



**Media Contact:**  
Chaundra Lockett, CMO  
[Chaundra.Lockett@CHRIS180.org](mailto:Chaundra.Lockett@CHRIS180.org)

## **CHRIS 180 Raised More Than \$700K at 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual CHRISal Ball**

*Funds will support trauma-informed behavioral health care*

**ATLANTA, GA (Aug. 24, 2023)** – Atlanta-based mental health nonprofit [CHRIS 180](https://www.chris180.org) raised more than \$700,000 at its annual fundraiser, The CHRISal Ball. More than 450 people attended the Saturday, Aug. 19 event at The Stave Room.

“We are profoundly grateful and humbled by the support of our donors, board members, employees and the community to help us accomplish our mission at this year’s CHRISal Ball,” said Kathy Colbenson, LMFT, President and Chief Executive Officer of CHRIS 180. “Each gift helps make it possible for CHRIS 180 to provide high-quality trauma-informed counseling, wraparound services and support to uplift the children, youth, young adults and families of metro Atlanta.”

Rich McKay, CEO of AMB Sports + Entertainment and CEO of the Atlanta Falcons, was honored with the CHRISal Vision Award, an award that recognizes a community member who personifies CHRIS 180’s values. McKay expressed his commitment to help the organization continue to expand its offerings and influence in the lives of Atlanta’s children.

The CHRISal Ball provided the opportunity to hear stories told firsthand by clients whose lives have been positively impacted by CHRIS 180. Rusia who lost her hearing at two, aged out of the foster care system. Now she is a resident at CHRIS 180’s Summit Trail and learning to live independently and thrive in a hearing world. Heisel lost a friend to suicide and struggled with her feelings of loss and depression. As a member of the Hispanic community, she found the care she needed at CHRIS Counseling Gwinnett, along with acceptance and cultural understanding from the bilingual staff there and is on the road to healing along with her family.

Co-chairs for the event were Georgia-Pacific’s Lori B. Chennault, PwC’s April Estes and Cyril Turner of RORS Financial. The team, who serve together on CHRIS 180’s board of directors, worked for more than a year to ensure the fundraising gala was a success.

The CHRISal Ball Presenting Sponsor is Delta Air Lines. Champion Sponsors include Cox Enterprises, The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation and Georgia-Pacific. Protector Sponsors are PNC, Holder, Cadence Bank, Genuine Parts Company and MSAC Charitable Fund.

### **About CHRIS 180**

Atlanta-based nonprofit CHRIS 180 was founded in 1981 and provides life-changing trauma-informed behavioral health services and wraparound support to children, adults, families and communities that empowers them to change the direction of their lives. Over more than 40 years, the organization has worked with more than 100,000 clients to build resilience and heal from trauma, while becoming a well-

respected leader in child welfare and a thought leader in supporting underserved and traumatized communities across Metro Atlanta. For more information, visit [CHRIS180.org](https://CHRIS180.org).