



News Release

For Release
September 21, 2010

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Georgia Options, Inc. Receives \$5,000 Plum Creek Foundation Grant

Funds to Support the Purchase of a Wheelchair Accessible Van

Bogart, GA. – Georgia Options, Inc. (GO), a non-profit organization helping individuals with disabilities live independently and as active members of the community, was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Plum Creek Foundation. Funds will support the organization’s Community Access Project—aiding in the purchase and maintenance of a wheelchair accessible van.

GO works to fulfill its mission by creating individualized services for people with disabilities. Lack of reliable transportation is one of the most common challenges the organization faces—a factor that often forces people with disabilities to isolate themselves. The Community Access Project provides these individuals with access to a wheelchair accessible van—encouraging them to become more active in the community.

“We serve individuals who have a great deal to contribute to our community, however they often are held back because they can’t find reliable transportation,” said Katy Bernhardt, development coordinator at GO. “By providing vehicle access, the funds donated by Plum Creek will allow people with disabilities to overcome challenges like finding employment and help them to pursue community activities that build their overall character.”

Currently, the organization only has one vehicle that was purchased in 2008. As the organization continues to grow, the need for additional transportation has become apparent. More than 15 people would be better served through access to another van.

“Access to safe and reliable transportation is critical in having a satisfactory everyday life,” said Jim Rundorff, senior director of land asset management for Plum Creek. “We are pleased to be able to support Georgia Options in their efforts to assure those living with disabilities have the opportunity to be full participants in the community.”

The Plum Creek Foundation supports non-profit organizations that improve the overall quality of life in the communities where Plum Creek operates. The Foundation board meets quarterly to review submitted grant applications. Visit www.plumcreek.com/communityinvolvement to download an application and learn more about the foundation grant program in addition to other ways that Plum Creek is serving its communities.

For more information about Georgia Options, Inc., visit <http://www.georgiaoptions.org>.

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Plum Creek is the largest and most geographically diverse private landowner in the nation with approximately 7 million acres of timberlands in major timber producing regions of the United States and wood products manufacturing facilities in the Northwest. For more information, visit www.plumcreek.com.