

Platinum Sponsor: Archer Western Construction

We are thrilled to partner with Archer Western Construction/The Walsh Group.

The Walsh Group is a 119-year-old family-owned company providing design, build, finance, operation and outfitting services. The company is in its fourth generation of leadership and is listed as the 11th largest contractor in the United States according to Engineering News-Record. They operate as Archer Western, Walsh Construction, and Walsh Canada across 18 regional offices; having experience in a wide variety of building, civil, and transportation sectors.

Archer Western maintains a central corporate office in Atlanta, Georgia and serves a diverse client base across the southern and western regions of the United States. Archer Western is a recognized expert and proven performer in a wide range of projects including highways, bridges, rapid transit, water and wastewater treatment plants, residential high-rises, hospitality, senior living and commercial building. From early-phase planning to post-construction facility management, they offer a full continuum of customer services, managed with a proven, highly disciplined process.

“We are truly honored to partner with Archer Western,” shares Cathy Berggren, Executive Director of the Real Life Center. “Their corporate culture is aligned with our mission, and we appreciate their generous support of our work.”

Archer Western and The Walsh Group have an unwavering dedication to delivering the highest quality product to their customers and giving back to their neighbors and surrounding communities. They are committed to investing in the communities where they work and live, as their story of growth and development is rooted in the neighborhood environment. From work with local organizations to fundraising and repairing houses, Archer Western and The Walsh Group are dedicated to giving back to enhance the future for others.

“As a family-owned company that puts families first, we resonate with the mission of the Real Life Center and the important impact they have on families in the local community,” said Paul Carter, Senior Vice President of Archer Western.

For more information, visit www.walshgroup.com.

Platinum Sponsor: Waller & Associates, LLC

Waller & Associates, LLC is a faithful sponsor of the Harvest for Hope Gala. With offices in both Atlanta as well as Dallas, Texas, Waller & Associates is a privately-owned supply chain consulting firm founded in 2009. “We are a bit atypical when it comes to distribution consulting firms in that we were founded by long-time distribution operations managers,” shares Jeff Waller, Owner. “As a result, our work is conducted from an operations perspective, supported by a strong engineering and data analytics team. The bottom line is that our designs and advise works in the real world, not just on paper.”

Over the past decade, professionals at Waller & Associates concentrate on helping companies achieve lower costs, higher profits and happier customers by streamlining their distribution operations. “One half of our work encompasses government contracts and the other half commercial contracts. This allows us to take best practices from both sectors and apply them to each,” Jeff adds. The Waller and Associates team delivers real world solutions and knowledge gained from many years of hands-on, practical operations experience working with today's innovators in supply chain management. They bring the right people, armed with insights in business logistics, who have applied leading management tools such as Six Sigma and LEAN, to improve supply chain effectiveness. The Notable customers are General Dynamics, Bermuda Hospitals Board and Lowe’s.

What makes Waller & Associates truly unique is that they are a company made of people of faith. “Everything comes from God, and we have all been called to help as many people as we can,” Jeff continues. “We are blessed with our resources so we can help local charities and make a difference”.

Before Jeff started his company in 2008 he walked through a tough season in life. He lost his job and there was a moment where things got really tight. “The Real Life Center’s mission is applicable to that time period of my life – helping people get back on their feet by providing resources to reach stability and get to a better place in life,” Jeff concludes.

Jeff is happily married to Cristi, the love of his life. “Cristi, too, is a passionate supporter of our mission of providing a hand-up versus a handout. We appreciate you both for your heart for our families,” shares Cathy Berggren, Executive Director of the Real Life Center. Pictured are Managing Directors, Dan Denton and Mark Kidwell, after the completion of a distribution center design and move project for the Bermuda Hospital Board in Bermuda. Thank you, Jeff, for making a global impact as well as a significant one right here at the Real Life Center. We appreciate all you do! For more information, visit www.wallerassoc.com.

Platinum Sponsor: Dirt1x

Dirt1x is a marketing agency specializing in the growth of small businesses. Dirt1x stands for *Do It Right the 1st Time*: a focus on creating a strong foundation for business, rooted in good branding. Through the Dirt1x Sustainable Marketing System, their retainer-based agreement, businesses create a marketing strategy and have access to a full marketing agency team for implementation.

“The hard part of being an entrepreneur is the isolation in making plans and decisions,” explains Ellie White-Stevens, Owner and Creative Director. “We solve that by getting in front of our clients every single month and making sure their marketing and businesses have a positive trajectory.” Business owners receive a comprehensive marketing plan, branding, impressive sales materials, winning websites and social media analysis and implementation, as well as support on making their plan happen!

“What makes us unique is that we seek to be the marketing partner to our client base by getting to know them intimately and by providing top level customer service,” Ellie adds. “All of my clients have a million things to do. We make an impact by getting marketing off their plates, so they can focus on their core business and what matters to them, even in their personal lives.” To that end, Dirt1x recently hired a Project Manager to oversee all details and to strive for excellence in all their partnerships.

“Ellie and her team have been such a gift to the Real Life Center,” shares Cathy Berggren, Director of the Real Life Center. “They have demonstrated how both individuals and companies can make a difference in the lives of others.

Ellie’s generosity to the Real Life Center is faithful. In the past Ellie helped us design a fully branded donation card. This year, she has gifted all her services to our third Harvest for Hope Gala, providing incredibly professional Save-the-dates, invitations, and programs.

“Working with the Real Life Center helped me craft my vision of bringing my business planning expertise to the non-profit world so they can be more successful in their fundraising efforts,” Ellie explains. “We help non-profits construct their event in such a way to make it attractive for big donors to get involved. Businesses like to align themselves with worthy causes and want to participate for marketing opportunities. It is a win-win,” according to Ellie. For more information, visit www.dirt1x.com.

Platinum Sponsor: Thrivent Financial

We are grateful to Greg Bickhart and his team at Thrivent Financial. Thrivent Financial is a Christian based Financial Services Company that connects Faith and Finances. Greg shares with us, "Thrivent Financial is a membership organization helping members be wise with money and live generously. The result is stronger families and communities." Greg is very good about seeking these opportunities to build stronger families and communities as seen through his support of the Real Life Center. "The Real Life Center helps people with real needs. They can bridge the gap with clothes, food and other items," shares Greg. Greg and his wife, Karen, have three beautiful children and three precious grandchildren. Along with serving his family and community through his leadership at Thrivent or through volunteering, you may also find Greg gardening, exercising, and traveling. Thank you, Greg, for your sizeable part in impacting our community! More can be learned about Greg Bickart, Thrivent Financial at <https://connect.thrivent.com/greg-bickhart/about-me/>.

Platinum Sponsor: South-Tree Enterprises

We are excited to partner with a new sponsor this year! South-Tree Enterprises, LLC is a commercial general contractor licensed in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina, and South Carolina. South-Tree offers an extensive range of commercial construction services and has worked with a variety of clients specializing in the development of quality-built offices, medical buildings, warehouses, educational facilities, religious institutions and other projects. Evidence of their excellent work in our community can be seen in the following buildings: Osmose Utilities Services, Inc. Headquarters located in Peachtree City, Resurgens Orthopaedics Fayette Surgery Center and Spine Clinic, Southside Church Newnan Campus, Trinity Christian High School in Sharpsburg, Hometown Hardware in Senoia, and the building we are most excited about...the new Real Life Center facility that will be finished in Spring 2019!

Established almost 30 years ago in 1989 by Chuck Ogletree, South-Tree has become one of South Atlanta's most rapidly growing privately held commercial general contractor firms. Focused on continuous improvement, South-Tree's primary goal is exceeding their client's expectations in all aspects of the construction process. They strive to constantly deliver the most superior quality project at an exceptional value. Their integrity, honesty, and accountability extend to all parts of the project from estimating through closeout. When asked what makes South-Tree a unique company, South-Tree Marketing Director Christy Palmer states, "Our uniqueness stems from the leadership and culture Chuck Ogletree brings to the organization. Chuck has a hands-on approach and is great at giving insight and expertise to the team, yet he relies on the team and their expertise too. He knows each member of the team has a unique skill set. Our employees love helping people, seeing each project through and making sure it is a quality project. High performance and

engaged employees are the result of Chuck's leadership style and culture at South-Tree." To the employees of South-Tree, Chuck is seen as a servant leader. In December of each year, Chuck and his family cook a delicious meal for the entire South-Tree team of just under 50 employees. This is a great illustration of his serving nature. "He loves to serve people, that is just who he is," shares Christy.

A native of Fayette County, Chuck graduated from McIntosh High School. After attending and graduating from the University of Georgia, Chuck moved back to Fayette County where he started South-Tree Enterprises. Being able to give back to our community and invest in the people here is very important to Chuck and South-Tree Enterprises. It is for this reason, he has chosen to support the Real Life Center. "The Real Life Center is investing in people in the community, helping them through struggles and challenges. You are here to support them. That is a common thread we share, we want to help organizations that are giving back and helping people here locally in our community," explains Christy. We appreciate having a sponsor such as South-Tree Enterprises that exemplifies excellence in all they do! See <http://www.south-tree.com/> to learn even more about this wonderful company.