

>> neighbors HELPING NEIGHBORS



Delta Air Lines Employee Volunteers Renovate Christian City Cottage

Hundreds of Delta Air Lines employees volunteered over a two-month period to help renovate and repurpose a Christian City cottage originally funded by Delta Air Lines employees in 1972. The Delta-Jim Turner Memorial Cottage that served as a home for children for more than four decades now has a new life as a duplex guest home serving the children and senior adults living at Christian City.

One of the 2-bedroom apartments in the duplex will be used to help facilitate family reunifications for children who live in the homes at Christian City Children's Village. The second 2-bedroom apartment will be available for senior residents' families and friends to lease while they are visiting.

Jim Turner, Vice President of Tech Ops and long-time Delta Air Lines employee, was also a trustee of Christian City. He was 56 when he passed away in 1971. At the renovation project kick-off event in April 2019, Jane Turner Hannon, daughter of Jim Turner, expressed her family's appreciation for the honor bestowed on Turner when the cottage was named in his memory.

"My father truly believed that relationships built strength, whether in family, church, community or work. That is what we see at the heart of the Delta 'personality' and 'spirit.' Dad believed that we all have a responsibility to other people, and he lived out that belief through all aspects of his life, at Delta, and in his church," Hannon said.

Kim Mills-Smith, a 30-year veteran flight attendant with Delta Air Lines, worked with Michel Aletraris of Delta Tech Ops to organize volunteer effort and secure funding to complete the renovation. Mills-Smith designed the floor plan and handled the interior design for the renovated duplex. She and Aletraris worked alongside Christian City volunteer project manager, Terry Chapman. "This renovation project created a vision of hope for the next 47 years," said Mills-Smith at the re-dedication event.

LaVann Landrum, Chief Development Officer, commented that successful projects like this one are the result of the combined efforts of many. "Delta Air Lines has been a faithful friend of Christian City for more than 50 years, and we are grateful for this continued show of support. We also appreciate contributions to this renovation project from Lowe's of Newnan, Mega Granite and Marble, Owens Corning, Atlanta Community Tool Bank, Legacy Christian Church, Aaron's, 44 Appliance & Supply, M-Con Construction, the Grey Ghosts from Southern Crescent Habitat for Humanity, Sherwin Williams/Fairburn, Cheryl and Mike Cater, and the many others who stepped up to make sure all necessary building supplies and meals for volunteers were provided. Because of this dedicated group of people and companies, Christian City has been strengthened for future service to the children, families and seniors who need us," Landrum said.

For more information, call 770-703-2636 or visit www.christiancity.org