

The Amanda Drudge Scholarship and Missions Fund

Amanda Drudge discovered at an early age that her true calling was mission work. With the support of her parents, Chuck and Darlene, and her pastor at Olive Branch Church, Pastor Lowell Burris, she quickly took interest in the charitable work being done in Haiti. She began taking French classes to help prepare her for missionary work in this part of Central America. Sadly, on Sept. 12, 1997, before Amanda could fulfill her dream of doing mission work in Haiti, she passed away in single-car accident.

Because of her tremendous spirit and love for spreading God's Word through mission trips, Amanda's pastor and parents established the Amanda Drudge Scholarship and Missionary Fund through the Fulton County Community Foundation. This was partially made possible by a family's anonymous contribution of \$100,000 to the fund. This family shared Amanda's love of spreading kindness and wanted her memory and compassion to live on for generations to come.



"We chose the Community Foundation because we believe they will carry out all of our wishes," Mrs. Drudge said. "We support it and believe in what they do."

The fund was established during a Lilly Endowment Gift Phase, so donations to the fund received a dollar-for-dollar match. Due to this great opportunity, the family wanted to help not only adults and students, but the community as a whole. The fund has therefore helped to fund a variety of community projects and has supported mission trips to places all over the world in order to help spread the gift of hope and kindness, which was Amanda's greatest desire. In addition, the fund has provided scholarships for students seeking to further their education.

"Without this fund, she never would have been able to touch all of those that she has today," Mrs. Drudge said. "It's been very interesting and a blessing for us to have this fund and continue to fulfill Amanda's wishes."