reduce costs and improve effectiveness.

- **Volunteer and Community Engagement:** Engage more volunteers and involve the local community in assembling and distributing Adventure Bags. This not only reduces operational costs but also creates a sense of ownership and support for your mission.

- **Data and Impact Measurement:** Implement a system to collect data on the number of children served, the impact of Adventure Bags on their well-being, and feedback from caregivers and agencies. This data can be valuable for reporting to donors and improving your services.

- **Sustainability Initiatives:** Consider implementing eco-friendly practices in the production and distribution of Adventure Bags. This can align with the growing awareness of environmental issues and attract environmentally conscious supporters.

- **Continuous Improvement:** Regularly assess and evaluate your programs, seeking feedback from beneficiaries, caregivers, and partner agencies. Use this information to make continuous improvements and refine your services.



Board of Directors



Tracey McMahon
Chairman of the Board

Misty Manus
CEO

Monica Fulkes
CFO

Courtney McGuire
Secretary

Eric Oliver
Board Member

Candy Fox
Board Member

Alex Ward
Board Member

Open
Board Member

Dana Snyder
Board Member

Open
Board Member

Celebrating 51,000+ Smiles delivered in the last 12 Years



While reviewing this presentation you saw handprints. The handprints represents volunteers who have played a vital part of doing what we do and signify that that volunteer has made a difference in a child's life.