



# THE INSIDE STORY

A PUBLICATION OF THE FULTON COUNTY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY JORI SMITH-MANN

Welcome Fulton County Employee's Association Member. We have had such a great year so far in the Association. I want to thank each one of you that participated in our events, attended the monthly meetings and engaged us with your feedback, suggestions, and ideas. We are here to listen to you and assist you in whatever ways that we can. Let's keep the communication channels open and flowing between us in 2023!

This winter edition has lots of holiday treats and drinks for you to try out. Thank you for a fantastic start to a new year. We have enjoyed three well-attended meetings, pop up shop events, exciting partnerships with members and business spotlights.

Life is a wonderful journey of surprises and we are so blessed to experience this journey with you and have the opportunity to share great conversations and learning experiences with each other. I am in participation for yet another incredible year. Thank you in advance for your ideas, support and most importantly your commitment to our Association.

In Service,  
Jori Smith-Mann, President | Fulton County Employee's  
Association

# MEET THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



**Jori Smith-Mann**  
PRESIDENT



**Melba Blount**  
1st VICE PRESIDENT



**Jennifer Hill**  
2nd VICE PRESIDENT



**Alicia Gibbons**  
3rd VICE PRESIDENT



**Daphne Ballard**  
SECRETARY



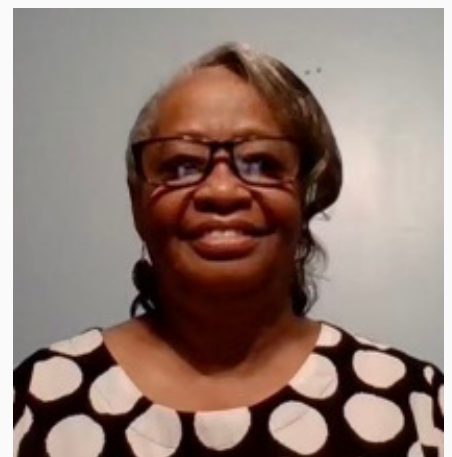
**Nadine Childs-James**  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY



**Consuella Dozier**  
TREASURER



**Learyetta Hunter**  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY



**Brenda Whitehead**  
INFORMATION OFFICER



# MEET THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



Nakia Roberts  
EVENTS COORDINATOR



Shariff Jones  
WEBSITE EDITOR



Rosalyn Davis  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR



Tona'e Clements  
LIAISON



Valerie Tillman-Logan  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



Micah Womack  
PARLIAMENTARIAN



Kendra Lattimore  
CHAPLAIN



# Congratulations to Our 2022 Carolyn Parker Scholarship Recipients & Luncheon Attendees

BY MELBA BLOUNT/CHAIR SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Congratulations to our 2022 Carolyn Parker Scholarship Recipients, (left to right) are 7 of the 14 scholarship awardees-(Dami Fagbimiye, Jibola Fagbimiye, Matreivia Davis, Monterrian Brown, Shanteria Echols, Ore Fagbimiye and Joniya Davis) Not pictured (Teresa Blount, Jennifer Hill, Janiece James, David Mann III, Jori Mann, Nathaniel Wiggins, and Mickelson Womack).

The fourth quarter was an exciting time of year and a time of transition from fall to winter, harvest, thanks and giving - Thanksgiving. This is the time of year that the Fulton County Employees' Association honor students through our giving of financial scholarships. The Fulton County Employees' Association Carolyn Parker scholarship provides an experience intended to not only address the financial necessities of students who aspire to attend college, but to steer them through the process of higher education.

To be eligible for a Fulton County Employees' Association Scholarship, an applicant must: be a member in good standing, be a college or graduate student of a member in good standing, provide/present a reference letter, present evidence of being in college; and have a dedication of giving back to the community through community service. The scholarship has existed for over a decade and funded by the Association through hosting Pop-Up Shops (Bazaars), receiving donations and sponsoring fundraisers for funding of the scholarship.

We are proud to announce that on December 22, 2022, we provided fourteen scholarships to members and their family members in the amount of \$400.00 each. We hosted an in-person luncheon for the recipients and family members. This was also achieved through donations from other organizations, small businesses, and vendors. We are proud of our accomplishments but there is much work to do. Our goal is to increase our annual scholarship each year to help families achieve their educational goals.

## EVENTS

# "Congratulations 2022 Carolyn Parker Scholarship Recipients ."

Melba Blount

1ST VICE PRESIDENT





**HOLIDAY SHOPPING Bazaar**  
 HOSTED BY FULTON COUNTY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH**  
 COME SHOP WITH US!!  
 For more information contact:  
 Nakia Roberts @404-612-1351 | [nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov)  
 or  
[FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov)  
**SHOPPING HOURS:  
 9:00AM - 3:00PM**  
 FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ATRIUM  
 141 PRYOR STREET, ATLANTA, GA 30303  
[www.fcemployees.org](http://www.fcemployees.org)

**Spring POP UP SHOP**  
 HOSTED BY FULTON COUNTY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 10TH**  
 Come Shop With Us  
 For more information contact:  
 Nakia Roberts @404-612-1351 | [nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov)  
 or  
[FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov)  
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 141 PRYOR STREET, ATLANTA, GA 30303  
[www.fcemployees.org](http://www.fcemployees.org)

**Valentine's Day POP UP SHOP**  
 HOSTED BY FULTON COUNTY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH**  
 Come Shop With Us  
 For more information contact:  
 Nakia Roberts @404-612-1351 | [nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov)  
 or  
[FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov)  
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## EVENTS

"FCEA is excited about our bazaar events name change to Pop Up Shop events."

Nakia Roberts  
 EVENTS COORDINATOR



## Quarter 1 Pop Up Shops:

BY ROSALYN DAVIS

Fulton County Employees' Association hosted our Quarter 1 Pop Up Shop events. The FCEA Events Committee spearheaded the name change of our formally known Bazaar events to Pop Up Shop events during January 2023. Holiday Shopping Bazaar | December 16, 2022, Valentine's Day Pop Up Shop | February 10, 2023, and Spring Pop Up Shop | March 10, 2023 were held in the Fulton County Government Center Atrium from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please join us! Various vendors supported FCEA by purchasing tables to promote and sell their merchandise, goods, and services. Thank you to all members that volunteered and attended. Another successful event in the books! We are seeking volunteers to cover membership tables for our Pop Up Shops. For Pop Up Shop information, contact Nakia Roberts at:

[Nakia.Roberts@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Nakia.Roberts@fultoncountyga.gov).

For sign up information to cover the membership table during the Pop Up Shop, contact Jennifer Hill, 2nd V.P. at: [Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov).

## CALLING ALL VENDORS

MONTH	EVENT	DATE(S)	DAY
FEB	Valentine Day Pop Up Shop	02/10/2023	FRI
MAR	Spring Pop up shop	03/10/2023	FRI
APR	Easter Pop up shop	04/07/2023	FRI
MAY	Mother's Day pop up shop	05/05/2023	FRI
JUNE	Father's Day pop up shop	06/02/2023	FRI
JULY	Summer pop up shop	07/14/2023	FRI
AUG	August pop up shop	08/11/2023	FRI
SEP	Fall Shopping pop up shop	09/08/2023	FRI
OCT	October pop up shop	10/06/2023	FRI
NOV	Turkey Day pop up shop	11/03/2023	FRI
DEC	Christmas pop up shop	12/15/2023	FRI

\$40.00 per table / half off other tables  
 For Questions contact Nakia Roberts at 404-612-1351 and [nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:nakia.roberts@fultoncountyga.gov) or [FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:FCEA@fultoncountyga.gov)



# EVENTS

"We appreciate our loyal vendors!"

Nakia Roberts  
EVENTS COORDINATOR

# VENDOR S





# EVENTS

"We appreciate our loyal vendors!"

Nakia Roberts  
EVENTS COORDINATOR



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# Business Highlight

## MECCA SOUL



February 28, 2023



### HIGHLIGHTS:

MECCA SOUL CAME INTO EXISTENCE IN 2006 WHEN FOUNDER, WILLIAM "DEUCE" YORK, LEFT THE INTERNATIONAL DJ PARTNERED, WORLD CLASS ENTERTAINMENT TO PURSUE HIS OWN MOBILE DISC JOCKEY SERVICE. DEUCE SPENT 10 YEARS HONING HIS CRAFT WITH WCE AND HAS BROUGHT THOSE SKILLS AND TALENTS TO MECCA SOUL.



P.O. BOX 4295  
ATLANTA, GA 30302  
PHONE: 404-932-5327  
E-MAIL: MECCA\_SOUL67@YAHOO.COM  
INSTAGRAM: DEUCE42



## February 2023 Member Spotlight

FCEA  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

-- SIGN UP TODAY --

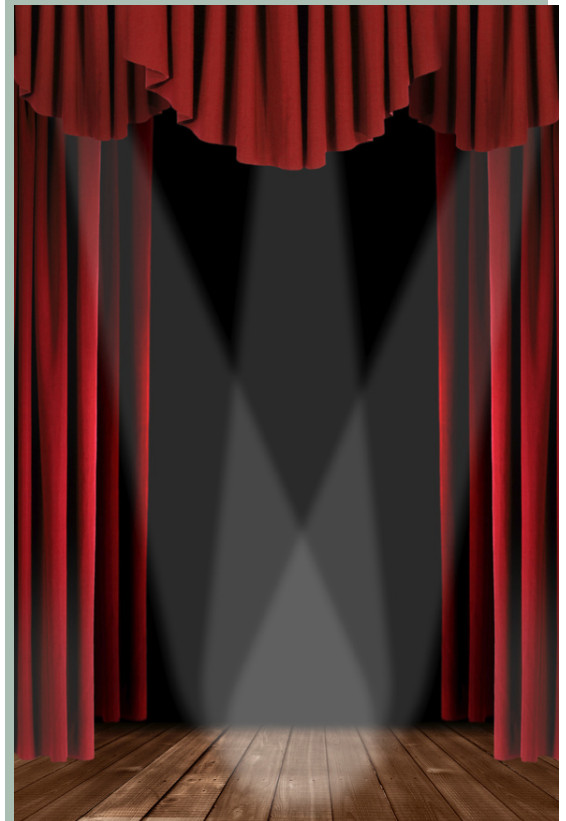
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## February 2023 Members Meeting Member Spotlight

BY ROSALYN DAVIS

Fulton County Employees' Association Executive Board selected William York, Member | Owner and Operator of MECCA SOUL, to be highlighted during our February 2023 Members Meeting.

We welcome members to contact Jennifer Hill, 2nd V.P. at: [Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov) to receive more information on how to be scheduled for our next member spotlight.





# March 2023 Members Meeting Member Spotlight

BY ROSALYN DAVIS



Fulton County Employees' Association Executive Board selected Morgan Diaz, Member | Juvenile Court, to be highlighted during our March 2023 Members Meeting.

Morgan Diaz has served as a Guardian Ad Litem since February 2021 after relocating to Atlanta from Lake County, IL in the middle of the pandemic. She has worked in the Child Welfare field for 11 years. Morgan is involved many activities, which includes, Juvenile Court Employee Engagement Committee, Fulton County Juvenile Justice Enhancement Initiative (JJEI), and FCEA. In addition, she is a member of Juvenile Court Association of Georgia. Morgan resides in Henry County with her two teenagers and 3 pets (2 cats| 1 dog).

Luckily, one of the cats and one teenage are going to college during Fall 2023.

We welcome members to contact Jennifer Hill, 2nd V.P. at: [Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov) to receive more information on how to scheduled for our next member spotlight.

## March 2023 Member Spotlight

FCEA  
EXECUTIVE BOARD

-- SIGN UP TODAY --

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_





# Fulton County Employees' Association Nights at Mercedes Benz Stadium

BY ROSALYN DAVIS

Fulton County Employees Nights at Mercedes Benz Stadium was held on the following date:

Atlanta Falcons vs. Chicago Bears | Sunday, January 1st

FCEA guests purchased tickets via a specified link to cheer on the Falcons as they battled the Chicago Bears on New Year's Day, A portion from each ticket purchased through this offer benefited the Fulton County Employees' Association Annual Scholarship fundraiser. Way to go FCEA Association Members!

The purpose of this fundraiser was to support The FCEA Carolyn Parker annual college scholarship fund, which is awarded to our members and family members. Over the years, these scholarships have assisted with the cost of college expenses for numerous recipients and have resulted in a positive impact in the community.

## Double Good Fundraiser

The FCEA Scholarship Committee would like for you to be on the look out for our next Double Good Popcorn fundraiser during Quarter 2 2023. We are geared up and excited about this event We raised funds to boost our annual scholarship awards. We are asking all members to join us in this competition and sell at least \$200 worth of popcorn. Let's get in it to win it!

For additional information contact Monica Redden: [Monica.Redden@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Monica.Redden@fultoncountyga.gov).

Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser Competition



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

WIN! WIN! WIN!

Highest Seller

\$25 Prize







# Fulton County Employees' Association Donation | Fundraiser Letter

BY MELBA BLOUNT

The FCEA Scholarship Committee is excited to announce that we are launching another fundraiser for the year. We are soliciting donations and contributions from organizations in support of the FCEA Scholarship Fund. This is an opportunity for all members to participate!

Scholarship members Micah Womack and Michael Fagbamiye are the team leaders for this fundraiser. If you have an organization that you would like to solicit a donation or contribution from, please email Ms. Womack and Mr. Fagbamiye the name of the organization, contact information, and contact person. Also, copy 1st Vice President Melba Blount and Scholarship Member Morgan Diaz, as they will maintain an excel sheet of donors to avoid duplication and keep records. We suggest that you personally contact individuals to solicit from, if you are familiar with them, in efforts of providing an advance notice that a letter from FCEA Association will be sent to them.

As a reminder, send in your FCEA Volunteer Log to track your volunteer hours for scholarship award eligibility. Please forward any questions to Melba Blount, 1st Vice President, FCEA:

[melba.blount@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:melba.blount@fultoncountyga.gov)

We are excited to have your participation!



Earn Volunteer Hours for Scholarship Award Eligibility!



*please support our*  
**fundraiser**  
*thank you!*



## Membership Committee Announcement

BY ROSALYN DAVIS

Fulton County Employees' Association Membership Committee welcomes new members. Please spread the word and encourage friends and co-workers to join the Association. Encourage interested individuals to visit our website at [www.fcemployees.org](http://www.fcemployees.org).

Thank you to all new members that joined this year and thank you to ALL our members. We appreciate you!

Questions about membership or to get an application or brochure, contact Jennifer Hill, 2nd V.P. at: [Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Hill@fultoncountyga.gov) to receive more information on how to scheduled for our next member spotlight.

*Thank  
You*







MEMBERS  
EDITION  
QUARTER 1 2023

# Recipes

## Christmas Jello

- 1 large box of lime jello or two small boxes of lime
- 1 16 oz. can of crushed pineapple
- 1 16 oz. of pears (chop into small pieces)
- 1 small package of chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1 pint of whipping cream
- 1 8 oz. package of cream cheese

Directions:

Drain juices from fruit and boil. Mix juices with jello and stir, add softened cream cheese until cream cheese is melted in tiny pieces. Add whipping cream, fruit and nuts. Pour into jello mold or dish. Chill until firm.

Melba Blount, 1st Vice President, FCEA



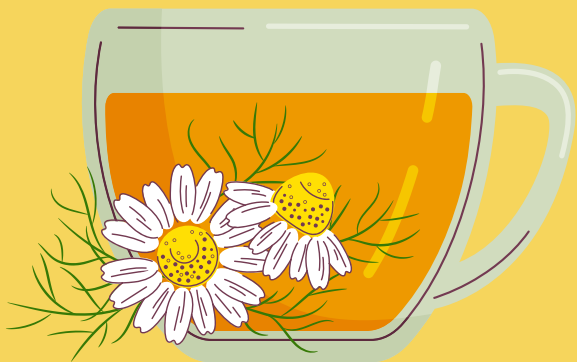
## Herbal Tea: Thinking Balm

- A pinch of Ginko Biloba
- A pinch of Gota Kola
- A pinch of Eucalyptus
- A pinch of Lemon Balm (or add fresh leaves if you have some)

Steep for at least 15 minutes

This tea is naturally delicious, however you can add honey to taste, and enjoy the mental agility, increased memory, and strategic state of mind.

Catherine Walker, Member





MEMBERS  
EDITION  
QUARTER 1 2023

# Recipes

## Christmas Jello Salted Caramel Chocolate Martini

### Ingredients

- 1 C. Ice
- 1/2 C. Godiva Chocolate Liqueur
- 1/4 C. Creme De Cocoa
- 1/2 C. Caramel flavored Vodka
- 1/2 C. Whole Milk 2% also works well for less fat
- Garnishments:
  - Caramel Syrup for rim of martini glass
  - 1/4 C. Crushed Pretzels
- Optional Garnishments:
  - 4 Caramel Candies dipped in Coarse-Ground Sea Salt
  - Milk Chocolate Bar to make chocolate curls for top of drink

### Directions:

- 1 Prepare Martini glasses by placing a layer of caramel sauce and crushed pretzels on separate plates.
- 2 Dip and turn rims of martini glasses into caramel sauce until evenly coated.
- 3 Dip caramel-coated glass rims into pretzel crumbs until evenly coated.
- 4 Place ice in a Martini Shaker.
- 5 Add Godiva Chocolate Liqueur, Creme De Cocoa, Caramel Vodka and Milk.
- 6 Shake vigorously for around 30 seconds.
- 7 Strain Martini into prepared glasses.
- 8 Optional Garnishments:
- 9 Add desired amount of shaved milk chocolate curls (using a vegetable peeler; shave chocolate bar across the long edge of the candy bar).
- 10 Dip fronts and backs of caramel candies into a small bowl of coarsely ground sea-salt until coated.
- 11 Place 2 caramels on a cocktail pick and place in martini (adds a great touch of salt flavor).

This Salted Caramel Chocolate Martini is an absolute dream in a glass. The Godiva Chocolate Liqueur is so creamy and delicious on it's own, but add Crème de Cocoa and Caramel Vodka to the mix...pure sinful delight.

Jori Smith-Mann, President, FCEA





## tips TRICK &

If clutter is overwhelming you, use this room by room declutter checklist of things to throw away to get a jump start on the decluttering process.

It can feel like a huge undertaking to get your home decluttered once and for all which is why I like to start with this list. This is seriously the first step to full declutter without the trauma that emptying out everything as in a Marie Kondo approach.

Less stuff equals less stress.

### DECLUTTER CHECKLIST: WHAT TO DONATE, GIVE AWAY & THROW AWAY

This is a list of things. All you need to do, is go through and toss the things on this list and then marvel at all your storage space. Before you take a big series of trash bags out to the curb, make sure to donate or recycle the things you can!

### HOW TO USE A DECLUTTER LIST

1. Write out or print out your list of things to get rid of.
2. Cross off anything that you have already done or doesn't apply to you.
3. Circle anything you could do super quickly.
4. Put arrows by things you know need to be done.
5. Add ranking of importance to the arrows.
6. Make notes on anything not crossed off, circled or with a number next to it.
7. Start with the circles right now...

Visit website for more information:

[kidsactivitiesblog.com/115514/50-things-throw-away-instant-decluttering/](http://kidsactivitiesblog.com/115514/50-things-throw-away-instant-decluttering/)

Jori Smith-Mann, President, Fulton County Employee's Association

# 50 THINGS TO THROW AWAY

## for instant decluttering

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Old magazines                                     | Old hats and gloves           |
| Old couch pillows                                 | Worn out shoes                |
| Movies you don't watch                            | Worn out blankets             |
| Movies that are scratched                         | Old pillows                   |
| Burnt out candles                                 | Expired food                  |
| Extra cords                                       | Take out menus                |
| Games with missing pieces                         | Restaurant sauce packets      |
| Old books   | Old coupons                   |
| Broken makeup                                     | Old cleaning supplies         |
| Old makeup  | Cups with missing pieces      |
| Old nail polish                                   | Anything you have too much of |
| Old perfume                                       | Excess tupperware             |
| Old toothbrushes                                  | Rags with holes               |
| Half empty bottles                                | Expired medication            |
| Towels with holes                                 | Old mail                      |
| Anything you haven't used<br>in the last 3 months | Old manuals                   |
| Socks without a match                             | Old receipts                  |
| Socks with holes                                  | Old paperwork                 |
| Underwear with holes                              | Birthday cards                |
| Clothes you haven't worn<br>in at least 6 months  | Broken toys                   |
| Clothes that don't fit                            | Happy meal toys               |
| Earrings without a match                          | Anything with missing pieces  |
| Old ties  | Things they never play with   |
| Old belts   | Duplicates                    |
| Old purses  | Puzzles with missing pieces   |







## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RETIREE: BERNICE TRUITT

BY ROSALYN DAVIS

It is our pleasure to highlight the retirement of Bernice Truitt. She retired from Fulton County on November 30, 2022, with 38 years of service.

Bernice Truitt worked in the Library System's Technical Services Development Department, where she enjoyed working with youth and adults. As a Fulton County Employees' Association member for approximately 10 or more years, she enjoyed activities for members, parties, events, and scholarship opportunities. Her contributions will always be valued and remembered. Her hard work, commitment, and dedication are worthy of admiration. Bernice Truitt will be greatly missed.

As a tribute, FCEA is highlighting Bernice Truitt. On behalf of FCEA, the Executive Board would like to wish her the best of luck in retirement.

Bernice Truitt highlighted that she enjoyed her 38 years of service, which she feels was a fulfilling experience. Currently, she is enjoying her community service involvement with Wise Choice, which supports the community by offering back-to-school events, Easter events, and youth gun violence awareness initiatives. In addition, she enjoys leisure activities at the Fulton County Senior Center.

## RETIREMENT CORNER

"Experience the greatness within FCEA"

Bernice Truitt  
FULTON COUNTY  
RETIREMENT



Happy Retirement





## BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUTS

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY MEMBERS

Join us in wishing the members below a **HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY**. We wish everyone the best on your birthday and everything good in the year ahead!

- Tiffany Tyuse | January 3
- Marci Johnson | January 8
- Cathelene Robinson | January 9
- Nakia Roberts | January 24
- Sohna Harzeez | January 25
- Kysh Robinson Clemons | February 11
- Gwendolyn Green | February 26
- Krystal Huggins | March 17
- Vivian Dixon | March 19
- Robin Addison | March 14
- Nadine Childs-James | March 27
- Tonya Hayes | March 28



# Happy Birthday





# ANNOUNCEMENT

## Double Good Fundraiser

The FCEA Scholarship Committee would like for you to be on the look out for our next Double Good Popcorn fundraiser during Quarter 2 2023. Our goal is to have at least 50 members to sell \$200 worth of popcorn to raise \$10,000, which gives us a \$5,000 profit.

We are geared up and excited about this event. We raised funds to boost our annual scholarship awards. We are asking all members to join us in this competition. Let's get in it to win it!

For additional information contact  
Monica Redden:  
[Monica.Redden@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Monica.Redden@fultoncountyga.gov).

## Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser Competition



WIN! WIN! WIN!

Highest Seller

\$25 Prize

