



# Coralwood Foundation

FISCAL YEAR 2008 • ANNUAL REPORT



Our mission is to promote excellence in early childhood special education, and to provide a vehicle for long term financial and volunteer support for Coralwood School.



**2007-2008  
CORALWOOD FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Coralwood School and Diagnostic Center

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## THE CORALWOOD SCHOOL

Coralwood School and Diagnostic Center is the only public school in DeKalb County dedicated to serving children with special needs between three-six years of age. Our research-based educational model includes 11 collaborative and coteaching classrooms in which six-eight children with special needs and 10 typically developing children are educated together. Research shows that this model results in significant gains for special education students, including higher levels of social play, more appropriate social interactions and greater gains in language, cognitive and motor development. Additionally, Coralwood has five self-contained classrooms that serve children with more severe disabilities. Children in the self-contained classes attend motor therapy and the media center with typically developing students.

The classrooms at Coralwood are led by highly specialized teachers and paraprofessionals who cater to a broad set of students with varied needs. The teachers work closely with the following therapists: speech/language, occupational, physical, vision and motor. Primarily, these therapists provide services to children in the classroom and include both special needs and typical children in the various therapies.



2007 – 2008 Coralwood School	
# of Students	230
Disabilities	53%
Free and Reduced Lunch	14%
Minorities	30%
# of Home Schools	46

## WHAT IS THE CORALWOOD FOUNDATION?

Coralwood Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in May 2005 to create a permanent endowment fund, the income of which will be used to promote excellence in early childhood special education at Coralwood, and to provide a vehicle for long-term financial and volunteer support for Coralwood. The Foundation funds the educational innovations of teachers and other professionals at Coralwood and funds a Director of Development who writes grants and raises funds for specific educational initiatives.

Currently, the efforts of the Foundation's Board of Directors are focused on the following initiatives:

- Providing learning opportunities and professional development for our staff;
- Supporting the financial goals of the Foundation through fundraisers such as our Silent Auction and Wine Tasting Dinner, as well as grant writing activities;
- Developing and funding the Master Plan for Coralwood's campus in order to provide enhanced educational opportunities for our children, such as building the Outdoor Trail and funding architectural drawings;
- Researching theme school and charter school options; and
- Enlisting additional community support for Coralwood through dynamic public relations and alumni relations.

The Foundation views these projects as fundamental elements to improve the education of our children now and in the future.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*All kids are gifted; some just open their packages earlier than others.*

*-Michael Carr*



PBS recently filmed a piece here at Coralwood School about the development of literacy skills in young children. The film highlighted the benefits of integrated classrooms to both special needs and typically developing children. Developmental psychologists, administrators, parents, teachers and therapists explained in detail how inclusion education and the use of peer modeling is the best way to educate special needs children. I watched in awe at the seamless way the two featured girls learned in this setting. Caroline, a typically developing five year old, was simply enjoying time with her friend Avery, who has Down syndrome. I watched as Caroline happily engaged with Avery in many different learning activities and Avery responded in obvious delight demonstrating the targeted educational goals. All of the testimony from those esteemed and respected experts was unnecessary. Simply watching the interaction of the two girls said it all—this just works. Each child makes their own unique contribution to the Coralwood educational process with every opportunity that comes their way.

How do we expand and improve this wonderful program? Easy. Support the Coralwood Foundation. The mission of the Coralwood Foundation is to promote excellence in early childhood education at Coralwood and to provide long-term financial and volunteer support for the school. During Fiscal Year 2008, our Board of Directors, comprised of parents, grandparents, educators and community volunteers, has accomplished the following:

- Raised over \$74,000 for the CF Endowment in the 2007 Classroom Challenge, with giving from approximately 90% of our families.
- Secured \$50,000 in grants through our Director of Development, Jennifer Sedlack.
- Presented the Master Plan, which includes a new therapy center, an expanded media/computer center and outdoor trail and classroom, to the DeKalb County Board of Education for funding.
- Met multiple times with the Superintendent and numerous members of his staff to protect the Coralwood inclusion program and to preserve our partnership with Hawthorne Elementary.
- Purchased Promethean ActivBoards for each of our Kindergarten classrooms.
- Provided 100% of Coralwood staff (60 plus) with continuing education through conferences or in-house training, resulting in new behavior modification and communication techniques to serve our children.

The Foundation's Board of Directors, teachers, therapists, and administrators have set our sights on a destination so compelling that you can't help but be excited by it: an expanded and improved Coralwood School with a new therapy center, outdoor learning trail and enhanced classrooms that are technologically innovative in ways that engage every child in their unique educational path. Our first step will be achieved this year with the creation of our new outdoor learning trail. I want to express my sincere appreciation for the countless hours of service by our directors, staff, parents and our many volunteers. Many of these people are also among our generous donors who supported the Classroom Challenge last year. Together we are helping each child discover the rich rewards of his or her own gifts.

Janet E. Haury, President



artwork by Benjamin Lutz

The "Kindergarten Goes Green!" grant has allowed us to teach in-depth about limited resources and practical solutions to reduce, reuse, and recycle. For example, our class learned how electricity is used to pump water and how water is used at power plants to create electricity. Now we understand that saving water saves energy and visa versa."

- Mary Kaye Moore & Peggy Echt,  
recipients of a Coralwood Foundation  
Mini-Grant for Teachers



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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It is my privilege once again to thank you for your wonderful devotion and generosity to Coralwood. One of the greatest blessings of my job is working with a school family second to none in its commitment to the children we serve and to our educational purpose. It is very difficult to put into words my profound sense of gratitude for all you do to support Coralwood. Your commitment is humbling and inspiring.

Statistics do not always tell the entire story about our community but they are an important indicator of the degree to which its members care about this special place called Coralwood. During the 2007-08 Classroom Challenge, we experienced a 65% increase in parent participation over the previous school year. Corporations, foundations, and foverment agencies have given the school over \$130,000 in grants. In addition to this support, the school's sensory garden was finished by a neighborhood Eagle Scout. The Outdoor Classroom is now complete with a water feature and the butterfly garden is in place for the students to enjoy while learning about nature.

We continue to pursue academic excellence in early childhood education. Coralwood has once again been recognized in each of the past three years by the Governor's Office of School Achievement with a Platinum Award. Coralwood was also featured in a PBS special, produced by WETA, on the benefits of inclusion education.

We are making steady progress in strengthening our educational program and sense of community, while improving the quality of the school's physical spaces and continuing to strengthen our permanent endowment for programs and faculty support. So many people are working tirelessly to help us enhance and achieve our educational mission.

On behalf of our faculty, staff and students, we thank you for supporting our beloved school. I look forward to the coming years with great anticipation.

Rebecca Blanton, Principal



I love my ukulele! I use it often when working with my students and find that they really respond to it well. It's exciting to use music as another method for teaching. We're fortunate to have these resources at Coralwood.

- Susan Garrett, Speech and Language Pathologist

(Ukuleles were purchased through the Georgia Council for the Arts ACE Grant and ukulele training was provided through the Goody's Good Deeds for Schools Grant)



# FISCAL YEAR 2008 PROGRESS REPORT

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During Fiscal Year 2008, the Coralwood Foundation successfully accomplished the following objectives:

- Raised \$74,335 toward the Endowment Fund through the Classroom Challenge;
- Achieved a 90% Classroom Challenge giving rate from Coralwood families;
- \$7,500 to the 15 classes with 100% participation in the Classroom Challenge
- Received seven cash grants totaling \$47,900 for a school-wide wireless system, a digital piano, 20 ukuleles, a weekend art program, art residencies and the development of an arts in education curriculum
- Received \$77,600 in in-kind gifts;
- Developed a Mini-Grants for Teachers Program and awarded five grants totaling \$2,150;
- Assisted Coralwood School with applying for and implementing a \$5,000 health grant; and sent staff to conferences nationwide.
- Financially supported in-house professional development programming

## FISCAL YEAR 2008 GRANTS AND IN-KIND GIFTS

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### GRANTS

Associated Credit Union - \$1,000  
AT&T Foundation - \$25,000  
Georgia Council for the Arts

- Arts Curriculum Enhancement Year One Grant - \$5,000
- Artists in Residence Grant - \$2,800
- Parent Teacher Artist Grant - \$3,000

Goody's Good Deeds for Schools - \$10,000  
Precision Business Technologies - \$1,100

### IN-KIND GIFTS

ACCO Brands, Inc.  
Kathryn Chambless  
Kendall and Courtney Clark  
Dining with Massimo  
Morris Manning and Martin  
Anthony and Jennifer Tiberia  
URS Corp.  
Jacob Yount



Our new Promethean ActivBoard is an incredible teaching tool in the classroom. Our students are excited to use it every day and this board opens up a world of possibilities for teaching. It's so encouraging to have a Foundation like ours that not only sees the potential for educational excellence but goes out there, finds it and brings it back for us.

– Ursula Daniels, Special Education Teacher, Kindergarten

(The Coralwood Foundation purchased three Promethean ActivBoards for the kindergarten classrooms using funds raised from the 2006-07 Classroom Challenge.)



# FISCAL YEAR 2007 PROGRESS REPORT (CONT.)

## CORALWOOD FOUNDATION, INC. Income Statement For the year ended June 30, 2008

INCOME	AMOUNT
Contributions	
Individual Contributions	\$86,344
Corporate Contributions	\$8,100
Corporate matches	\$8,796
Total Contributions	\$103,240
Grants	
Government Grants	\$6,210
Corporate and Business Grants	\$38,517
Total Grants	\$44,727
Special Events Income	
Special Events Ticket Sales	\$11,715
Special Events Silent Auction sales	\$22,617
Total Special Events Income	\$34,332
Dividends and Interest	\$1,769
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$672
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$184,740</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	
Contract Services	
Director of Development	\$14,000
Outside Contract Services	\$9,295
Total Contract Services	\$23,295
Operations	
Supplies	\$9,569
Food and drink	\$9,534
Printing, Copying, Postage	\$968
Entertainment	\$382
Classroom challenge awards, mini grants	\$9,205
Total Operations	\$29,658
Travel and Meetings	
Conference, Convention, Meeting	\$3,148
Travel	\$2,428
On-site training	\$1,740
Total Travel and Meetings	\$7,316
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$15,196
Administrative Expenses	
Insurance	\$780
Depreciation	\$804
Bad debt expense	\$517
Miscellaneous admin expense	\$723
Total Administrative Expenses	\$2,824
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$78,289</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$106,451</b>

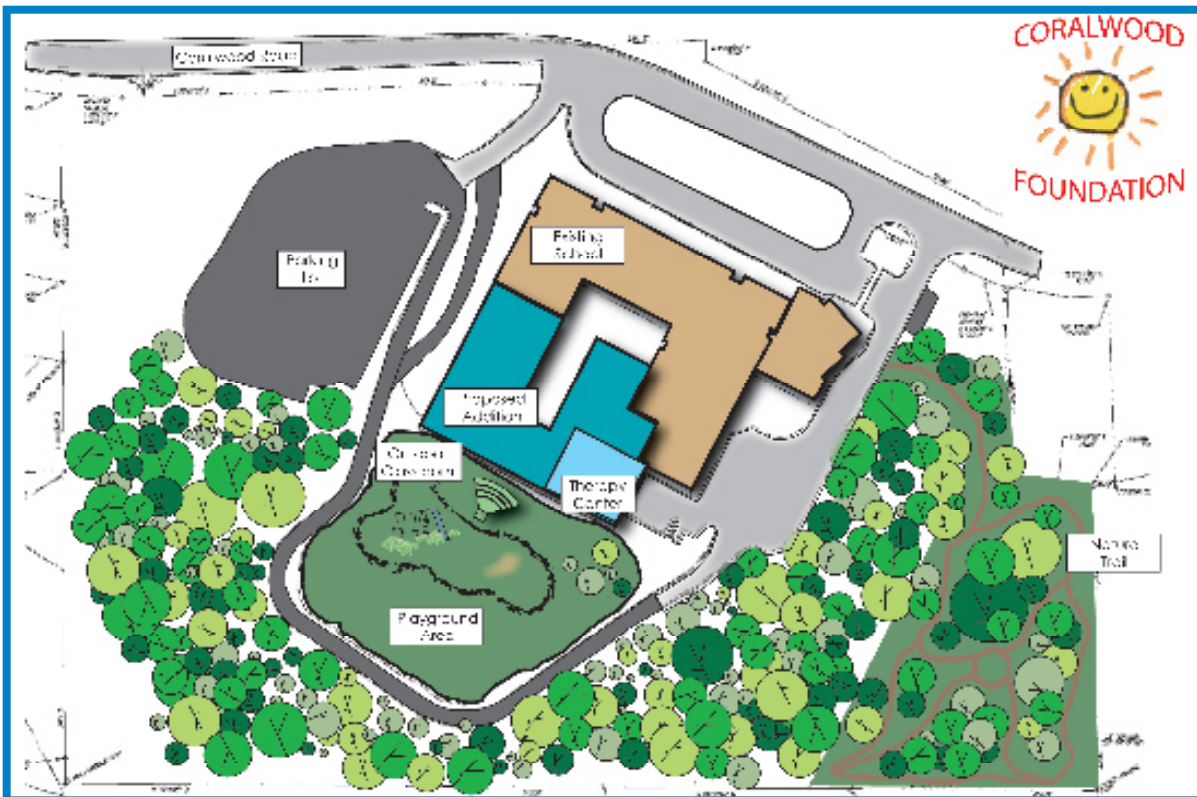
### FY 2008 FUNDING SOURCES

	Amount Contributed	Percentage of Total
Contributors		
Campaign Individual Contributions	85,000.00	32%
In-kind Contributions	77,600.00	30%
Grants	44,700.00	17%
Silent Auction	24,800.00	9%
Corporate Contributions	16,900.00	6%
Wine Tasting	11,400.00	4%
Miscellaneous	2,500.00	1%



## FISCAL YEAR 2009 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Secure funding for the architectural drawings of the Master Plan;
- Raise funds for and build the Outdoor Trail portion of the Master Plan
- Support and strengthen the Coralwood / Hawthorne partnership
- Create an environment to promote innovative educational methodologies in the classroom.
- Support the financial goals of the Foundation through the Silent Auction and Wine Tasting.
- Engage parents and community members to support fully the missions of the Coralwood Foundation



We really enjoyed spending our Saturday mornings at Coralwood being creative with our son Dillon. He loved working side by side with us and the time we spent together as a family was so meaningful. While we enjoyed all of the workshops, the paper making and polymer clay sessions were our favorites!

- Phil & Jennifer Sedlack,  
participants in the Georgia Council  
for the Arts PTA Grant



### VISION CIRCLE (\$5,000+)

Kevin & Jessica Bandy

### Dedication Circle (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Andy & Brenda Alexander  
Frank & Rebecca Blanton  
Tim & Catherine Buckley  
Mark & Kimberlee Collins  
Doug & Lee Ann Connell  
David Decker  
Cassie Dillon  
Jack & Laura Hall  
Stephen & Valerie Harrison  
Rick & Janet Haury  
Richard & Jessica Inskeep  
Dr. Jonathan & Christine Kaufman  
Bryan & Becky Kidd  
Kirk & Linda Lanier  
Daniel McKeithen & Kristen Ulven  
Alex & Dionne Park  
George Emmert & Cindy Patrick  
David & Gretchen Pawloski  
Wayne Wolf & Nancy Porter  
Steve & Sandee Rogers  
Anthony & Jennifer Tiberia  
Jim & Jennifer Vaughan  
Fariborz Zolali & Saba Ashraf

### PRIDE CIRCLE (\$500-\$999)

David & Jennifer Bell  
Larry & Kathryn Chambless  
Sean & Dana Dolan  
Tom Dorsey  
Lester & Jean Drezek  
Andy Fleming & Claire Lee  
Bill & Susan Garrett  
Mike & Joanie Gross  
Don & Wendy Hensel  
Gregory & Jan Jay  
Cheri Marone and Family  
Charlie & Yvonne McGinty  
Lee & Andrea Priest  
Mike & Lucy Reid  
Patricia Reid  
Julian & Julia Roberts  
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Tim & Alexi Smith  
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Charles Ulven  
Michael & Susan Vanous  
Phillip & Sawapha Verduci  
Dr. Tim & Imelda Yoon

### SPIRIT CIRCLE (\$250-\$499)

Bill Ruck & Elena Badiuzzi  
Britt Cloud & Suzanne Baker  
Todd Balfanz  
Butch & Sandi Benford  
Todd & Amy Cameron  
Kendall & Courtney Clark  
Jim & Tanya Curry  
Thomas & Jennifer Daves  
Scott & Elise Douglas  
Bucky Geer  
Andrew & Stephanie Gewirtz  
Michael & Aimee Gannon Hoffer  
Derek & Melissa Hummel  
John & Mava Huth  
Bill & Beth Laing  
Matt & Amy Leiter  
Brian & Tamra Leslie  
Louis & Amy Lettes  
Mark & Tracy Mancinelli  
John & Jill Mills

Dr. Doug & Jayashree Morrison  
John & Cathy Shires  
Tom Sinks & Kelly Scanlon  
Barry & Laura Snyder  
Chuck Stowe & Belle Wilmer  
Alex Walters

### SUPPORTER CIRCLE (UP TO \$249)

Holly Adams  
Michael & Melissa Albuquerque  
Daniel Whitaker & Page Anderson  
Walter Grosh & Robin Armenia  
Jeff & Sheila Asher  
Lewis Ayres & Medi Ann Volpe-Ayres  
Lane & Janice Barrocas  
Stephanie Hacpille & Ashley Blackwood  
Kathy & Alisa Bouer-Schlitt  
Rick & Angel Breitenbach  
Charlene Browne  
Greg & Lori Burke  
T.G. Burke  
Ken & Gay Buxton  
Rob & Clay Calhoun  
Oscar & Elizabeth Catalan  
J. Stacy & April Chalmers  
Timothy & Kameha Collier  
Kaleb Cooke  
Todd & Sheri Copenhaver  
Robert Cox  
Erich & Teresa Daub  
Cheryl DeBrosse  
Dr. Keith Delman & Dr. Dana Meaney-Delman  
Michael Delman  
Gloria Diaz  
Logan & Betsy Driskell  
William & Mary Driskell  
Larry & Karen Durisch  
Peggy Echt  
Chris & Rebekah Edmonds  
Oluwafemi Falowo  
Kim & Sherry Fleischer  
Patrick & Inger Fletcher  
Mike & Christy Francis  
Matt & LeAnn Freeman  
Allen Rosenfeld & Gina Giannone  
Alaric & Beth Goodman  
Scott & Jill Goodman  
Gene Gross  
Ari & Nancy Grover  
Richard L Haury Sr.  
Thomas Hendrickson  
Nina Hill  
Richard & Stephanie Holloway  
Darlene Houston  
Laurel Hudson  
Barbara Inskeep  
Christopher & Karen Javo  
Chrissy Johnson  
Howard Kaufman  
Mondelle Kellman  
Linda Kendrick  
Valerie McNair Kennedy  
Kevin & Ginny Kilgore  
Bruce & Tricia King  
Liz King  
John & Heather Kleider  
Dennis & Jennifer Kler  
Dave Kotzbauer & Jeanne Hendrickson  
Harrison and Roz Hunter Lance  
Kim Lee & Anne deVaux  
Brent & Shannon Leeper  
Ira & Sandy Leff  
Bob Leiter  
George & Holly Luber  
Michael & Anna Lutz  
Dan & Julie Maher

Gregory Hendricks & Terrene Maker  
Massimo & Rachel Mariano  
Shaun & April McCarthy  
Jim & Joanne McClelland  
Bob & Shari McWilliams  
Harold Mitnik  
Susan Moody  
Mary Kaye Moore  
Robert & Cassandra Moore  
Lovell Scott & Jennifer Morris-Scott  
Erica Moss  
LaShane Moss  
Barbara Newman  
Tammy Neyland-Goines  
James and Morena Nguyen  
Joseph Pawloski  
Greg & Jennifer Peay  
Lawrence Peyton  
Steven & Lauren Press  
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Derric & Victoria Raggs  
Casey & Debbie Randall  
Andrew & Catherine Reese  
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Patricio Risco & Christina Risco-Turner  
Dennis & Elizabeth Rockholm  
Keith & Miriam Sabin  
David & Marcie-Jo Sedacca  
John Siegel and John Templeton  
Ben & Robin Shackelford  
Lloyd & Amoreena Shenefelt  
Jon & Cyndi Slater  
Shannon Smith  
Tripp & Andrea Smith  
Laura Spier  
Tracy & Cheri Stakely  
Dr. Jennifer Stapel-Wax & Ms. Rebecca Stapel-Wax  
John & Susan Stembel  
Bob & Jill Stepnicka  
Gretchen Studdard  
Alecia Taylor  
Tsige Teka  
Stan & Robin Thomas  
Dr. Luis Valdes & Dr. Kim Krinsky Valdes  
Veronica Valenzuela  
Lynda Weaver  
Scott & Heather Webb  
Jason & Gayle Weiss  
Missy Wheeler  
Robert & Michelle Whitelaw  
Deshon Brown & Erica Williams  
Dave Wright



### CORPORATE MATCHES

Aetna Foundation Inc.  
Autotrader/Cox Enterprises  
Bank of America  
BCD Travel  
Faithful Threads  
Kimberly-Clark  
McCamish Systems  
Oracle Corporation  
SunTrust Bank  
The Coca-Cola Foundation  
Time Warner