

# Focus on Family



Family TIES—Gainesville (770) 287-3071

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## Happenings

No Excuse for Child Abuse  
5k and Fun Run

Equine Therapy

Hopeful Futures

Teen Workshops



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## No Excuse for Child Abuse

It's time again for our annual No Excuse for Child Abuse 5k run. We are excited to be working with the Children's Center for Hope and Healing again this year.

Our day of excitement will be April 20, 2013 beginning at 7:45 am for registration. There is still plenty of time to sign up and join us for this event. If you register early, before April 10, the entry fee is \$25 per person or if the whole family would like to be involved it is \$75 for a family of four or more. After April 10 the registration fee will be \$30

per person. Remember this is a Peachtree qualifier.

We will begin our 5k run at 8:45 am with the 1 mile Fun Run/Walk beginning at 10:15am.

For more information please visit [our Facebook](#), call us at (770) 287-3071 or [www.hopeandhealingga.org](http://www.hopeandhealingga.org) or call (770) 532-6530.



## Did You Know?

Each day in Georgia, 32 children are victims of child abuse or neglect.

In 2010, 77 children died as result of child abuse and neglect.

Children who are victims of abuse or neglect are 53% more likely to become juvenile delinquents, 38% more likely to be arrested as an adult, and 38% more likely to become violent criminals.

<http://www.qacasa.org/statistics.php>

There are the highest instances of child abuse and neglect among children between birth and three years of age.

Relatives are the most commonly the abuser.

The ages of four to six have the largest victim population

In 2009, Georgia had 37,835 reports of child abuse or neglect, 15,341 of them were sustained by DCFS.

<http://georgiacenterforchildadvocacy.org/facts-and-statistics/>

There are nearly 6 reports of child abuse or neglect received every minute by state and local agencies, equaling more than 3 million total reports.

It is estimated that in 2008, 1,740 children between 0 and 17 died as result of child abuse or neglect.

1 in 5 children in the US are estimated to have experienced some form of child abuse or neglect.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/childmaltreatment/index.html>



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Teaching, Informing,  
Empowering and  
Supporting Today's Families

**Our Staff**

DeeDee Mize—Executive  
Director

Gina Schwartz—Intern from  
University of North Georgia

Liz Hansen—Positive  
Parenting Educator

Maria Olalde—Hispanic  
Parenting Educator

Tonya Forrester—Teen  
Educator

Shannon Hughs—Teen  
Educator

Caroline Brasch—Childcare

Kylee Lambert—Childcare

Dottie Turner—Parenting  
Educator for Women at Hall  
County Detention Center

Jose Gil—Parenting  
Educator for Men at Hall  
County Detention Center

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**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

[www.familytiesgainesville.org](http://www.familytiesgainesville.org)

[www.facebook.com/FamilyTIESGainesville](https://www.facebook.com/FamilyTIESGainesville)

## Hopeful Futures

We are very excited to introduce our newest addition to our parenting classes offered. Hopeful Futures is a parenting class for Teen Parents, focusing on issues that are specific to the needs of teens that are faced with parenting.

There is focus not only on helping teens develop parenting skills but also on

staying in school and keeping teens on track to graduate and attend higher education facilities in the future.

This is the smallest of our groups offered serving under 10 clients. This gives the unique opportunity to give clients more one-on-one attention and really focus on developing their parenting skills.

Our intern from University of North Georgia, Gina, is leading this group and bringing new and exciting idea to the parenting curriculum while focusing on the driving issues of our organization.

## Dr. Mr. Ed

We are pleased to announce that we have begun Equine Therapy with members of our teen group. This unique opportunity teaches the teens to trust and how to bond.

A special thank you is extended to Lisa Weinwurm, our horse specialist, for working with us on this new adventure. Currently we are working with 3 clients in this approach with the goal of expanding this idea and having the opportunity to work with more clients in

this fashion.

One client, a young woman, was able to catch and put a bridal on Ribbit, her very first time and accomplished this on her own. She shoveled poopoo twice (this is a girl who doesn't even clean her room. Ribbit is known for being the hardest horse on the farm to catch. She was able to brush and work Ribbit during this session. This is a client who has bi-polar disorder, ADHD, and has a lot of frustrations with relationships with her

parents and her. We are educating her on how to deal with difficult relationships and how to walk away instead of continuing to be the problem.

This is just one of our exciting success stories stemming from this new program. We are very excited to continue to offer this opportunity to clients from our teen group and our new Mental Health Parenting Class.

## Teen Workshops

Our Teen Workshops have been focusing on comprehensive sexual education for the last few months. This has been a very educational experience for our teens. Georgia was ranked number 2 in the nation for reported cases of primary and secondary syphilis rates in 2009, according to [avert.org](http://avert.org). The same site lists Georgia as number 10 in the nation for reported cases of Gonorrhea.

This information shows the need for our teens to be educated on the do's and don'ts of sexual behaviors and how it could affect their lives in a long term way. This opportunity for a slow paced and well taught comprehensive sexual education program is offered through the Department of Public Health in partnership with Graduate students from University of Georgia.

Our teens have learned about different methods of birth control, the various sexually transmitted diseases that are out there. The classes have included videos, games, workbooks, and examples that the teens were able to relate to and retain the knowledge provided to them.