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LABOR OF LOVE: HOMEAID ATLANTA PLAYGROUND TRANSFORMATION

Building industry volunteers refresh playground and more at treatment center for women and children.

ATLANTA, GA – NOVEMBER 18, 2020 – Volunteers from several organizations joined HomeAid Atlanta for a Care Day on November 6 at **Ascensa Health at St. Jude's Recovery Center for Women and Children**. For six hours, volunteers from **McMichael and Gray, PC**; **Timberlake Cabinetry**; **Kennesaw State University's NAHB Student Chapter**, **The Northview Church**, and the **Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association** hauled and raked mulch to transform the playground for the facility's youngest residents. The group also completed landscaping projects including raking leaves and tree trimming around the extensive grounds.



HomeAid Atlanta volunteers on November 6 at Ascensa Health at St. Jude's Recovery Center.

Ascensa Health at St. Jude's Recovery Center for Women and Children provides residential treatment while keeping the family unit together. Mothers with children receive specialized services including intensive addiction and mental health treatment, family reunification services, parenting education, basic living skills, and employment services, which reinforce self-sufficiency.

"There are no words to thank each of you for your true "labor" of love," said Suzanne Shaffer, President and CEO of Ascensa Health, to HomeAid's volunteers. "The mound of mulch appeared challenging to conquer with ten wheelbarrows. HomeAid volunteers jumped right in, and for six hours hauled the mulch to improve the playground and landscaping. This act of kindness means so much to our mothers and children. This is home while they are in our care. Our children have experienced difficulty at a young age and playgrounds equal happiness! We are so grateful that you spent your day refreshing our playground and landscape."

Crabapple Landscapexperts donated and delivered much for the project. The hard work of HomeAid's dedicated volunteers and the value of the mulch donation created a savings of \$4,500 for Ascensa Health at St. Jude's Recovery Center. HomeAid-provided savings like these mean that more funds can help Ascensa Health clients like this woman who said, "This program has opened my eyes. I am beginning to enjoy life. I am learning not to worry about the future, learning how to take it one day at a time. I am now focused on my recovery and I'm determined to do whatever it takes to stay clean."

HomeAid Atlanta is a nonprofit organization founded in 2001 that builds new lives for homeless families and individuals through housing and community outreach. HomeAid builds, renovates, and maintains facilities for nonprofits serving people experiencing homelessness. HomeAid has completed over 140 projects at locations for victims of domestic violence, teen mothers, veterans and more, utilizing connections with building industry professionals and community organizations. HomeAid also provides essential items like diapers, wipes, and hygiene products to those affected by homelessness. HomeAid is the designated charity of the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association. Learn more at www.homeaidatlanta.org.

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