



Raintree Village in Dasher, GA is pleased to announce their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Fund Raising Campaign, culminating in our main event on October 8, the first annual Raintree Village Benefit Dinner and Live Auction. The auction will be held at the Rainwater Conference Center, from 6-9pm.

Funds raised will be used to meet a number of needs at Raintree Village, including:

- Improved campus security to insure the safety of our residents
- Upgrades to our cottage interiors
- Renovations to our campus facilities
- Reliable transportation

## **Who are we?**

Raintree Village is a Christian community, closely linked with the Churches of Christ, where abuse, abandonment, and neglect of children are replaced by healing, nurturing and love. For decades, Raintree Village has been a home for the most difficult cases in the foster care system, children with behavior issues as well as juveniles who have been discharged from Youth Detention Centers. We serve children aged 12-21 as well as pregnant teen mothers. We are also one of few facilities in South Georgia offering a second-chance home for young mothers.

Children live in 3 cottages, each supervised by house parents who provide daily care, guidance, structure, and support to each child. All of our school-age children attend Lowndes County public schools, and participate in Raintree's Tutorial Program, which offers after-school tutoring with a certified teacher. Tutors also visit biweekly with each child's teachers to assure each child's academic success.

At Raintree, we strive not only to give children a stable environment in which to grow, but also to help them build a foundation for a stable and successful future. Many children in foster care experience multiple placements, but Raintree Village is a “forever home.” We seek to be a child’s final placement before they return home, find independence, or enter college.

### **We need your support.**

Beginning in 2004, the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) revised its child placement policies, favoring the placement of children in foster homes, or what they term “less restrictive environments,” rather than group homes such as Raintree Village. This has resulted in less state funding for group homes, as well as lowered occupancy. For many children, foster homes provide excellent care and stability; however, the need for group homes still remains. For a variety of reasons, such as behavioral problems, some children don’t function well these less restrictive environments, and require the structure of a group home such as Raintree Village. Raintree Village also accepts sibling groups that might otherwise be separated when placed in foster care.

While it may not be possible for these children to remain in the care of their families, Raintree Village believes it important to keep children in contact with their families whenever possible, via telephone and scheduled visitation. Without homes such as Raintree Village, children at need in our community would have to be relocated to homes farther away from their families, which makes family visitations more challenging. The need in our community is real, and Raintree Village needs your help to continue meeting that need.



**October 8, 2016**

**6-9pm**

**Rainwater Conference Center**

**\$25/ticket**

**To purchase a ticket, visit [www.raintreevilage.org](http://www.raintreevilage.org)**

**Or call 229-559-5944**