

# RIVER EDGE FOUNDATION

# ANNUAL REPORT



CY  
2023



**BUILDING A  
BETTER  
FUTURE**



# FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Donors and Friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you River Edge Foundation's 2023 Annual Report!

Inside you will read moving testimonials of how you have helped change the lives of individuals served by River Edge Behavioral Health. From receiving life-saving crisis stabilization, to securing safe and affordable housing, to obtaining meaningful employment, individuals served by River Edge's skilled and dedicated team are leading fulfilled lives.

Your generosity has provided needed resources for individuals with behavioral health, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Prescription assistance, peer group resources, and holiday gifts are just some of the ways you have helped make life better.

We have embarked on a new construction program. Plans to build a new corporate headquarters and outpatient clinic are underway. New housing units for seniors, tiny cottages for dually diagnosed individuals, and a peer support community integrated adult center are in the works. We could not have started on this exciting journey without your ongoing support.

I look forward to your continued partnership as we work together to build a better future!

Amy H. Maley, CPA, CFP®, CRPC®  
Chair, Board of Trustees

# RIVER EDGE FOUNDATION

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# Antonio's Story

“For me, Billingslea Recovery Residence was a lifesaver. It was a lifesaver. That was my changing moment.

When I arrived, I was asked, ‘What are your three goals?’ I wanted to learn how to live life sober, I wanted to learn how to love myself, and I wanted to learn how to live a spiritual life...

Billingslea provided an opportunity for my life to slow down. It was moving so fast I didn't know what was going on or how to live properly. Slowing down allowed me to learn about my disease and how it impacts me.

I learned I do certain things based on chemical activities that are taking place in my head. I'm learning about the disease of addiction and how it impacts people. The time, energy, love, and compassion from River Edge team members has given me the opportunity to know myself. Today, I have hope. I have healthy boundaries, saying ‘no’ and meaning it, or saying ‘yes’ and following through.”

**“I never thought I was going to be where I am today - living out loud in recovery and hope!”**



*Daniel (left) and Antonio with Bernice McMillian, Billingslea Site Supervisor*

# Daniel's Story

“The greatest thing about River Edge’s Billingslea Recovery Residence for Men was coming to love myself and coming to accept that I have faults. I have issues, but I have a lot of strengths and things to offer. Getting help back up from the shambles of the life I was living, and learning to love myself and others led me to enjoying life a little bit more...

After about a month at Billingslea, I realized I had a problem with thinking, ‘I want this. I want it now. I deserve it. Society owes me.’ That was my big problem.

I have diabetes. I gave up and stopped taking my medication. I was ready to die. I was trying to read something one day, and I couldn’t because my vision was so bad. A River Edge team member immediately brought supplies to check my blood sugar. He made sure I was taking my medicine and helped me get on a diet and start working out.

Having a staff member care about me more than I cared for myself blew my mind.

Somebody could actually care about me. I don’t have to run from those feelings of helplessness anymore. I can accept those feelings, accept who I am and love who I am. That’s something that I never thought I’d be able to experience, because I thought I was going to die soon.

Now, I can share from the heart. I can enjoy everything. I am grateful, which has been one of the biggest things for me. Things that would hurt, bother, or make me really irritable, I now look at and say, ‘I’m okay with that.’ I can sit down with my support people and tell them how I feel. I don’t have to stay in a pool of self-hate and misery.

I find the good in situations.

Now, I want to give back. I want to help those who are broken and feel they are hopeless failures. I want to help somebody who thinks they have no place in this world.”

**“I want them to know that if I have a place, they have one too.”**

# Third Annual Golf Tournament

River Edge Foundation's Third Annual Golf Tournament was one for the books! Twenty-six teams signed up and enjoyed playing in perfect weather at Houston Lake Country Club.

A special thank you is extended to our sponsors! We couldn't have done it without you!

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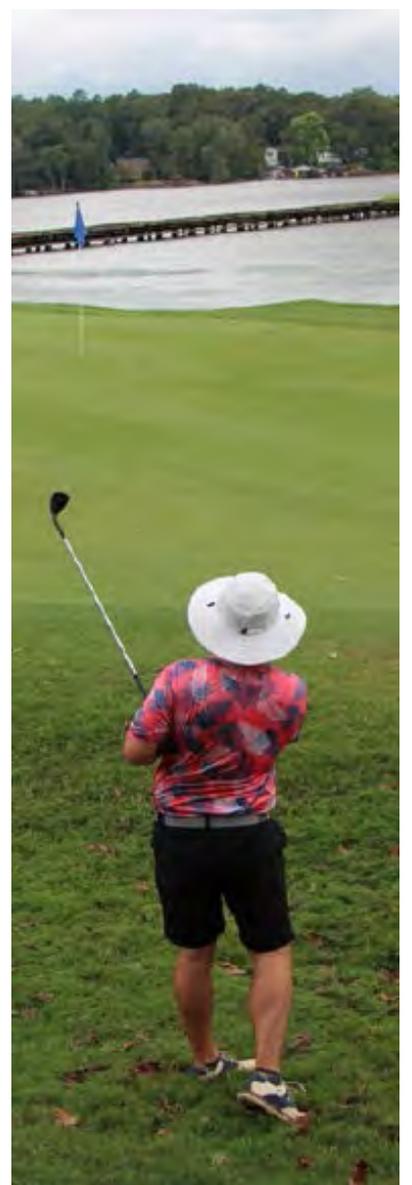
Riverside Ford Lincoln



## *Golf Course Refreshments*

Smart Source





# CONSTRUCTION REPORT

## New River Edge Central Headquarters and Behavioral Health Outpatient Complex

Planning and design are underway for the construction of a new central headquarters and behavioral health outpatient complex to be located at 2770 Riverside Drive in Macon, Georgia. This new facility will allow River Edge to expand the mental health, substance use disorder, and intellectual and developmental disabilities services we offer to Central Georgia.

The new complex will serve as the home to all administrative and support staff. Office space will span two levels and include generous multi-functional spaces designed for River Edge Foundation's Board of Trustees and River Edge Community Service Board's Directors. It will also feature an open-air courtyard and a 2,800 square foot assembly space equipped with integrated audiovisual technology.

Every workspace will have direct access to natural light to improve team members' physical and mental wellbeing. Other highlights include huddle rooms, training rooms, a staff lounge, and a wellness area.

During the planning phase of the new outpatient behavioral health clinic, one of our primary objectives



is to work closely with team members to improve patient flow and create a design that increases efficiency and throughput. Private offices are replaced by open, collaborative work areas to support person-centered treatment.

The clinics share a single patient entry, registration and waiting area. The building's welcoming environment accesses natural light and has nature-centric views throughout the indoor and outdoor treatment spaces and respite areas. Individuals and team members can find both care and peace of mind as River Edge delivers on its mission to "Make Life Better."™

# New Community Integration & Peer Support Center

The design of the new Community Integration & Peer Support Center to be constructed at 1990 Riverside Drive in Macon, Georgia will provide individualized, focused services to assist adults in recovery with mental health and/or addiction challenges to achieve their short and long-term goals.

Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities will receive services at this facility. The center will engage individuals to gain a deeper level of independence through teaching and reinforcing daily living skills, encouraging community integration and offering volunteer and vocational programs.

By achieving these goals, all individuals can expect longer-term improved health and a network of support services to sustain their recovery and attain self-determination. Group settings provide a critical role in fulfilling the needs of at-risk individuals and families.

A significant number of individuals rely on River Edge to provide some level of food, mental and physical healthcare, and social service assistance and protection.



Inside the center, large open spaces with vibrant colors and graphics will help to create a bright environment and will serve as wayfinding devices. The estimated 12,000 square foot center features an inclusive gymnasium for a variety of classes and activities for individuals, care providers, and community members of different abilities.

*The new Central Headquarters Complex and Community Integration & Peer Support Center will be designed to be safe and comfortable, emphasizing personal empowerment and dignity, becoming a catalyst to improve behavioral health care practices and enabling individuals to take control of their own recovery process.*

# Serenity Courtyard of Macon

River Edge Foundation has taken on the challenge to develop affordable housing for older individuals by leveraging various financing sources to develop “Serenity Courtyard of Macon”.

Consisting of twenty-six single-family housing units that will enclose an open green walkable courtyard, the project is designed to promote long-term wellness of older persons, allowing them to age in place with a robust package of services to support physical health and social well-being.

Serenity Courtyard of Macon will allow homeless low-income older individuals with a disability a change for a better life. They will have stability in a place they can call home, which is safe, healthy, and friendly, and will receive needed supportive services.

We envision this project as a catalyst for Macon-Bibb County, pioneering an effective alternative to senior living, and as a viable example of universal design for urban communities in the future.



*Architect's Concept*

## Did you know?

*Every night throughout the United States, over half a million people are homeless. Over a third of them are unsheltered, living outdoors or in places not meant for human habitation.*

*Nearly a quarter of a million people ages 55 or older are estimated to have been homeless. Experts say the trend is likely to worsen as the decline in affordable housing for extremely low-income older adults places them at risk of experiencing homelessness.*

# Tiny Cottages of Macon

Across the United States, homeless service providers have begun placing more emphasis on non-congregate shelter as an emergency housing service. The Federal Emergency Management Agency endorsed this approach, which provides individual lodging for people, rather than housing them in group settings.

River Edge Foundation’s “Tiny Cottages of Macon” project will help address homelessness in Macon-Bibb County.

In partnership with Macon-Bibb County, the Foundation is excited to construct a community of ten cottages in East Macon for individuals who have experienced homelessness and who have a physical or mental disability.

The 670 square foot tiny cottages address rising material and labor costs. Rental subsidies make it affordable for individuals who are coming out of chronic homelessness and yearn for a permanent place to call home.



# 2023 REACH Campaign

Since 2014, River Edge Behavioral Health team members have had the opportunity to support River Edge Foundation's philanthropic efforts. In 2019, the campaign was relaunched as the River Edge Achieving Community Health (REACH) campaign. By making a personal gift to River Edge Foundation, team members are sending a clear message to the community that they believe enough in their work and mission to make a personal financial contribution to it. REACH funds are disbursed to annually support individuals served in River Edge programs via a grant application process.



*Celebrations & Meals*

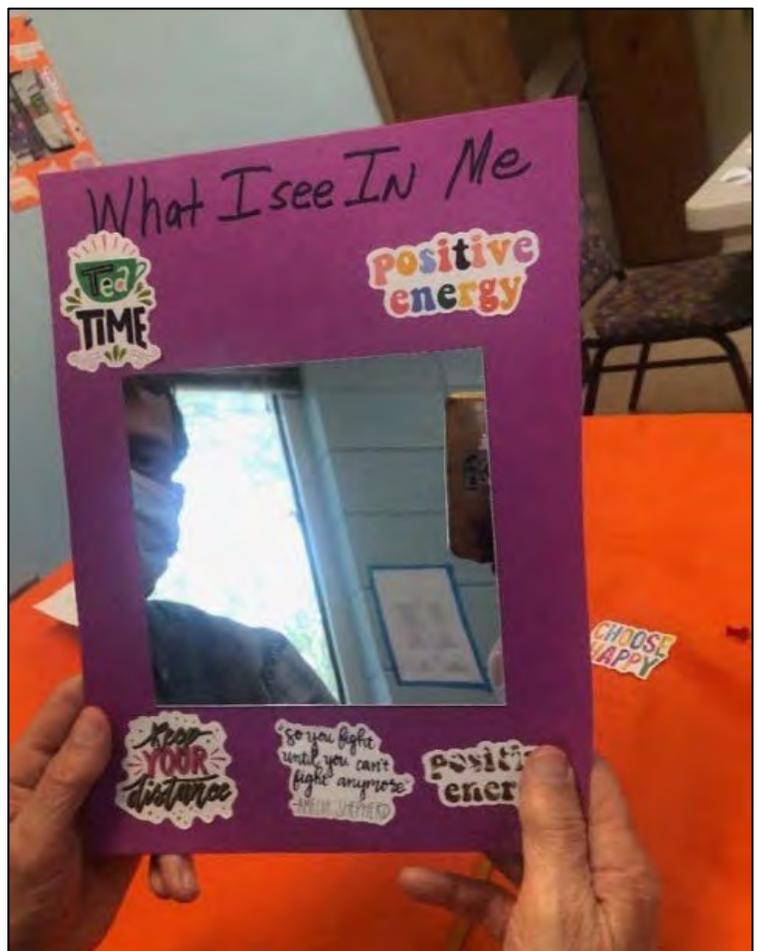
Thanks to the generosity of River Edge team members, over \$64,000 was granted to 55 awardees, demonstrating River Edge Foundation's motto, "We Help Make Life Better."™



*Holiday Gifts*



*Fun & Fellowship*



*Personal Growth*

# Sonja's Story

“My name is Sonja. I am a person in long-term recovery. River Edge has really helped me a lot, and I thank God for River Edge’s Supported Employment Program.

I thank God for the tools that I learned to use that helped me to recover from my addiction.

It’s been a long road for me. It’s hard every day.

I have to take this one day at a time because I could fall at any time...

I go to church. I have family support, friends, Macon Recovers Addiction Recovery Center, Celebrate Recovery, and support at River Edge – Debbie, Jim, Hannah, and Tripp. They love me.

I became employed. I faithfully attend NA meetings and Macon Recovers. I am thankful for the people in my life. I’ve been in and out of drug treatment over the years, but I’m going to stay on board!”

**“I tell my story wherever I go.**

**On January 5th, 2024, I will be clean a whole year.”**



## Did you know?

*One in four Americans will experience a mental health challenge during their lifetime. One in seven who drink or use drugs will experience dependency. One in six children, ages 3 to 17, have at least one intellectual or developmental disability – an impairment in physical, learning, language, behavior or daily functioning.*

*If it's not you, it's someone you love.*



Thank You!

2023 River Edge Foundation Donors

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Lakesha Blash	Shelton Glenn	Amonti Massey	Walteria Sidney-Hill
Shawn Bolden	Canesha Glover	Galedria Mbah	JoAnne Sims
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Amanda Brooks-Owens	Stacie Goodson-Jones	Jennifer McNeil	Kianna Smith
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Consuelo Brown	Greenstone Cards	Jasmia Middleton	Jessica G. Stephens
Matt Brown	Khadeja Harris	Bryce Mills	Steps to Serenity AFT
Tearra S. Brown	Bryan Hill	LaShanda Milner	Toya Stinson
Sandra Buckner	Tiffany S. Hill	Shaundra Milner	Yuma Stubbs
Dan Burnside	Jennifer Holland	Amy Moore	James "Tripp" Talley
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Angelica Calloway	Michelle Jackson	Lisa Nazrie	Timothy Thomas
Nekelia Calloway	Terry Jackson	Ngozi Nnaka	Cynthia Toliver
Jannifer Chisolm	Jarita Jacobs	Selma Ogletree	Truist
Robin Clemons	Shy'Kaveia Jefferson	Natalie Owens	Deliannia Tucker
Dominique Comberland	Jacquise Johnson	Tavora Passmore	Nancy Turner
Ashley Cook	Lesley Johnson	Kenneth Payne	Jessica Vickers
Tanya Cowperthwaite	Vickicia Johnson	Benji Purser	Susan Wade
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Cesar Dumelod	Consuelo Ledbetter	Samantha Riley	Michelle Williams
	Miyoshi Levy	Mary V. Roberts	

## Gifts In Memory Of

Christopher Bunn  
J. Ray Grant Jr.

Listed are the businesses, individuals, foundations, and organizations who made contributions to River Edge Foundation from January 1 – December 31, 2023.

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list, and any errors or omissions are unintentional. Please report any errors to the Foundation office at (478) 803-7800 or [riveredgefoundation@river-edge.org](mailto:riveredgefoundation@river-edge.org).

## Anonymous Donors

Thank you to our donors who have elected to remain anonymous.

## Our Core Purpose

Share the River Edge story of hope and inspire giving to make life better.

## Our Core Values

Advocacy, Entrepreneurial Spirit, Excellence, Stewardship, Fiscal Stability.

## Our Visionary Goal

River Edge Foundation is recognized as a leader among its peers, providing growing resources and the margin of excellence necessary for River Edge Behavioral health to provide state-of-the art behavioral health and intellectual and developmental disability services and supports that our citizens deserve.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## River Edge Foundation Statement of Financial Position

Reporting Book: ACCRUAL

01/01/2023 Through 12/31/2023

### Assets

#### Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	901,406.54
Accounts Receivable, Net	578,256.51
Short Term Investments	3,446,386.93
Other Current Assets	12,170.80

Total Current Assets 4,938,220.78

#### Property & Equipment

Land 50,000.00

Total Property & Equipment 50,000.00

#### Investments

Investment in Subsidiary 963,490.74

Total Investments 963,490.74

### Total Assets

5,951,711.52

### Liabilities and Net Assets

#### Liabilities

##### Short-term Liabilities

Accounts Payable 0.00

Other Short-term Liabilities 871,393.33

Total Short-term Liabilities 871,393.33

Total Liabilities 871,393.33

#### Net Assets

##### Net Assets

Unrestricted Net Assets 4,211,147.90

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets 37,420.77

Permanently Restricted Net Assets 14,195.00

Total Net Assets 4,262,763.67

Change In Net Assets 817,554.52

Total Net Assets 5,080,318.19

### Total Liabilities and Net Assets

5,951,711.52

## River Edge Foundation Statement of Activities - All Funds

Reporting Book: ACCRUAL

01/01/2023 Through 12/31/2023

### Operating Revenue

Revenue - Other 934,786.93

Revenue - Supports 204,086.07

Total Operating Revenue 1,138,873.00

### Expenditures

Professional Fees 0.00

General and Administrative Expenses 321,318.48

Total Expenditures 321,318.48

**Change In Net Assets 817,554.52**

### '+ Net Assets - Beginning

Unrestricted Net Assets 4,211,147.90

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets 37,420.77

Permanently Restricted Net Assets 14,195.00

**Net Assets - Beginning 4,262,763.67**

**Net Assets - Ending 5,080,318.19**

# RIVER EDGE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LOCATIONS

*Initial services are available without an appointment. Open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
For an appointment, call 478-803-7700. For more information, call 478-803-7600*

## River Edge – Macon-Bibb County

175 Emery Highway, Macon, Georgia 31217

## River Edge – Baldwin County

60 Blandly Way, Milledgeville, Georgia 31061

## River Edge – Monroe County

168 Old Brent Road, Forsyth, Georgia 31029

## River Edge Recovery Center

3575 Fulton Mill Road, Macon, Georgia 31206

## River Edge Crisis Service Centers

3575 Fulton Mill Road, Macon, Georgia 31206

60 Blandly Way, Milledgeville, Georgia, 31061

## Central Georgia Residential Treatment Services

Billingslea Recovery Residence for Men

1243 First Avenue, Macon, Georgia 31204

LifeSPRING Residential & Outpatient

5113 College Crossing Drive, Macon, Georgia 31206

## River Edge – Fulton County

254 Boulevard NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30312

## Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

River Edge: Macon-Bibb County Options

139 Woodfield Drive, Macon, Georgia 31210

River Edge: Jones County Options

530 Settlement Drive, Suite A, Gray, Georgia 31032

River Edge: Monroe County Options

168 Old Brent Road, Forsyth, Georgia 31029

## River Edge – Family Support & Residential Services

175 Emery Highway, Macon, Georgia 31217

## River Edge – Addiction Recovery Support Center

Macon Recovers

595 Wimbish Road, Macon, Georgia 31210

# SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION

## Ways You Can Give

**Cash** – To make a gift **online**, please visit [river-edge.org](http://river-edge.org). Click on “Give Now” and follow the prompts.

You may also **mail** your gift to

River Edge Foundation  
175 Emery Highway  
Macon, Georgia 31217

**Stock and Securities** – Gifts of appreciated stock or mutual funds are a great way to give a gift greater than you ever thought possible. Appreciated securities held for more than one year may provide significant benefits to you as a donor.

**Donor Advised Funds** – River Edge Foundation can accept disbursements from any donor advised fund.

**In-Kind Contributions** – Contributions of items to be used in the delivery of River Edge Behavioral Health services are always welcome.

**Property** – You may be able to reduce your capital gains tax and receive an income tax deduction while benefiting River Edge by donating property to River Edge Foundation.

**Planned Giving** – Planned giving allows you to leave money or assets to the Foundation at your death or to invest money so you can receive benefits throughout your lifetime and then bequeath the remaining funds to the Foundation. With many different planned giving options, you can help provide resources for essential mental health, substance use disorder, and intellectual and developmental disabilities services for Georgians.

Please contact the Foundation at 478-803-7800 or email [riveredgefoundation@river-edge.org](mailto:riveredgefoundation@river-edge.org) or more information.



175 Emery Highway  
Macon, Georgia 31217  
478-803-7800

[riveredgefoundatio@river-edge.org](mailto:riveredgefoundatio@river-edge.org)  
<https://www.river-edge.org/river-edge-foundation/about.cms>

*River Edge Foundation is an exempt organization as described in section 501(c)(3)  
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