



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

PREPARED BY:
MISTY MANUS



Adventure Bags, Inc.

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COMFORT

PARTNERSHIP

SECURITY



VOLUNTEER



EMPOWER



SERVE

HOPE

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Executive Director Message



As we look back on 2024, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the compassion, resilience, and generosity that carried Adventure Bags, Inc. through a year unlike any other. Our mission—to provide comfort, security, and hope to children in crisis—was tested and strengthened in ways we could never have imagined.

The year began with steady growth in our core programs, but it quickly became one of our most challenging and impactful years to date. When tragedy struck at Apalachee High School, we acted without hesitation. With the incredible support of our community, we collected donations, hosted a community-wide packing event, and assembled over 2,000 Comfort Bags. These were distributed to every student as they reentered the school, offering a source of comfort and a reminder that they were not alone during such a painful time.

Immediately following the Apalachee tragedy, we quickly shifted into Disaster Relief mode, deploying over 800 Adventure Bags to the Augusta area to support children displaced by the devastation left in the wake of Hurricane Helene. These rapid, back-to-back responses were only possible because of the dedication of our volunteers, the generosity of our donors, and the strong partnerships we've built across the state.

Our ongoing initiatives—One Bag At A Time, Help Us Help Heroes, Human Trafficking Awareness, and Disaster Relief—continued to serve thousands of children statewide. Through partnerships with agencies, first responders, shelters, and community organizations, we reached more children than ever before. We also expanded our reach by introducing our off-site packing events for corporate teams.

In 2024, we were humbled to receive vital support from grants, corporate sponsors, and community fundraisers. Each dollar, stuffed animal, blanket, and note of encouragement made a direct impact. We also began laying the groundwork for our Forever Home Capital Campaign, a vision to secure a permanent facility where we can serve with greater efficiency and capacity for decades to come.

While the challenges were great, the heart of our community was greater. To every volunteer, donor, partner, and advocate—thank you for standing with us. Because of you, thousands of Georgia's most vulnerable children ended this year with more hope than they began it. Together, we will carry that hope into 2025 and beyond.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Misty Manus
Executive Director

Meet Our Team



Tracey
McMahon
CHAIRMAN



Courtney
McGuire
SECRETARY



Monica
Fulkes
CFO



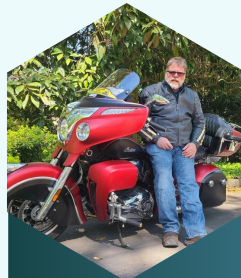
Misty
Manus
CEO



Eric
Oliver
BOARD MEMBER



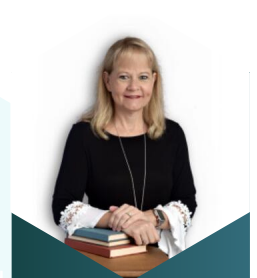
Alex
Ward
BOARD MEMBER



Dana
Snyder
BOARD MEMBER



Kimberly
Pil
BOARD MEMBER



Lauren
McDougald
BOARD MEMBER



Ivy
Bailey
**VOLUNTEER
COORDINATOR**



Kelly
Oliver
**ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT**

Legacy Mission & Vision



LEGACY

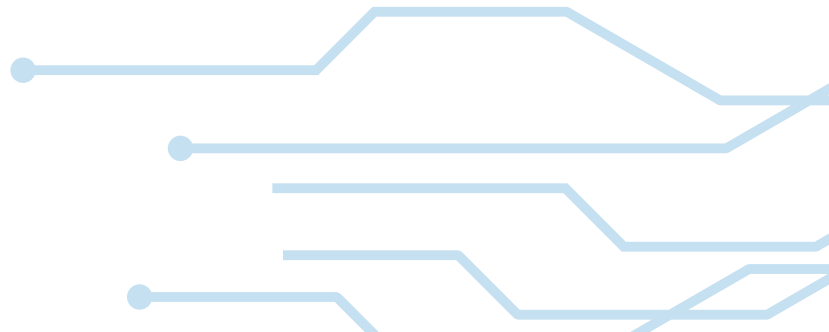
The legacy of Debbie Gori, founder of Adventure Bags, Inc., continues to inspire every bag we pack and every child we serve. Debbie's vision—to bring comfort, dignity, and hope to children in crisis—lives on through the thousands of Adventure Bags distributed each year across Georgia. Her compassion ignited a movement that still unites volunteers, partners, and communities in the belief that no child should face hardship without knowing someone cares.

MISSION

To serve displaced children across the state of Georgia offering them backpacks filled with overnight essentials and comfort items during uncertain times.

VISION

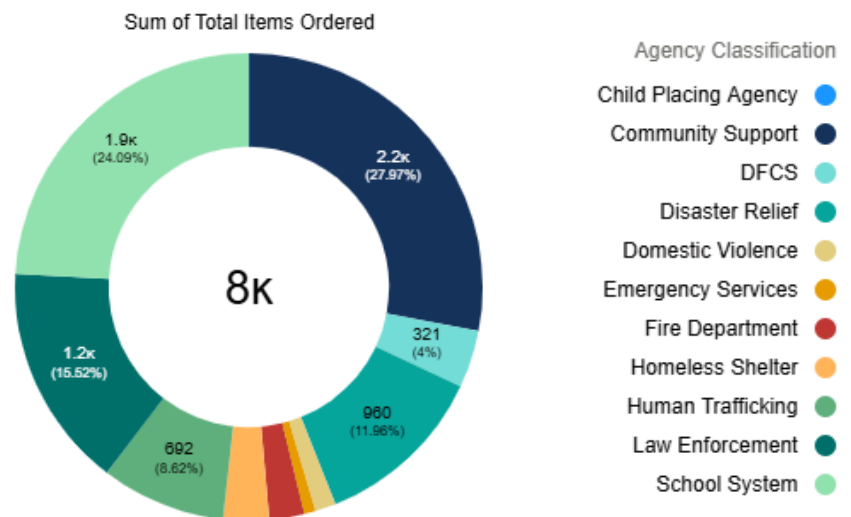
To ensure every child facing uncertainty, is given the opportunity to feel loved and have something to call their own. Through our backpacks, and the agencies we partner with, our desire is that Georgia's most vulnerable children will know that someone somewhere is thinking about them.



By the Numbers

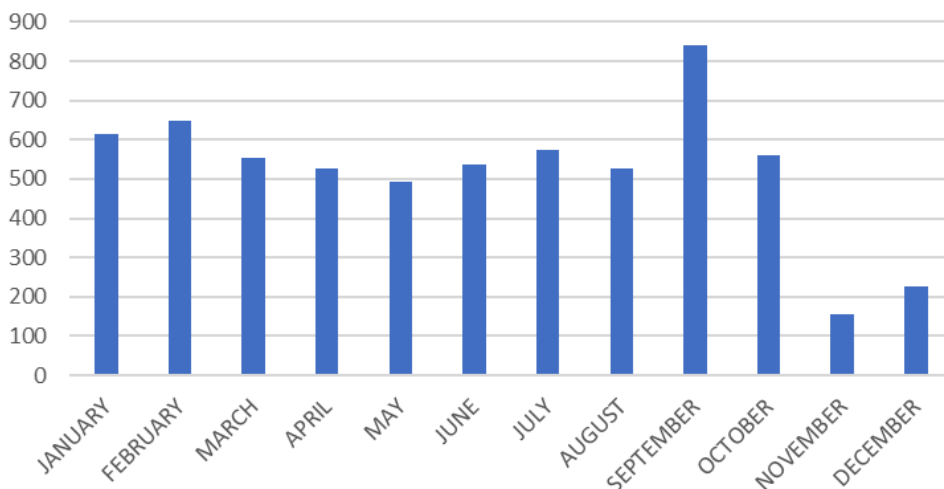
PROGRAMMING

In 2024, Adventure Bags, Inc. distributed 8,029 bags valued at over \$350,000 to children across Georgia. Community support accounted for the largest share with 2,246 bags, followed by 1,934 to school systems and 1,246 to law enforcement. We provided 960 disaster relief bags, 692 through human trafficking programs, and additional distributions to DFCS, domestic violence shelters, emergency services, fire departments, homeless shelters, and child placing agencies. These efforts ensured that thousands of Georgia's most vulnerable children received comfort, security, and hope during times of crisis.



Total Bags = 8,029
Total Retail Value = \$349,975.00

2024 Volunteer Hours



Total Hours = 6,258

In 2024, Adventure Bags, Inc. volunteers dedicated an impressive 6,258 hours to serving Georgia's most vulnerable children. Volunteer engagement remained steady throughout the year, with September recording the highest total at 842.3 hours—likely due to special events or large-scale packing projects.

- Highest Month: September – 842.3 hours
- Lowest Month: November – 155.75 hours
- Average Monthly Hours: ~521.5 hours

This level of commitment reflects the heart of our mission—bringing comfort, dignity, and hope to children in crisis through the power of community involvement. Every hour contributed directly supported our programs, from assembling Adventure Bags to assisting with community events and disaster relief efforts.

By the Numbers

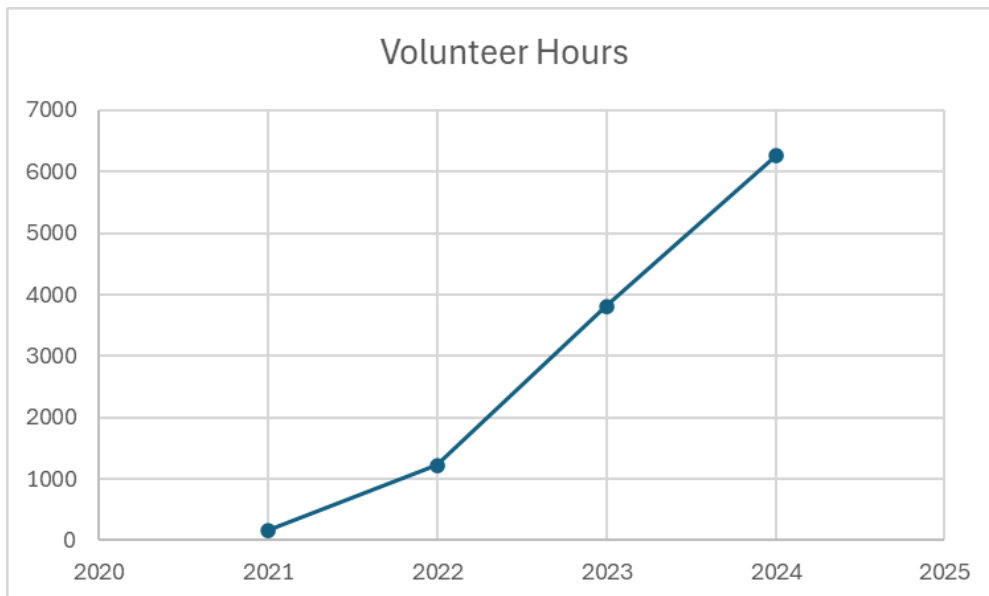
Historical Data

Bag Distribution

From 2021 to 2024, Adventure Bags, Inc. experienced remarkable growth in the number of bags distributed to children in crisis across Georgia. In 2021, 2,704 bags were provided, increasing slightly to 2,036 in 2022. Distribution efforts expanded significantly in 2023 with 5,191 bags delivered, and 2024 marked the highest impact yet—8,029 bags distributed. This upward trend reflects the organization’s growing reach, strengthened community partnerships, and unwavering commitment to serving Georgia’s most vulnerable children.



Volunteer Hours



Adventure Bags, Inc. has seen tremendous growth in volunteer engagement over the past four years. In 2021, volunteers contributed 170 hours, which surged to 1,221 hours in 2022. The upward momentum continued in 2023 with 3,808 hours, and 2024 marked the highest level yet with 6,258 hours donated. This steady increase reflects the expanding community support and dedication to advancing the mission of providing comfort and security to Georgia’s most vulnerable children.

Financial Statement

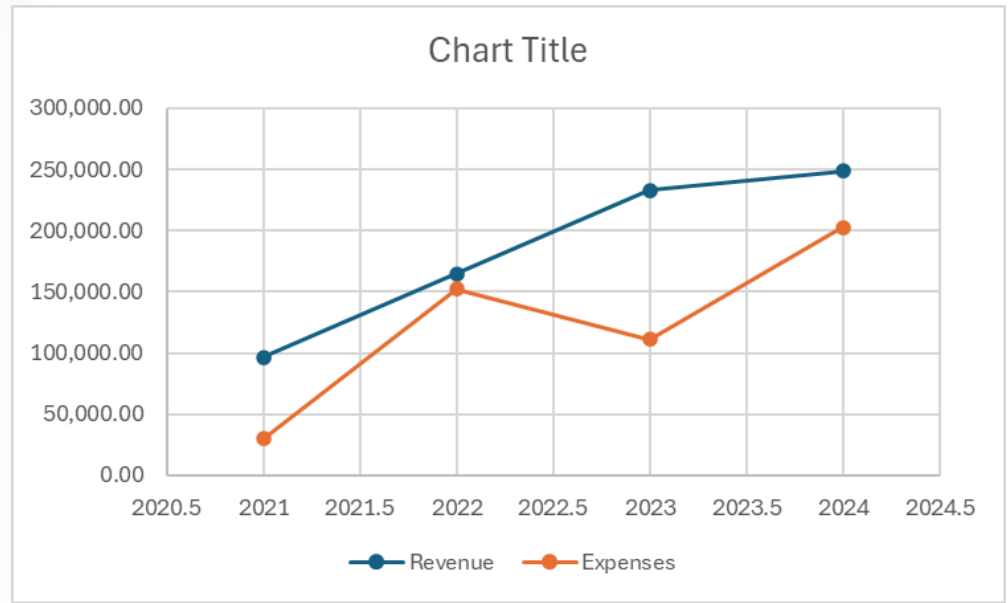
	2024
Revenue	\$248,922.78
Expenses	\$202,446.49
Net Income	\$45,876.29

In 2024, Adventure Bags, Inc. experienced a year of strong financial health fueled by remarkable community generosity, successful fundraising events, and impactful grant support. Our Gala and Annual Motorcycle Ride, along with multiple corporate and foundation grants, powered total income to nearly \$249,000. Community giving—from individuals, businesses, civic clubs, and organizations—remained a vital lifeline, as did special contributions to the Apalachee Project. Careful stewardship of resources allowed us to invest directly in our mission, with significant funding directed toward program supplies, volunteer-driven events, and rapid disaster response efforts. Even with substantial investments in operations, outreach, and special projects, we closed the year with a net surplus of \$45,876—ensuring we enter 2025 well-positioned to continue providing comfort, security, and hope to Georgia’s most vulnerable children.





Financial History



From 2021 to 2024, Adventure Bags, Inc. experienced steady financial growth, reflecting increased community support and program expansion. In 2021, revenue totaled \$96,532.83 with expenses of \$29,789.80. The following year saw a significant jump, with revenue reaching \$164,739.78 and expenses increasing to \$152,437.74. In 2023, revenue climbed to \$233,115.07, while expenses were \$110,936.57. By 2024, the organization achieved its highest figures yet, with \$248,922.78 in revenue and \$202,446.49 in expenses.

This upward trend demonstrates both a growing ability to generate resources and a commitment to reinvesting in programs that serve Georgia's most vulnerable children.

Future Outlook and Goals



Our Goals:

1. Expand Reach – Ensure every child in crisis across Georgia has access to an Adventure Bag, regardless of location or circumstance.
2. Strengthen Crisis Response – Increase pre-packed inventory for faster deployment during emergencies.
3. Build a Forever Home – Secure a permanent facility to enhance storage, assembly, and distribution capabilities.
4. Grow Partnerships – Deepen collaboration with agencies, schools, and civic organizations for wider impact.
5. Engage Volunteers – Expand student, corporate, and community volunteer programs to inspire servant leadership.



THIS SHOULD **NEVER**
BE A CHILD'S SUITCASE.

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Contact Us



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DONATIONS@ADVENTUREBAGS.ORG



Providing security and comfort to a child in crisis.

