

THE ORANGE DUFFEL BAG INITIATIVE

Gwinnett Rotary and Orange Duffel Bag Initiative Team Up to Serve Gwinnett Students in Need!

May 2016



Pictured (left-right): Michael Daly, ODBI Pres. and Marlon Allen, Gwinnett Rotary President.

During the May 10 meeting at the 1818 Club, Gwinnett Rotary Club Charitable Giving Committee and Board of Directors presented a \$1,000 Avenues of Service Grant to The Orange Duffel Bag Initiative (ODBI), a 501c3 public charity providing at-risk high school and college students evidence-informed coaching programs and ongoing advocacy to improve their education outcomes; support to their caring adults; and service to the community in the spirit of hope.



The Gwinnett Rotary Club’s mission is to “Be a Gift to the World”. Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service and encourages high ethical standards in all vocations. The Avenue of Services grant, intended to improve the quality of life for people in Rotarians’ communities and to serve the public interest, will directly and positively impact the lives of at-risk students in the Gwinnett community.

On receiving the grant, Michael Daly, ODBI president said,

“We are proud that ODBI’s mission and curriculum aligns to the Rotary’s key areas of Education and Literacy, Peace and Conflict Resolution, and Community Development. On behalf of Orange Duffel Bag Initiative and the students we serve, we thank the Gwinnett Rotary for this grant to purchase orange duffel bags for Gwinnett County at-risk students who graduate our program.”

ODBI was founded in 2010 to improve the education achievement rates of Georgia’s at-risk students. The ODBI collaborates in close partnership with community stakeholders such as Gwinnett Rotary, Primerica, and Gwinnett Technical College to align the efforts at the community level toward a common goal: increasing secondary and postsecondary education achievement rates for Georgia’s most vulnerable students. Students from graduate the ODBI’s transformational programs with reduced anger, improved community involvement, education retention, sustainable relationships, and overall wellbeing.



Since the organization's founding, over 700 students across 7 counties including Gwinnett have graduated from ODBI's life and education coaching programs. The ODBI is an honored recipient of Emory's Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award and The Nobis Award for Program Innovation. The ODBI has presented its outcomes data at seven national conferences and has been featured in *Atlanta Magazine*.

The Orange Duffel Bag Initiative
1801 Peachtree Street NE Suite 300
Atlanta GA 30309
<http://www.theodbi.org>