



*Sharing Life Experience to
Engage and Impact Community*

ANNUAL REPORT

20 22

MATCHING OUR PASSIONS



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The pandemic certainly upended our lives in 2020 and 2021 and changed life as we knew it. Yet, 2022 presented Wisdom Project 2030 with the opportunity not simply to return to the way things used to be, but

to create new ways to engage both our members and the community and reaffirm our commitment to making meaningful contributions.

In this year of ongoing challenges with a deeply human impact, our members continued to discover ways to support people and organizations within our community and, in doing so, make a difference that matters.

Wisdom Keepers worked over 1,300 hours on community-wide projects. Six projects were completed in 2022. You will find more details on these and our active projects further in this report.

One example is the Mental Health First Aid program started in partnership with the United Way in 2021, led by Wisdom Keeper **Sue Davis-Westmoreland**. In 2022, the project entered Phase II and is going strong, continuing to educate the community on ways to recognize risk factors and assist folks with mental health issues to get professional help.

We are pleased to have completed another successful Wisdom Project Leadership Program with 21 impressive graduates. New Wisdom Keepers bring new goals and there are already five potential projects under development for 2023. We ask and need current members to help recruit future Wisdom Keepers for our Wisdom Project Program. They are the best ambassadors by just sharing their experiences.



Jolinda Martin

A Steering Committee was established for our third community Symposium on Healthy Aging, scheduled on May 19-20, 2023. They are planning the event and developing the program, which will have an exciting array of speakers. The theme is **"Dance from The Inside Out: A Symposium Celebrating Life After 55."** The keynote speaker is Westina Mathews. Westina is an accomplished author, corporate strategic advisor, and much sought-after public speaker. She has received numerous honors for her achievements in the boardroom and her commitment to community service. She is the author of five books, including "Dancing from the Inside out: Grace-Filled Reflections on Growing Older." The event will again be held at the University of North Georgia Gainesville campus and, once again, dual tracks will be offered – one for community residents and a second granting continuing education credits for healthcare providers.

Organizationally, we welcomed two new Board members this year. They have actively assisted with strategic planning efforts, educational offerings, and membership support activities. The Board also established an Advisory Council which held its first meeting in October. This volunteer group of community members and past Wisdom Keepers were selected to advise and support the work of the Board and provide input on strategic plans, act as external communicators, and advocate for the organization's mission and activities. We welcome their contributions!

This has been a year of reaffirming our commitment to making an impact that matters in society by reimagining the future of our work in helping our community thrive and in reconnecting in person, where possible. As Wisdom Keepers we must continue to search for the good, continue to grow, and allow lessons and circumstances of the last few years to change us for the better. Our community needs us and we look forward to following our passions into 2023.

-Jolinda Martin

ABOUT US



Our Beginning

Wisdom Project 2030 is a non-profit, educational and senior leadership organization in Hall County. We began in 2012 under the **Vision 2030 Initiative** of the **Greater Hall County Chamber of Commerce**. In 2019, we formally incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Our Mission:

The Wisdom Project 2030 Model leverages the skills, expertise and initiative of seniors ages 55+ for meaningful, personal involvement and impactful community improvement for Hall County. To date, our non-profit has delivered more than **20** projects to a variety of community organizations..

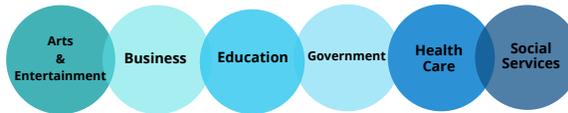


Our Vision:

Wisdom Project 2030 will be a nationally recognized model for senior leadership and community improvement.



Our Program:



The Wisdom Project 2030 Program was developed to connect our members to the needs of our community and to improve Hall County through action and advocacy. The program is composed of eight full-day sessions, normally held between August and November, that provide dynamic, informational interactions with individuals and leaders throughout the Hall County area. Sessions educate and inform potential new members about the concerns of community leaders and encourages participants to think about ways to improve our community.

Program Graduates Become "Wisdom Keepers"

Wisdom Keepers may engage in specific projects, advocate on specific issues, volunteer with, or offer leadership to community organizations.

After graduation, bi-monthly meetings and lunches enable members to continue learning about opportunities and to join life experiences with community needs.

Participation encourages fellowship and networking among Wisdom Keepers and often leads to stronger project outcomes, social opportunities, and lasting friendships.



FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial statements are prepared under cash basis accounting; revenues and expenses are recognized at the time cash is received or paid out. Wisdom Project 2030 is incorporated as a 501(c)(3).

DESCRIPTIONS:

Wisdom Project 2030, Inc: Wisdom Project 2030 captures the wisdom of Hall County residents, age 55 and older, for the good of our community. Our members are graduates of the Wisdom Project Program and are known as Wisdom Keepers.

Operations: Management activities such as insurance, IT and marketing. Member dues are \$50 per year. (91 members in 2022 and 75 members in 2021.)

Wisdom Project Program: Over eight sessions, the Wisdom Project Program builds a multi-faceted and dynamic view of Gainesville and Hall County. Sessions are designed to help participants identify ways to apply their skills and follow their interests while contributing to our community. Wisdom Project 2030 hosted new programs in the Fall of 2021 and 2022 with a combined total of forty-four graduates.

Member Meetings: Monthly meetings offer education and fellowship among Wisdom Keepers. During Covid-19, Member meetings became virtual on Zoom. In 2022, Member Meetings resumed in person with lunch meetings.

Symposium: Wisdom Project 2030, Inc. and the UNG Center for Healthy Aging will host a Community Symposium, "Dance from the Inside Out" on May 19-20, 2023. A symposium type event is planned for every other year.

SAVE THE DATES

2023 Symposium
Dance from the Inside Out...
Celebrating Life after 55

May 19th – 20th, 2023

Friday • May 19th • Gala Reception • 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Keynote Speaker: Westina Matthews, Ph.D.
 Author of
Dancing from the Inside Out: Grace-Filled Reflections on Growing Older

Saturday • May 20th • 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
 A Full Day of Inspirational Speakers

UNG Gainesville Campus
 3820 Mundy Mill Rd • Oakwood, GA 30566

More Details to Follow.



Wisdom Project 2030, Inc.

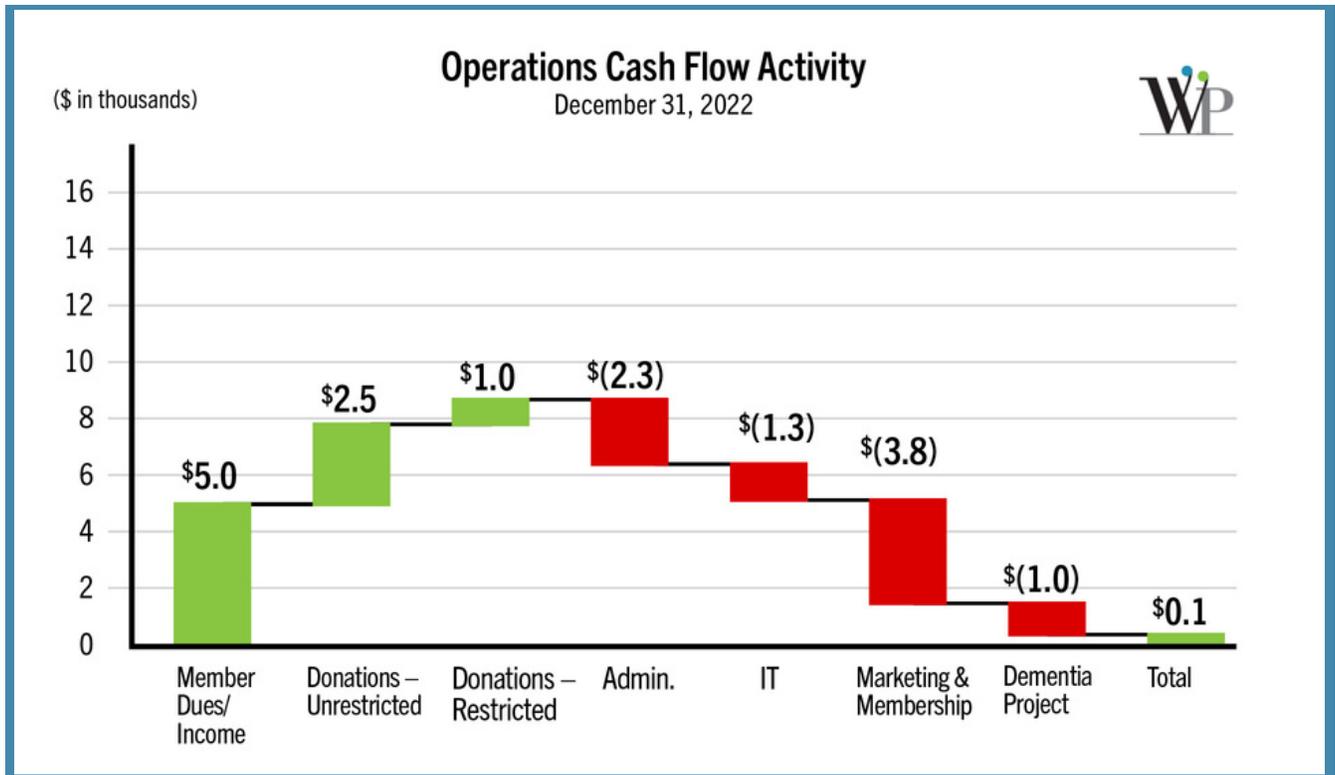
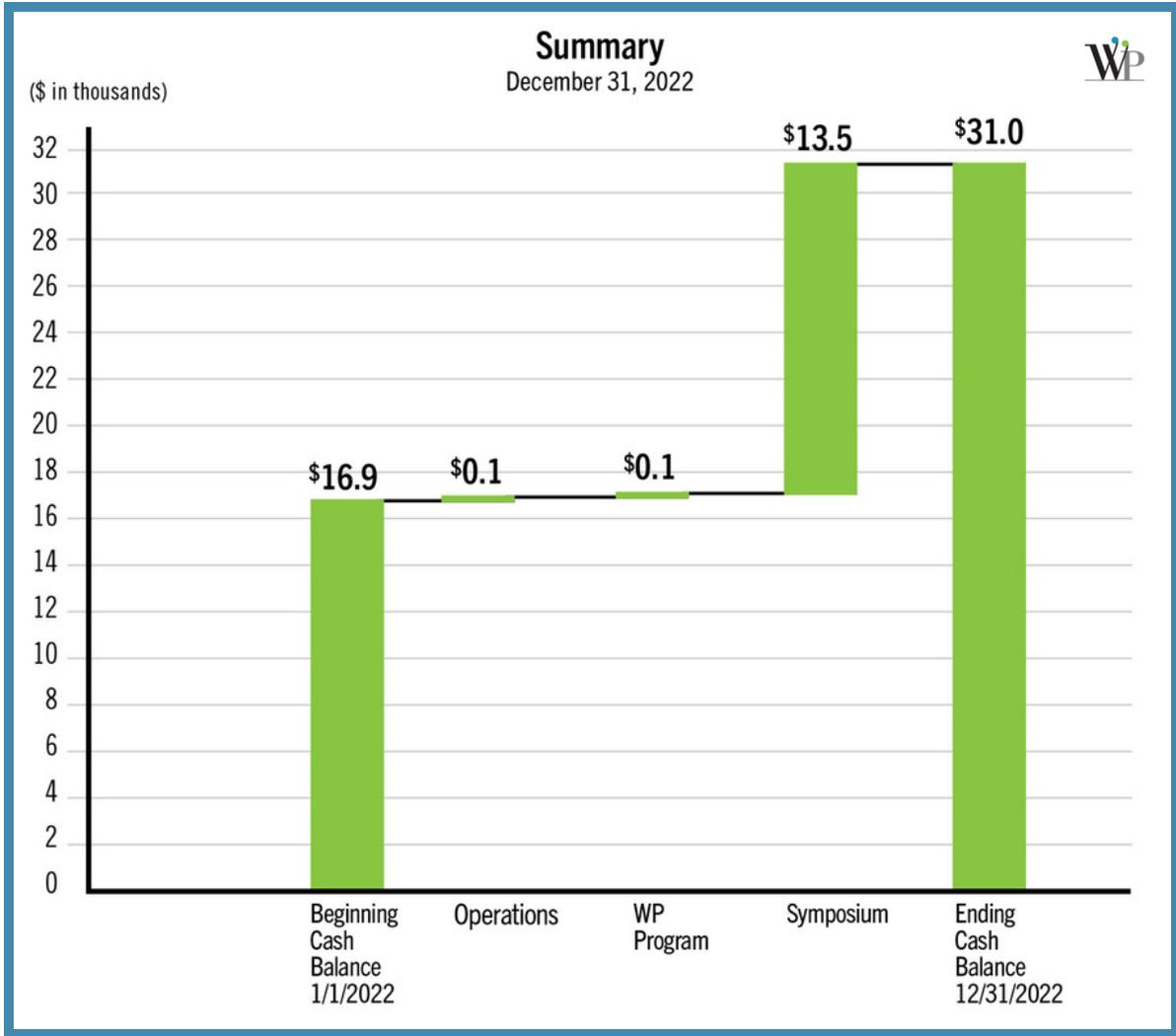
Income Statement

	December 31,	
	2022	2021
Revenues		
Contributions/Grants		
Unrestricted	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,750
Restricted	980	7,758
Restricted (Symposium 2023)	13,500	-
Membership Dues/Income	5,044	4,897
Program Fees	4,121	4,041
Wisdom Keeper Meetings	2,391	-
Total Revenues	\$ 28,535	\$ 19,446
Expenses		
Operations Expenses		
Admin/Other	\$ 2,295	\$ 1,826
IT (Web Hosting, Drop./Cognito/IP regist.)	1,339	1,921
Profession Fees	-	-
Marketing and Membership	3,805	2,809
Green House Study	-	4,500
Dementia Project	947	-
Program	4,057	2,492
Wisdom Keepers Meetings	2,018	-
Total Expenses	\$ 14,461	\$ 13,549
Net Income	\$ 14,074	\$ 5,897

FINANCIAL REPORT, CONTINUED

Wisdom Project 2030, Inc.
Cash Flow Statement


	December 31,	
	2022	2021
Opening Cash Balance	\$ 16,904	\$ 11,007
Cash received		
Operations		
Member Dues & Assessments	\$ 5,044	\$ 4,897
Donations: Unrestricted	2,500	2,750
Restricted	980	7,758
WP Program		
Fees & Donations	4,121	4,041
Symposium		
Donations - Restricted	13,500	-
Member Meetings:		
Fees & Donations	2,391	-
Total Cash Available	\$ 45,439	\$ 30,453
Cash Paid		
Operations		
Admin/Other	\$ 2,295	\$ 1,826
IT	1,339	1,921
Professional Fees	-	-
Marketing and Membership	3,805	2,809
Green House Study	-	4,500
Dementia Project	947	-
Member Meetings	2,018	-
WP Program	4,057	2,492
Symposium	-	-
Total Cash paid	\$ 14,461	\$ 13,549
Ending Cash available 12/31/	30,978	16,904
Change in Cash Position	\$ 14,074	\$ 5,897



AWARDS

WISDOM KEEPER RECEIVES GEORGIA COUNCIL ON AGING VITA R. OSTRANDER ADVOCACY AWARD



Wisdom Keeper **Carol Hanlon** received the Georgia Council on Aging (GCOA) Vita R. Ostrander Advocacy Award for 2022. Vita R. Ostrander, a former president of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), helped make the health care system a major national issue and was a relentless champion for the elderly.

Members of the current GCOA cited Carol's work on the 2022 CO-AGE Priority Issue **"Expanding Long-Term Care Options"** as a reflection of Vita Ostrander's passion, commitment, and advocacy for senior citizens. They presented the award to Carol at the July CO-AGE Meeting in Macon, GA.



WISDOM KEEPER NAMED UNITED WAY OF HALL COUNTY VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Wisdom Keeper **Sue Davis-Westmoreland** was named the United Way of Hall County's Volunteer of the Year for 2021. We are proud that Sue is an active Wisdom Keeper and applaud the impact she is making in the community.

Early in the planning process for the **Mental Health First Aid Program** in Hall County, Sue volunteered to become Wisdom Project 2030's primary trainer. She recruited her business partner as a second trainer and then conducted 25 sessions, training more than 300 persons in Hall County. Sue remains involved in the project's Second Phase being led by the United Way.



OUR 2022 VOLUNTEER STARS!

We have always been proud of all our Wisdom Keepers and their contributions to our community. During the year, the Board recognizes individuals for their work and volunteer hours. Through our "Star Program," we highlight these Wisdom Keepers on our website, our newsletters, and our social media.



Wisdom Project 2030 draws from our participants' individual interests and skills to help the community. **Candace Hart** was recognized for using her talents to provide numerous "behind the scenes" projects to help promote communication and outreach for our organization. A graduate of the Wisdom Keeper Class of 2018, Candace served as co-chair of our "Plan in a Can Project" before moving on to serve on the Marketing Committee where she currently helps to keep our organization up front and relevant by creating and maintaining our social media. Candace also creates many of our group presentations and print pieces for our various projects and activities, including our Annual Reports.



We recognized **Jeff Gorham** for his work and the impact he has had in the community with the Juvenile Courts Life Skills Program. As a new graduate of the WP 2021 Program, Jeff felt a call to help after hearing a representative from the Juvenile Court talk about their needs for the program. With only 8 weeks before school Spring Break, Jeff planned five days of new programs for juvenile offenders. He contacted potential speakers, scheduled tours at several businesses, and booked a van from the City of Gainesville. The attendees enjoyed hearing from speakers who, in some cases, were those with similar backgrounds.



Wisdom Project 2030 recognized **Phyllis Solgere** for her work with the Member Meeting Committee, a program she has been involved with since her graduation in 2018. During the pandemic Phyllis, working with her Committee, created an engaging lineup of non-profit representatives to present their stories and educate Wisdom Keepers on their needs, all via ZOOM. Phyllis also planned annual social events and the annual graduation events for new Wisdom Keepers. She serves on our current Board and always offers meaningful insights and opinions. Phyllis volunteered with Plan in the Can in 2019 and this year is the Wisdom Project 2030 Co-leader for the 2023 Symposium.

MONTH BY MONTH SNAPSHOTS:

This 2022 snapshots are highlights of our involvement in the community this year.

JANUARY



New Projects Introduced.

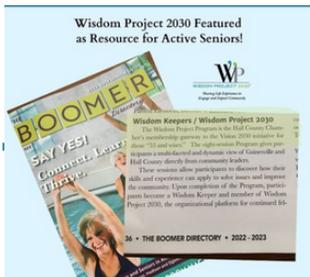


Wisdom Keeper **Linda Stacy** donates her new book proceeds to Family Promise Hall County.

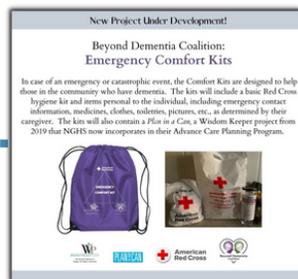


Responsibility for the Age-Friendly Community Project transitioned to the City of Gainesville. WP will continue to be involved as work plans develop to assess age-friendly gaps and identify fulfilling policies and programs in coordination with local government goals and initiatives.

FEBRUARY



Wisdom Project 2030: featured in January edition of "Boomer" Magazine.



Wisdom Project "Beyond Dementia Coalition:" begins its pilot.



WP Green House Committee Chairperson **Carol Hanlon** testifies at the Legislative hearing for HR768.

MARCH



Wisdom Keepers volunteer at Healthy Aging Expo.

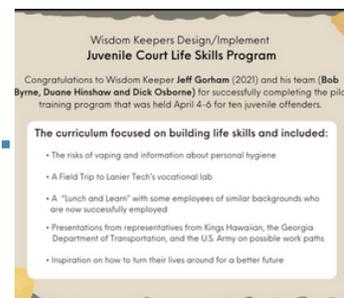
APRIL



WP 2030 Flowery Branch History Project completed.



WP Hub Boutique Project opens for students.



WP 2030 Juvenile Court Life Skills Program completed.

MONTH BY MONTH SNAPSHOTS, CONTINUED

MAY



Wisdom Keepers present about our organization at Cresswind at Lake Lanier.



Phase I of Mental Health First Aid Training Completed: 25 sessions with over 300 attendees

JUNE

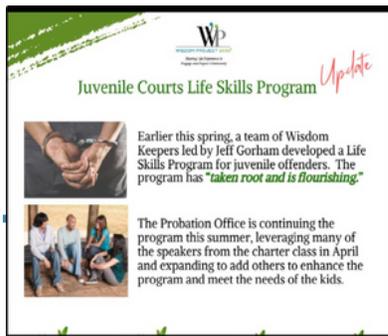


WP President **Jolinda Martin** is interviewed on WDUN about Wisdom Project 2030.



WP Gratitude Committee completes a comprehensive recognition plan for GNC.

JULY



Juvenile Court Life Skills Program Summer Session offered by Probation Office.



Wisdom Keeper **Carol Hanlon** receives GCOA Advocacy Award.

MONTH BY MONTH SNAPSHOTS, CONTINUED

AUGUST



Wisdom Project 2030 partners with Habitat for Humanity as part of our ongoing Affordable Housing initiative.



New Wisdom Project Program begins for the Class of 2022.

SEPTEMBER



Sue Davis-Westmoreland receives the United Way of Hall County's Volunteer of the Year Award.



Third pantry of The Giving Pantry and Library project with United Way installed.

OCTOBER



Beyond Dementia Emergency Comfort Kits (ECK) project is completed.

NOVEMBER



Wisdom Project Graduation for Wisdom Keeper Class of 2022.



DECEMBER



Wisdom Project Announces 2023 Symposium

AND ON TO 2023!

2022 COMPLETED PROJECTS

Projects are how Wisdom Keepers work to improve our community. Our members initiate projects after learning about problems or opportunities from community leaders. Working together with community organizations ensures sustainable results.

We are proud of the following projects that were completed in 2022 and of the Wisdom Keepers who served as chairs and volunteers. More information about each follows on the next few pages.

Beyond Dementia Coalition Project:

Bill Wittel, Project Chair, **Nan Carvell**, **Susan Lahey**, **Julie Ferguson**, and **Sandra Williams**

Juvenile Court Program:

Jeff Gorham, Project Chair, **Bob Byrne**, **Dick Osborne**, and **Duane Hinshaw**

Mental Health First Aid Program - Phase I:

Sue Davis- Westmoreland

Good News Clinic Gratitude Committee:

Kim Melton, Team Leader, **Sandy Barmak**, **Brad Baucom**, **Wynelle Butts**, **Sandee Gorham**, **Nancy Moore**, and **Diane Turnbull**

Flowery Branch History Project:

Wilson Golden

Giving Pantries & Libraries Program:

Nan Carvell



COMPLETED PROJECT #1

Beyond Dementia Coalition Project



We are proud to recognize the completion of the **Beyond Dementia Emergency Comfort Kits** (ECK) project that began early in 2022. These are easy-to-take kits for persons with dementia which can be used during a health or public emergency. The kits contain vital medical and health information, important contact data, and some “necessities” to ease their transition during an emergency.

With over 143 volunteer hours, the ECK Project Committee has built a solid base of distribution through area churches and senior organizations. The Committee continues to receive new inquiries and interest which indicates that the program will grow organically in our community and elsewhere.

Thank you to Wisdom Keepers **Bill Wittel**, Project Chair, **Nan Carvell** and **Susan Lahey** for your vision and hard work to bring this project to fruition and to **Julie Ferguson, Sandra Williams** and all the Wisdom Keepers who worked on and supported this project.



On behalf of the Cresswind Community Fund, **Carol Hanlon** presents a donation to Project Chairman **Bill Wittel**.



Wisdom Keepers **Bill Wittel** and **Susan Lahey** with **Loran Smith** and **Robert Miles** from the **University of Georgia Athletics Department**, who donated tennis cans for the project.

COMPLETED PROJECT #2:

Juvenile Court Program

During a WP2030 Program Session in December 2021, Wisdom Project Vice President **Duane Hinshaw** introduced a need identified by the Judge of the Juvenile Court of Hall County. The Court wanted to formulate a pilot training program to provide positive intervention for teenage juvenile defenders.

In order to have a program ready for Spring 2022, Duane enlisted Wisdom Keepers **Jeff Gorham, Bob Byrne, and Dick Osborne**. Through meetings with Rodney Osborne, Chief of the Children Probation Office, they brainstormed ideas and determined the vision of the Probation Office, which resulted in the Probation Office's "go ahead."

Collaborating throughout the community, the Wisdom Keeper Team successfully designed, organized and coordinated a Juvenile Court Life Skills project for Hall County. The curriculum, consisting of speakers and field trips, focuses on building life skills and business knowledge for the young participants.

The team also coordinated Speakers who delivered well-aimed and well-received talks to ten juvenile offenders on handling their personal financial responsibilities, the risks of vaping, information about personal hygiene and awareness of STDs, and Sex Trafficking. The Georgia Department of Transportation, and a U.S. Army recruiter also provided information on possible career paths and inspiration on how to turn their lives around for a better future.

Field visits included Lanier Tech's Vocational Lab, King's Hawaiian Bakery, a walking tour of Carroll Daniels' downtown construction projects, and a "lunch and learn" session with some Carroll Daniels' employees of similar backgrounds who are now successfully employed.

The Hall County Probation Office continued the program throughout the summer of 2022, leveraging many of the speakers from the charter class in April. They also added other speakers and topics to meet the needs of the teens as well as further enhance the program. It is anticipated the program will continue in the future to address Life Skills needs for the juveniles in the Hall County Court System.

The program would not have happened without Wisdom Keeper help. We are already planning several sessions over the summer using the materials developed by the Wisdom Keeper project team."

-- Rodney Osborne, Chief Probation Officer



COMPLETED PROJECT #3

Mental Health First Aid Program - Phase I

United Way of Hall County (UWHC) and Wisdom Project 2030, in partnership with grants from Cresswind Community Fund and Jackson EMC, started offering Mental Health First Aid Trainings free to the public in 2021. The 8-hour training course helps participants recognize mental health risk factors and warning signs and teaches strategies on how to assist someone in getting professional help.

Wisdom Keeper Sue Davis-Westmoreland was the primary trainer for Phase I of this project. Her business partner became the second trainer and they presented 25 professional **Mental Health First Aid Training** sessions. The 8-hour program prepared over 300 people as Mental Health First Aid responders since initiation in 2021.

Sue also worked with volunteers to develop “refreshers” for past trainees to reinforce the learned concepts and to practice skills in an additional session.

Recognizing that elements of the program required greater flexibility, Sue worked with the United Way of Hall County and members of the Cresswind Community Fund to develop a strategic plan for implementing Phase II.



Sue Davis-Westmoreland



MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Mental Health First Aid Training

United Way of Hall County, Wisdom Project 2030 and Cresswind Community Fund have partnered together to offer an 8-hour Mental Health First Aid Training Course to members of the Hall County community, specifically but not exclusively, ages 55+ and those who serve them. This training is offered in-person and virtual. This training is made free to the community by a grant from the Jackson EMC Foundation. In compliance with the CDC guidelines at this time, we are asking for participants to respectfully wear a mask during our sessions regardless of vaccine status. We also ask that you social distance during the training.

In Person Training Dates:

- October 4, 2021
- November 9, 2021
- January 11, 2022
- February 11, 2022
- March 11, 2022
- April 1, 2022

Virtual Training Dates:

- October 20, 2021
- January 28, 2022
- February 28, 2022
- March 28, 2022
- April 18, 2022

Training Details

- Check-in at 8:45 a.m.
- All participants will receive a Mental Health First Aid Certificate.
- Lunch will be provided by Cresswind Community Fund at in-person trainings to all participants.
- Several comfort breaks will be offered throughout the day.

In this training you will learn...

- Risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems.
- Information on depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, and addiction treatment.
- An action plan to help someone developing a mental health problem or in crisis.
- Where to turn to for help: professional, peer, and self help resources.
- Training does not teach how to diagnose an illness, but how to assist before professional help is available.

If you are unable to register for this training, please email snowden@unitedwayhallcounty.org to be placed on our waiting list.

*This course is eligible for 8 CEU credit hours
**Training and Certification Recognized by Mental Health First Aid USA

Register Today
unitedwayhallcounty.org

Revision: 04/28/2021

COMPLETED PROJECT #4

Good News Clinic Gratitude Program

After hearing about a wish from Good News Clinics, a team of Wisdom Keepers began working on a Recognition Program to support Good New Clinics in Hall County.



The team contributed over 120 hours to develop and document a comprehensive plan of scheduled activities to recognize and show appreciation to the Clinic's Staff, Board, Clinical Directors, Volunteer Providers, Donors, and Grantors.

In addition, many of the project team members will continue to help through the roll-out process of activities and continue to refine the list of potential recognition activities and programs for internal and external audiences. We are proud of team members **Kim Melton**, Team Leader, **Sandy Barmak**, **Brad Baucom**, **Wynelle Butts**, **Sandee Gorham**, **Nancy Moore**, and **Diane Turnbull** for their work.

COMPLETED PROJECT #5

Flowery Branch History Project

After the construction of the new Flowery Branch City Hall, officials wanted a graphic art display in the lobby in order to share the city's rich history with visitors.

For the past few years, **Wisdom Keeper Wilson Golden** researched local historical records and resources, including the Northeast Georgia History Center, to create a timeline of the history of Flowery Branch.

Wilson worked with local graphic designer Garon Hart who donated his services to design a wall display. The project was completed in early 2022 and we are proud that Wisdom Project 2030 is recognized in the Flowery Branch History Timeline that is now exhibited in the Flowery Branch City Hall lobby.



L-R Wisdom Keeper **Wilson Golden**
& Graphic Designer Garon Hart



"We love the wall and are getting so many wonderful comments."
-- Renee Carden, Public Information Officer of Flowery Branch

COMPLETED PROJECT #6

Giving Pantries & Libraries Program

"The Giving Pantry and Libraries" concept is popping up all around the country as a grassroots movement to support immediate food and other needs locally. They are designed as sturdy little houses on a post with the capacity to hold canned and non-perishable foods, as well as books. Located in neighborhoods and areas of need, these pantries are easily accessed by the people that need them – no car required!



In late 2021, the United Way of Hall County approached Wisdom Project 2030 for help in getting the pantries built and installed. They were ready to use ongoing funding available to stock and replenish the pantries and had partner agencies to help identify appropriate locations.

Wisdom Keeper **Nan Carvell** volunteered to spearhead this project. Building on the efforts of the United Way of Hall County's Linda Cascio, and, after receipt of a generous anonymous donation for the project, Nan was also able to obtain a \$1,000 donation from Home Depot for the needed resources.



Nan Carvell

After she obtained funding for materials, Nan enlisted the help of two carpenters (one being her brother-in-law) to build a prototype and coordinated volunteers to prep and then decorate, including Sara Oakley of the Art Colony, who donated her time and talent to create artwork for a pantry. The first prototype was built and painted and then installed at the Salvation Army. Another model was built and installed at Midtown Villages at Melrose.

We are excited that the third pantry of The Giving Pantry and Library project with the United Way was installed at My Sister's Place in September. Joe Vierthaler built the pantry and artist Deb Swiggum painted it.



Thank you to Nan and her team of construction experts and painters for completing the three pantries. Thank you to the United Way of Hall County for their efforts in installing the pantries and ensuring they are continually stocked with food and other needs. Working together, we have responded to needs in these communities.



ONGOING PROJECTS

Wisdom Keepers will continue to leverage our skills and expertise to make an impact in our community through ongoing work with the projects below.

Mental Health First Aid Program - Phase II:
Sue Davis-Westmoreland



HUB Boutique Project:
Mary Hinshaw, Beverly Nordholtz, and Susan Moss

Affordable Housing Project:
Duane Schlereth, Project Chair, and Robert Horne

Green House Homes Project:
Carol Hanlon, Project Chair, Diane Rooks, Steve Naughton, Nan Carvell, Phyllis Shalvey, Bob Byrne, Louise Forrester, and Mike Freeman

More information about each project follows on the next few pages.



AND MORE PROJECTS COMING IN 2023!

ONGOING PROJECT # 1

Mental Health First Aid Program - Phase II

United Way of Hall County (UWHC) and Wisdom Project 2030, in partnership with grants from Cresswind Community Fund and Jackson EMC, started offering Mental Health First Aid Trainings (MHFA) free to the public in 2021. The 8-hour training course helps participants recognize mental health risk factors and warning signs as well as teach strategies on how to assist someone in getting professional help

Mental Health First Aid Trainings

USA MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Virtual Spots Available:

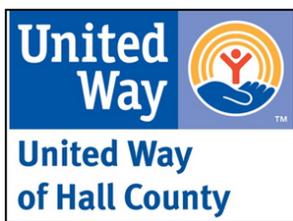
- September 17th
- September 24th

In Person Spots Available:

- October 8th
- October 22nd
- November 19th

Now VIRTUAL through September

REACH OUT | WP | CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND



- Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and Yours! -

Phase II's strategic plan for MHFA included expanding the number of trainers, reviewing session formats for appropriate change, enhancing refresher courses offered, and expanding recruiting outreach.

Phase II expands session offerings to include 2, 4 and 8-hour training options and offers participants the choice of earning a certificate or not. This flexibility meets the variety of needs among training participants.

Thanks to a grant from the Cresswind Community Fund, additional facilitators were trained through the National Behavioral Health Organization. **Wisdom Keeper Sue Davis-Westmoreland**, who was the primary trainer for Phase I of this project, participated in the transition of the new facilitators after their training. There are three facilitators now available, including a Spanish speaker, expanding potential reach to the large Hispanic community in Hall County.

To ensure its long-term success, MHFA was integrated with the United Way's One Hall Mental and Behavioral Health Committee in 2022. The Committee's mission is to create awareness of the importance of mental health, recognize mental health needs, and increase knowledge of and access to services.

Mental Health First Aid training has now reached more than 500 persons in Hall County.

ONGOING PROJECT #2

The Hub Boutique Project

"The HUB Dress and Prepare for Success Boutique" is designed to be an outreach and resource to students with specific clothing needs that they would not receive at home. In addition, volunteers will have opportunities to work alongside and mentor moms of the students.



In Spring 2022, Wisdom Keepers **Mary Hinshaw**, team leader, **Beverly Nordholz** and **Susan Moss** helped procure and organize dresses, suits, and accessories so that teens, who were in need of assistance for evening clothes, could attend and enjoy High School Prom.



In September, the team of Wisdom Keepers met at the HUB to discuss sources of donations and possible drop off places for clothing. They also organized clothing currently in the boutique. Wisdom Keepers also helped promote the need for rain ponchos to be donated to students who do not have adequate rain gear when commuting to school.

The Wisdom Project Committee will continue to work with the HUB Director at Gainesville High School to collect and sort donations as well as plan how to make the clothing and jewelry appropriate and accessible to more students. The Committee will also be working to distribute seasonal items, such as coats, hats, and gloves.

ONGOING PROJECT #3

Affordable Housing Project

Finding enough affordable housing in Hall County is a serious problem for a growing number of people, one which is well-recognized by local government, businesses, and social agencies. Without affordable housing options, many workers who are critical to our quality of life, such as teachers, policemen, and firemen, must commute from long distances and cannot build the lasting ties of residency in Hall County.

Housing affordability and availability are complex issues involving many factors and many possible solutions.



Wisdom Project 2030's **Accessible Housing Committee** contributes to the United Way of Hall County's "One Hall" Financial Stability Housing Committee. Project Chair **Duane Schlereth**, along with **Robert Horne** and other Wisdom Keepers, are working to identify long-term housing needs and supply, define enabling rules and regulations, and develop community education on the issues.

In 2023, the Committee will continue its research on activities in other communities. They will also research Accessory Dwelling Units and manufactured houses for the Comprehensive Plan and participate in updating the Water Plan which occurs every five years. Focus seems to have shifted from availability of water to control of storm water.

"I wanted to understand what was happening with housing in our community and see how I could help find good solutions. I found that my past work and volunteer experience gave me the tools and contacts I needed to contribute."

--- Duane, Committee Member

"Affordable Housing is an ongoing problem. It was handled well by the Emergency Rental Assistance program for over a year but that program is finished. The latest problem is that interest rates are going up and mortgages similarly. This is having a negative impact on the price of houses sold."

--- Robert, Committee Member

ONGOING PROJECT #4

Green House Homes Project

The goal of the **Green House Homes Committee** is to find and bring alternatives to nursing home options in Hall County and encourage adoption of innovative models of person-centered care. Headed by **Wisdom Keeper Carol Hanlon**, the group focuses on learning about the person-centered model of long-term care offered by the Green House Project. The Green House Homes Project will continue to explore ways to bring this care to Gainesville/Hall County residents.

Working together with the Georgia Coalition on Aging's advocacy group, Co-Age, the Wisdom Project 2030 Green House Committee proposed Georgia House Resolution 768 to create a House Study Committee on Expanding Long-Term Care Options.



In a hearing on March 3, 2022, including testimony from Wisdom Keeper **Carol Hanlon**, HR 768 was passed by the Legislature's Special Committee on Access to Quality Health Care. Hall County Representative, Lee Hawkins, sponsored the Resolution, joined by Representatives Sharon Cooper, Al Williams, Mark Newton, Karen Mathiak, and Gerald Greene.



Wisdom Keeper and
Green House Committee Chair
Carol Hanlon presented
testimony to the
Georgia Legislature

HR 768 was not presented for a vote during the 2022 Legislative Session but is planned to be proposed again in 2023. Such a Committee will give our Legislators an opportunity to learn more about modern models of long-term care, such as the Green House Project, and what actions can support adopting these models for elder Georgians.

You can support the Green House Committee's efforts by learning more about person-centered care and sharing your thoughts with elected state and local officials.



INVESTING IN MEMBERS' CONTINUING EDUCATION

We are very appreciative for the generosity of time and knowledge from these individuals and organizations. Their presentations at our Member Meetings and Luncheons help Wisdom Keepers learn more about the community, stay current on community needs, and find opportunities to contribute towards those needs.

January & February: Member Meetings and Lunches

We introduced our **new Wisdom Keepers!** Our new members presented more ideas for new projects.

March: Member Meeting and Lunch

Gainesville Police Department:

Wisdom Keepers learned about the current status of the Opioid Epidemic, what kind of toll it is taking on our community, and actions to combat it. Police Officers also shared changes in policing practices which address the health aspects of addiction.



July: Member Meeting and Lunch

The Redbud Project:

Wisdom Keeper **Margaret Rasmussen**, Executive Director of the Redbud Project, discussed how the organization promotes awareness of the rich natural habitats of North Georgia and encourages ecological development to conserve the air, soil, and water in our community. Following the presentation, Margaret asked for help defining new projects for future Wisdom Keeper participation.

September: Member Meeting and Lunch

Gainesville Police Department:

Officers presented information and statistics on human trafficking in our area. They emphasized the ties to organized crime and raised Wisdom Keeper awareness to signs of potential human trafficking.

November: Member Meeting and **Program Graduation**

Wisdom Project 2030 introduced twenty-one new graduates, who shared their experiences and views about the program. Views expressed included: "I learned so much about the community", "I met fabulous people and am happy to be involved with people who want to give back to the community", and "I'm excited about what Wisdom Keepers do - if you can't find purpose, you have no excuse!"

December 9, 2022: Annual Member Meeting and Luncheon

Wisdom Keepers celebrated the Holiday Season and collected canned goods to benefit the Georgia Mountain Food Bank.

WISDOM KEEPER 2022 PROGRAM GRADUATES

Our 2022 Wisdom Project Program started in August and 21 new graduates became **Wisdom Keepers** at the completion of the program in November.



Congratulations Wisdom Keepers

Class of 2022!



Joyce Allen

Deborah A. Ames

Angela P. Cain

Caroline Colonna

Julie A. Goodin

Marsha V. Lehr

Linda P. Myers

Gayle L. Nelson

Carol N. Reed

Faith M. Simpson

Tracy B. Troutman

Bonnie Van Overbeke

Gary Vogel

Jan Vogel

Terry Walter

Kenneth B. Williams

Gloria D. Wilms

Janie H. Wolf-Smith

Siamak (Mak) Yari

C. Kevin Youngblood

Jessica Zagarella

WISDOM PROJECT 2030 PARTNERS, SPONSORS, AND CONTRIBUTORS FOR OUR 2022 PROGRAM

We extend our thanks and appreciation to these organizations and individuals for making our new 2022 Wisdom Project Program Class and Graduation possible.

Partners:

University of North Georgia Institute
for Healthy Aging
University of North Georgia
Jackson EMC

Snack Sponsor:

Gainesville-Hall Senior Life Center

Lunch Sponsors:

Norton Agency
Northeast Georgia Health System

Venues:

University of North Georgia
Northeast Georgia History Center
Quinlan Center for Visual Arts
Georgia Mountain Food Bank
Gainesville Civic Center
Gainesville High School Hub
NGMC Braselton
Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network

Individual Sponsors:

Richard Osborne
David Stewart



WISDOM PROJECT 2030 PARTNERS, SPONSORS, AND CONTRIBUTORS, CONTINUED

Thank you to Wisdom Keepers **Jennifer Stowell**, **Amy Youngblood**, and **Tracy Lees-Grant** for designing, coordinating, and leading a successful 2022 Program. We appreciate their project management skills, creativity, and countless behind-the-scenes hours given to the eight full-day sessions. We also thank UNG Intern, **Terry Walter**, for her assistance during the classes. The Program Committee's work included setting session themes and agendas, finding and scheduling speakers, arranging venues, and attending to a myriad of details. Each session was carefully crafted to give participants an opportunity to maximize their learning about each topic. Program sessions were held beginning in August through early November.

We are also very appreciative of all the Wisdom Keeper volunteers who attended and supported the class sessions:

Opening Session: **Phillippa Lewis Moss**

Arts and Entertainment Session: **Susan Moss, Carol Hanlon,**
and **Mary Selbitschka**

Social Services Session: **Duane Hinshaw** and **Mary Hinshaw**

Government Session: **Phillippa Lewis Moss, Jolinda Martin,** and **Linda Stacy**

Education Session: **Beverly Nordholtz** and **Gail Baucom**

Business Session: **Cathy Sexton** and **Tracy Lees-Grant**

Healthcare Session: **Cindy Staszak** and **Jolinda Martin**

Closing Session: **Duane Hinshaw, Julie Ferguson,**
Jennifer Stowell, and **Blanche Ettinger**



WISDOM PROJECT 2030
PARTNERS, SPONSORS, AND CONTRIBUTORS
FOR OUR 2022 PROGRAM, CONTINUED

Presentations to Participants:

Kick Off Session

United Way Hall County

Arts and Entertainment Day

Northeast Georgia History Center

Elachee Nature Center

City of Gainesville

Vision 2030

Quinlan Visual Arts Center

Gainesville Theater Alliance:

Brenau University • University of North Georgia

The Arts Council

Atlanta Botanical Gardens – Gainesville

Social Services Day

United Way of Hall County

Juvenile Court, Hall County

North Georgia Community Foundation

Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier

GA Dept. of Family and Children Services

GA Mountain Food Bank

Legacy Link, Inc.

Meals on Wheels, Community Service Center

Senior Life Center

Gateway Domestic Violence Center

Hispanic Alliance

9th District Opportunity Council

North Georgia Works

Health Care in Hall County Day

Good News Clinics

Longstreet Clinic

Northeast Georgia Physicians Group

Benchmark Physical Therapy

NGPG Bariatrics

NGMC Braselton

Business, Industry, and Agriculture Day

Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce

Regions Commercial Banking

Workforce Strategies Group LLC

Georgia Poultry Federation

Green Box Mushrooms

Liquid Nation Brewing

American Yazaki Corporation

Government Session

Gainesville-Hall County Community Services

Neighborhood Nexus, ARC

GHMPO

Gainesville Planning & Economic Development

City of Gainesville

City of Oakwood

Hall County Board of Commissioners

Hall County Government

Education Day

Gainesville City School System

Hall County School System

Lakeview Academy

SISU, Integrated Early Learning

Center Point

Brenau University

University of North Georgia

Lanier Technical College

BULLI

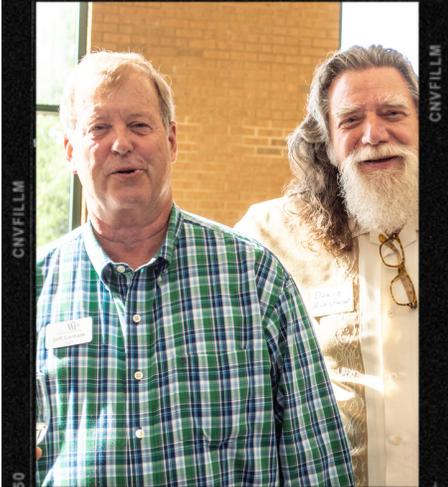
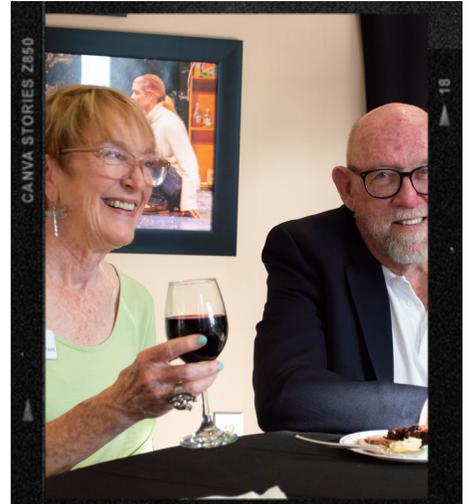
Mountain Education Center:

Work Based Learning



WISDOM KEEPER SOCIALS

The Member Meetings Committee also plans and hosts events for fellowship and networking among Wisdom Keepers. For example, our 2022 Spring Social provided a fun opportunity to spend time together and celebrate many of our projects.



CONNECT WITH US!



Website:

wisdomproject2030.org



Email:

info@wisdomproject2030@gmail.com



Facebook:

facebook.com/wisdomproject2030



Instagram:

instagram.com/wisdomproject2030



YouTube:

[youtube.com/wisdom project 2030](https://youtube.com/wisdomproject2030)



Apply for the Program:

wisdomproject2030.org/leadership/application

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Jolinda Martin
President



Duane Hinshaw
Vice President



Jerry Butler
Secretary



Amy Youngblood
Treasurer



Peter Claymore
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Phillippa Lewis Moss



Beverly Nordholz



Phyllis Solgere



Jennifer Stowell

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Our entire Wisdom Project 2030 Organization extends our gratitude to these organizations who play a key role in supporting our growth and development.



CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND

- Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and Yours! -

Community
ouncil
on Aging



"LET'S DO LUNCH"



*Sharing Life Experience to
Engage and Impact Community*

Wisdom Project 2030, Inc.
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