

Helping Hands Holiday Dinner

December 22, 2012

Our Goal... How You Can Help

Helping Hands Holiday Dinner is a private, 501(C3) non-profit organization run exclusively by volunteers since its 1990 inception. Providing a day of fun during the holiday season, for those less fortunate, is what the volunteers work towards.

For a Saturday in December, up to 10,000 people come to Henderson's Arena in College Park and enjoy such activities as arts and crafts, carnival rides and games, entertainment, dinner and toys for the children. All of this is absolutely free to our guests. Funds, toys, and volunteers are provided by Fulton County, local businesses, civic groups, schools, and churches.

Join our team today; help make a child's holiday a little brighter. You can help by:

- Monetary contributions (tax deductible)
- Toy contributions (tax deductible)
- Entertainers – to donate time and services
- Special interest groups (that share the same mission)
- Civic organizations and other clubs (raise funds, toys, and volunteer the day of the event.)
- Corporate sponsorship
- Ideas, volunteers (absolutely needed in making a difference in the lives of others)



The Founders...

Drs. Louis and Lori Okun each moved to Atlanta in 1984 where they became classmates at Life Chiropractic College. After graduating in 1987, they married and spent a year traveling extensively. In February 1989, they opened their office in Union City and immediately became actively involved in the community.

The Okuns participate in various civic organizations in Fulton and Fayette Counties. They are active throughout the year in fundraising and organizing the activities for Helping Hands Holiday Dinner.

Drs. Louis and Lori Okun and their son, Garrett, live in Fayette County.



Helping Hands Making History

The Mission of Helping Hands Holiday Dinner is to make the holiday season happier for those in need. In December 1990, a traditional turkey dinner and a visit from Santa thrilled 350 people. This fulfilled a dream that Drs. Louis and Lori Okun both shared, to provide for those less fortunate during the holiday season. Annually, the program has grown until the numbers became so large that a new location was found at Henderson's Arena in College Park, GA. By moving, more space was allotted for carnival events such as moon bounces, face painting, arts and crafts, rock climbing, and special shows. To compliment the atmosphere, the food changed also to hamburgers, hotdogs, and nachos.

By 1996 over 10,000 people were served. Funds and toys are provided by Function County and Toys for Tots, as well as, local businesses, civic groups, and churches.