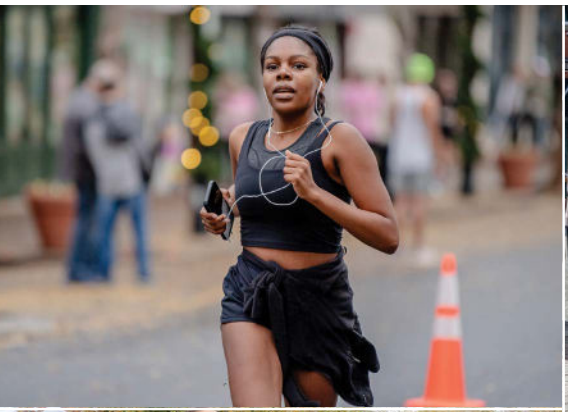
MUST MINISTRIES

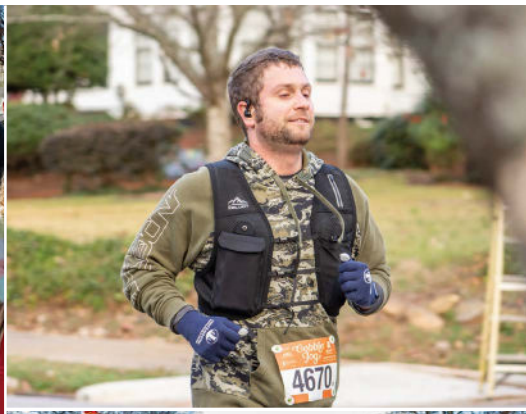
FALL 2026

IMPACTreport

HOW YOUR DONATIONS ARE CHANGING LIVES











Start your Thanksgiving morning off right!

Burn a few calories and help MUST Ministries feed our neighbors in need by registering for the 24th Annual Marietta Daily Journal Gobble Jog!

Last year's Gobble Jog was one of our most successful yet, as you helped MUST raise nearly $700,000. These funds allowed MUST to provide food, housing, job assistance, healthcare and critical resources for neighbors in need across metro Atlanta.

Whether you run, walk, trot, or join the fun as a Phantom Runner, the Gobble Jog has become a memorable family tradition for more than 10,000 participants each year.

Gather your family, form a team, and be part of something that makes a difference. Prizes await the top teams and fundraisers, so bring your giving spirit and maybe even some fun Thanksgiving costumes.

Lace up, show up, and join us as we race to end poverty!

REGISTER AT **GOBBLEJOG.ORG**



Give the gift of Thanksgiving

Want to ensure every MUST family has a Thanksgiving meal? Give to the Turkey Fund!

Your monetary gift allows MUST to purchase turkeys and other proteins at excellent prices for families in need, so your generosity goes further. Each turkey costs MUST on average $20, so a little goes a long way.

**Due to food safety protocols, MUST cannot accept frozen turkeys from the general public.*

CLICK HERE or
SCAN TO DONATE

Let's Stand Together

FOR OUR VETERANS, RESERVISTS & ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

MUST Ministries is proud to serve thousands of veterans, reservists and active-duty service members each year. Here are some of the ways MUST supports these heroes:

MUST's Veterans Supportive Housing Program gives veterans facing debilitating mental and physical health issues a place to live, for however long they need it.

In 2025, MUST helped **Dobbins Air Reserve Base** set up a pantry on the base for service men and women who were affected by the government shutdown. MUST continues to provide food, diapers, gift cards and more to support the pantry and those who serve, as well as deployment kits for active-duty members who are deploying to other countries.

MUST Hope House provides shelter, food, clothing, jobs assistance and more to veterans in all walks of life.

MUST Mobile Pantry brings food directly to Veteran Affairs Clinics and other areas of need.

MUST's Senior Smiles program provides a monthly box of groceries to elderly veterans, right at their front doors.

MUST's partnership with Eastchester Family Services at the **MUST Care Clinic** offers free mental health counseling and primary healthcare to all veterans and service members.

*MUST works daily to make sure our military heroes regain their stability and hope. If you would like to support this mission, please **click here** and consider donating today.*



According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), nearly 33,000 veterans experienced homelessness on a single night in 2025.



Bring Christmas magic to thousands of children with the MUST Christmas Toy Shop

Christmas morning should be filled with excitement and joy for every child. This holiday season, MUST Ministries is once again asking the community to help make that possible for thousands of children through the annual MUST Christmas Toy Shop.



Last year, **MUST Ministries served 8,144 children**, from newborns to 18-year-olds, through the Toy Shop. Each child received 10 new items, including toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and blankets. That means more than 81,000 new items were distributed to help make Christmas special for local children and families.

It might seem early, but we are already stocking our shelves in anticipation for another busy Toy Shop season. MUST is calling on individuals, families, businesses, churches, schools and community groups to volunteer, collect toys or help however you can.

At MUST's Toy Shop, parents and guardians of eligible children are invited to shop at no cost to their families, selecting gifts specifically for their children. This allows parents to take part in choosing what will be waiting for their children on Christmas morning.

To learn more about Toy Shop, visit mustministries.org/toyshop.



Pictured left to right: Michael D. Williams, Pam Younker, Lori Thompson, Brian Marcos and Joyette Holmes.

MUST appoints five new board members, new board leadership

MUST is thrilled to welcome five new board members to our 35-member Board of Directors, which leads our organization in strategy, fundraising, and overall direction. Additionally, on July 1, **Joyette Holmes** was appointed as our new board chair and **Bob Reccord** as our vice chair.

Brian Marcos (Chief, Smyrna Fire Department), **Candice Saunders** (Retired CEO, Wellstar Health System), **Lori Thompson** (Vice President, Human Resources, Universal Alloy Corporation), **Michael D. Williams** (President and Managing Director, Trailblazer Mortgage) and **Pam Younker** (Chief Operating Officer, Younker and Associates) bring their expertise, community leadership and passion for helping others to the board as MUST plans for continued growth and impact.

Holmes (Chair, Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles) has served on the MUST Board of Directors for eight years and will serve a two-year term as its board chair. Reccord (Founder, Total Life Impact Ministries) will serve a two-year term as vice chair, then will step into the role of board chair on July 1, 2028. **Terry DeWitt** (Senior Banking Advisor and retired Division President, SouthState Bank) completed his term as board chair on June 30 and remains on the board as immediate past president.

MUST MINISTRIES

1260 Cobb Pkwy N. | P.O. Box 1717
Marietta, GA 30061 | 770-427-9862

For more information, volunteer application, online financial donations and a lists of needs:

www.mustministries.org

ARE YOU CONNECTED?



Third ACE class graduates, aspiring entrepreneurs honored

On Aug. 29, MUST and Kennesaw State University honored 18 graduates of the ACE (Aspiring Community Entrepreneurs) program.

The ACE Program empowers early-stage entrepreneurs who have faced barriers to opportunity or access—particularly those from historically underrepresented or economically disadvantaged backgrounds—to gain the skills, confidence, and connections needed to grow strong, sustainable businesses.

Through a collaboration between the Kennesaw State University Michael J. Coles College of Business and MUST Ministries, ACE uses entrepreneurship as a pathway to economic mobility.

The third ACE class's graduation was held at KSU, where two graduates received the Mike Boyce Award to honor their excellence: Erika Rogers and Essence Johnson. Both winners received a $500 micro grant for their business on top of the $500 micro grant that every graduate received.

Special thanks go to the KSU and MUST ACE teams and volunteers, everyone who contributed to and supported the program, Notre Dame University, Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED, InspirEdu and Gaston Street Eats.

The next ACE program will begin in January. To learn more, ***click here****.*

MUST Ministries is a nonprofit, faith-based organization helping people in your community break the cycle of poverty. MUST provides basic needs such as groceries, hot meals, housing, emergency shelter, healthcare clinic, workforce development, toy shops, children's summer lunches and clothing. All services are free and provided without regard to income, race or religious beliefs.

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Donate

MUST is proud to have continually earned the highest possible rating from Charity Navigator with a four-star, 100% rating. Less than 3% of nonprofits in the entire nation have earned this rating.

89 cents of every dollar goes directly into programs.