



# Partnership

for Families, Children and Adults

## BACKGROUNDER

**Chattanooga, Tenn.** - The Partnership for Families, Children and Adults (the Partnership) is a comprehensive social service agency *empowering people to build better lives* through crisis intervention, professional counseling, and education and prevention services. It is the oldest and largest social service agency in the region with 20 programs and services and a \$9.6 million operating budget. Over 50,000 lives - ranging from unborn children to seniors -were touched last year by agency services in 11 Tennessee counties, 5 Georgia counties and 3 Alabama counties.

The Partnership for Families Children and Adults traces its roots to the 1877 establishment of the Ladies Aid Society, which provided housing to unwed pregnant ladies and later came to be the Florence Crittenton Home. In 1973, under the direction of the United Way, The Florence Crittenton Service, Family Service Agency and Travelers Aid Society merged into Community Services of Greater Chattanooga, Inc. Over time, services expanded to include Services for the Adult Deaf, Homemaker Services, and group homes for girls. In 1981, the agency again assumed a new name - Family and Children's Services of Chattanooga, Inc. At the same time, Consumer Credit Counseling Service and Refugee Services and Special Needs Adoption programs joined the agency.

Continued expansions created the Employee Assistance Program, Bonny Oaks Youth Services and the Crossroads Homeless and Runaway Youth Shelter, along with Family Violence Shelter, Transitions for Women, Foster Family Services and the Sexual Assault Crisis and Resource Center. In 2003, the agency took a new name - Partnership for Families, Children and Adults, and in 2005, adopted the mission statement "empowering people to build better lives." Through these many incarnations and name changes, the agency has grown into one of the largest and most respected comprehensive social service umbrella agencies in the Southeast.

In 2006, the Partnership was recognized by the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce as the Non-Profit Organization of the Year for demonstrating excellence in non-profit management and community impact and, in 2008, was selected by the National Alliance for Children and Families as one of ten agencies, nationwide, named mentor agencies, as part of the Alliance's New Age of Aging project.

The Partnership is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Inc. and actively participates in the Alliance for Children and Families, the Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, the Florence Crittenton Society, and the National Foundation for Credit Counseling.

The Partnership receives funds from corporations, foundations, businesses, employee groups, government contracts, religious institutions, civic groups, individuals, and the United Way. In-kind gifts and gifts of cash, securities and other marketable property are cheerfully accepted. In addition, there are many commemorative gift opportunities to honor the donor, the donor's family, friends or business associates. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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