



The staff in the Dixon Hughes Atlanta office has traditionally been involved with a variety of non-profit organizations through firm-sponsored donations and individual volunteer activities. In 2007, however, the Atlanta office decided to dedicate its volunteer efforts and financial contributions to a single organization, Junior Achievement of Georgia.

JA and its partners inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. Its volunteer-led programs teach K-12 students about business and entrepreneurship, personal financial literacy, and global workforce readiness. JA strives to impact tomorrow's business and community leaders by bridging the gap between the business and education communities, encouraging Georgia's youth to set long-term career goals, and showing them the value of education.

In explaining why Dixon Hughes chose to partner with JA, David Evans, Managing Member of the Atlanta Tax Department, said, "Our people and their careers are a great example of the message JA is trying to send, and this message is also in line with the firm's goals. We are committed as a firm to try and increase interest and diversity in the accounting profession. To make the biggest impact, we need to start with the kids, teach them about different careers and show them what accountants are really like, compared to typical stereotypes."

For the 2007-2008 calendar year, Dixon Hughes was recognized as a JA platinum corporate partner, having supported JA in at least three separate ways including volunteer activities, fundraising events and financial contributions. The Dixon Hughes Atlanta office hosted two job shadows for approximately 15 Floyd Middle School and 30 Campbell High School students, which gave them first-hand experience to see what it's really like to work in an accounting firm. Dixon Hughes volunteers also participated in several teaching sessions at Tech High School and in JA-in-a-Day at Mary Lin Elementary School.

This year, Dixon Hughes also participated in the JA "That 70's" Bowl-a-Thon, and raised \$3, 580 between two teams, exceeding the goal set by JA by more than \$1,500. The firm looks forward to building its JA relationship even further by participating in more volunteer activities and sponsorship events in the future.

