



Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys

30th Anniversary Celebration

"Galvanized to Serve, Committed to Lead"

30 Acts of Service . . .

ACT 19: Foreverfamily, Inc. Fundraiser Honoring Monique Walker Sewell

Dates: October 11, 2011 through Friday, October 21, 2011

Website: www.foreverfam.org (<https://app.etapestry.com/hosted/ForeverFamily/OnlineDonation.html>)

Description: GABWA members are asked to provide monetary donations to Foreverfamily, Inc. to fund transportation and related costs for the children visiting their mothers at the Emanuel State Prison. The goal is to raise between \$500 and \$1000 to assist in this endeavor.

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About Foreverfamily, Inc.

Foreverfamily, Inc. focuses its efforts on children with an incarcerated parent or parents and supports them as they, their parents, caregivers and extended families work to remain a family. Foreverfamily works to ensure that, no matter what the circumstances, all children have the opportunity to be surrounded by the love of family. By focusing its efforts on some of the most marginalized children in our society—those with an incarcerated parent or parents—and supporting them as they, their parents, caregivers and extended families work to remain a family, Foreverfamily is fulfilling a vital role.

At Foreverfamily, the staff and volunteers help these children and youth find their voice. Reports of improved behavior and GPA as well as increased numbers of students being promoted from grade to grade, on honor roll, engaged in career planning and taking leadership positions—these are all testaments to the critical positive difference Foreverfamily is making. That ninety-seven percent of the Foreverfamily kids do not participate in negative behaviors that commonly lead to

incarceration tells us that vicious cycles can end and new trajectories can be established. Consider what this means for not just the children but all of society. The sum impact of Foreverfamily's work, though less scientifically measurable, is the inspiration Foreverfamily gives children to become successful adults, the added strength Foreverfamily gives to their caregivers to raise them with love, and the hope Foreverfamily gives to their parents for a better life for themselves and their children.

Community Service Details

In Honor of GABWA's 2002 Past President Monique Walker Sewell, GABWA volunteers are asked to make donations to Foreverfamily to support the transportation and travel costs for those children who are making a trip to the Emanuel facility to visit their mothers. Emanuel recently became the women's transition center upon the closure of the Metro Atlanta State Prison. This move has affected the Foreverfamily program in an extreme way given the fact that there are a large number of mothers that were in the facility and they have about 292 children collectively. The new facility is in Swainsboro which is about 3.5 hours outside of Atlanta (http://www.forest-blade.com/news/community/article_2d2d1cde-654a-11e0-8e68-001cc4c002e0.html) and Foreverfamily is in great need of funding to secure additional transportation for the volunteers, gas money, and food for the children and volunteers making the trip (AND possibly housing overnight since it is close to 12 hours roundtrip). GABWA's assistance in helping Foreverfamily reach this goal would be tremendous!

Donations can be made to the following Foreverfamily website: <https://app.etapestry.com/hosted/ForeverFamily/OnlineDonation.html> . Please put the following note in the "Additional Information" box so the Community Service Co-Chairs can tally the amount of donations that were made by GABWA members: "GABWA/Emanuel Facility Donation)". Please also visit Foreverfamily's website for additional volunteer opportunities, like participating in some of the actual visits to the State facilities with the children.