

MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
IN CHARLOTTE  
ONE CAUSE  
AT A TIME



August 24, 2015

## Purchase 'Party with a Purpose' Tickets By Aug. 31 For Discount

### AIG Signs on as Lead Sponsor

The Second Annual Party with a Purpose is just around the corner! Community Matters' ultimate Happy Hour is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 24, from 4-8 p.m. at Mac's Southend. Come join your friends from across the Charlotte insurance industry for a late afternoon of Mac's BBQ, beer and music from the fabulous Holdouts! Tickets are \$40 if purchased in August; \$50 in September.

Just how good is Mac's BBQ? The restaurant recently took fifth place in the 2015 World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest's "Whole Hog" category. That's fifth place in the WORLD, folks, in what is known as the "Super Bowl of Swine!" As Charlotte magazine describes Mac's -- "Part biker bar, part barbecue joint, this South Boulevard favorite in what used to be a transmission shop is almost always packed. The pork here is smoked, pulled, and tossed with the restaurant's own slightly sweet Carolina BBQ Sauce." Add the beer and some first-class music (with a few insurance folks taking the mike?) and you've got a terrific time.

Thanks to AIG for stepping up as lead sponsor for Party with a Purpose. We really appreciate their commitment to Community Matters. Other sponsorships are available -- for information contact Scott Mercer at 704-954-1031 or [smercer@mcgriff.com](mailto:smercer@mcgriff.com).

To purchase tickets, visit [bit.ly/communitymatters](http://bit.ly/communitymatters). Hope to see you there.

## Thanks to The Hartford for Generous Community Matters Contribution

Community Matters was honored with two generous donations totaling \$4,750 from The Hartford this month. The first was supported by The Hartford's VIP Philanthropy Fund which reserves funds for charities supported by both The Hartford and our most partnered VIP agencies. In this case, the Charlotte Regional Office worked with Wells Fargo in the Carolinas to secure \$2,500 to support Community Matters. The remaining \$2,250 came from The Hartford's local giving program designed to reward local charities supported by their employees. The employees in the Charlotte office nominate causes that matter most to them and we are pleased to know that The Hartford team nominated and selected Community Matters this year.

We are very grateful to the Hartford for being a part of Community Matters and in helping the Charlotte Community battle family homelessness as well as many other charities that make a difference in our area. One additional note - It was only fitting that we accepted the check over lunch at Dogwood Restaurant in

Southpark, Dogwood, and the associated Dresslers restaurants are also supporters of Community Matters -- with a \$1,978 contribution this month from their most recent quarter of calamari sales -- so we appreciate their support as well.



L-R, Melinda Thompson, The Hartford; Tom Lott, AmWINS and CM Board Member; and Jay Weber, The Hartford

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities at our Partner Agencies

### **Crisis Assistance Ministry: School Uniforms Needed through September 25! Organize a Drive at Your Company**

Community Matters is partnering with Crisis Assistance Ministry to collect school uniforms for children and teenagers who can't afford them. Our member companies are encouraged to organize an office or neighborhood drive for new or gently used school uniforms. To learn more about this project, visit [crisisassistance.org/dressed2learn](http://www.crisisassistance.org/dressed2learn)<http://www.crisisassistance.org/dressed2learn>. You can also find options to purchase directly from Amazon and Target to be shipped to Crisis Assistance Ministry.

**If you are organizing a time to drop off your donations, please consider volunteering at Crisis Assistance as part of a group team-building activity. Bring breakfast or lunch items, or volunteer in the Free Store.** It's a great team-building activity for your company or department!

Community Matters will host a special final drop-off day (for those who haven't dropped their items off already) on Friday, September 25 from 10:00am-2:00pm. We also have collection bins set up all over town -- check the attached flyer for locations. If you are going through clothes for back to school, we are also happy to collect any other clothing and shoe donations. [Click here](#) to see donations the agency needs every day. If you are organizing a time to drop off your donations, please consider volunteering at Crisis Assistance as part of a group team-building activity.

To get involved, please contact Corrina Kirby, [ckirby@crisisassistance.org](mailto:ckirby@crisisassistance.org) with a copy to [Karen.wilder@aig.com](mailto:Karen.wilder@aig.com).



Flyer.pdf

Crisis Assitance Community Matters Uniform Drive

### **Crisis Assistance Ministry: Relocation Assistance**

This initiative helps families moving out of homeless shelters and into stable housing. Families select essential household furniture at the agency's Furniture Bank and then a team of volunteers helps move the items to the family's new home. This service saves families from using their limited financial resources on the high costs associated with moving expenses. We need a team from your company to help make this happen.

- Teams of 5-10 individuals to load, transport, and unload donated furniture from the Furniture Bank to the customer's new residence.
- Volunteers must be over 16 years old and able to lift and move furniture which may include very heavy items and appliances.
- Groups will need to rent a moving truck and car pool to the homes together.
- Groups can volunteer on Thursday or Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Timing is flexible.

### **Charlotte Family Housing**

- **Dinners for Hawthorne Place Shelter** (for 6 adults and 18 children): August 30; September 1 and 3.
- **Overnight Host Hawthorne Place** (own room, 8 p.m.-6:30 a.m.): August 30 and 31; September 1, 2 and 3.
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To get involved, please contact Tammy Medlock, [tmedlock@charlottefamilyhousing.org](mailto:tmedlock@charlottefamilyhousing.org) with a copy to [Karen.wilder@aig.com](mailto:Karen.wilder@aig.com).

## **Volunteer Spotlight: Marsh's Paula Henry**

Paula Henry, Senior Vice President at Marsh, has been an active volunteer with Community Matters for quite awhile. She's sorted clothing at Crisis Assistance Ministry, served dinner at the Safe Alliance Domestic Violence Shelter (our first partner) and volunteered at the Dodge Ball Tournament. She recently served dinner at Charlotte Family Housing and stayed with the children afterwards so their parents could attend classes.

Paula's thoughts about her experience at Charlotte Family Housing -- I truly enjoyed the evening. Charlotte Family Housing has a great class available for their clients trying to get back on their feet. The clients are accountable to the organization but also to themselves. My being able to provide food and supervise the children and teenagers made for such a rewarding evening. I had an awesome time just hanging out with the kids. And it was wonderful to let the adults know that we are there to support their efforts to become self-sufficient again. This is a great program and one that I would support again when needed.



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Community-Matters-Insurance-Partners-of-Charlotte/128420923914026><https://twitter.com/CttyMatters>[https://www.linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=4146689&trk=my\\_groups-tile-flipgrp](https://www.linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=4146689&trk=my_groups-tile-flipgrp)