Our Vision

Hands On Georgia is a statewide network that supports innovative volunteer solutions to meet Georgia’s critical community needs.
The Origins

Premier Statewide Volunteer Organization

- In November 2004 Governor Sonny Perdue launched Hands On Georgia as a resource to communities across the state.

- The first five Hands On Georgia affiliates were located in Atlanta, Columbus, Macon and Hall and Thomas Counties.
The need for citizen involvement in Georgia is significant.

- Georgia was ranked 41st in the nation for volunteering rates
- 35th for median hours spent on volunteer activities
- 32nd in Senior Volunteering rates
- 46th among Baby Boomers
- 39th with Young Adults
- Georgia ranked last in College Student volunteering
- The rate of volunteering in Georgia was lower than the 3-year rate for the South overall.

Data Source: Corporation for National & Community Service
Georgia welcomes a new organization committed to volunteer service

- Hands On Georgia begins a three-year incubation period within Hands On Network, an international network of affiliates located in major metropolitan areas.
- Governor and Mrs. Perdue, along with Ambassador and Mrs. Andrew Young agree to serve as the organization’s Honorary Chairs.
- General Assembly appropriates $100,000 in Hands On Georgia State Challenge Grants.
- Launched first Hands On Georgia Week in the five charter affiliate cities with 780 volunteers who performed 3,500 hours of service.
In 2004 Hands On Georgia Started with 5 affiliates

- Hands On Atlanta
- Hands On Hall
- Hands On Columbus
- Hands On Macon
- Hands On Thomas County
Volunteering and Civic Engagement Takes Hold in Georgia

- Hands On Georgia Week grows significantly with 152 out of 159 counties in Georgia - engaged.

- 25,000 volunteers completed 110,000 hours of service.

- Awarded federal AmeriCorps grant of nearly $500,000 over three years.

- Wal-Mart donates $250,000 and AT&T donates an additional $50,000.

- General Assembly appropriates $200,000 in Hands On Georgia State Challenge Grants awarded in two rounds during the fiscal year to 23 communities.

- During the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, 10 HOGA affiliates perform service.
  Hands On Georgia expands to 12 affiliates across the state.
Hands On Georgia Promotes the Power of Service

- Governor Perdue and General Assembly again fund $200,000 for State Challenge Grants for distribution in 2007 – 2008
- Commitments from all 159 counties during Hands On Georgia Week
- Presenting Sponsor of the Georgia Summit on Volunteerism – a gathering of volunteer leaders from around the state
- Presented the first Georgia Volunteer of the Year Award
- Affiliate total now stands at 19.
Current Affiliates

Hands On Adairsville
Hands On Athens
Hands On Atlanta
Hands On Coastal Georgia
Hands On Columbus
Hands On Dooly County
Hands On Forsyth
Hands On Hall
Hands On Harlem
Hands On Liberty County
Hands On Macon
Hands On Milledgeville
Hands On Newton
Hands On Northwest Georgia
Hands On Ogeechee
Hands On Rome/Floyd County
Hands On Savannah
Hands On Wayne County
Hands On Thomas County
Hands on GEORGIA

HOAGA Week Sponsors

Florence C. & Harry L. English Memorial Fund

AGL Resources

Georgia's Electric Membership Corporations

Georgia Natural Gas

InterContinental Hotels Group