



Helping People,
Changing Lives,
Building Families.



JIMMIE SAMUEL

GCAA President



Jimmie Samuel is the President of the Georgia Community Action Association (GCAA) as of July 2006. He is the Executive Director for Macon-Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc., a Community Action Agency where he has served in this capacity since 1986. Under his leadership, Macon-Bibb County EOC has progressed from less than a \$1,000,000 program to grants in excess of \$12,500,000, all of which benefit low-income families and individuals. Under Mr. Samuel's leadership, EOC is able to provide services that have increased the opportunities for low-income families and individuals to help themselves without creating or fostering dependency.

Mr. Samuel's accomplishments include: Elected Vice President of GCAA in 1990, Award for Excellence for his outstanding contribution to the Southeastern Association of Community Action Agencies, Board of Directors 1990-1992; Leadership Macon Award in 1993-1994. In 1994-95, he was honored with the National Head Start Administrator of the Year Award. For his commitment and dedication to the community, he received the Macon's Neighbor Challenge, Quality of Life, and Community Service Award.

In January of 2001, Macon-Bibb County EOC Head Start program was presented the Distinguished NHSA Fatherhood Program Award under the leadership of Jimmie Samuel and Head Start Director, Pamela E. Brown. During his tenure at EOC, Head Start has grown from serving 250 children to a total of 760 children.

In 2000, Mayor C. Jack Ellis appointed Jimmie Samuel as a member of his transition team where he served as Chairperson of the Taskforce on Housing, an initiative that helps provide affordable housing for homeless and low-income families and individuals. Today, Macon-Bibb County EOC successfully operates 9 transitional houses, and has incorporated the Macon Bibb County EOC Homeless Services Center, a day shelter for homeless persons.

On January 26, 2005, The National Community Development Association (NCDA) awarded Macon-Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. in partnership with City of Macon the Terrance R. Duvernay HOME Program Award of Excellence for its Cedar Avenue Development Project. This is the first such award that the City of Macon has received and one of only twenty communities nationwide to receive this honor. The award is the culmination of a national competition to identify exemplary uses of HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program Funds that address the needs of low to moderate income families and neighbors.