

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Aid to Inmate Mothers Receives Thirteenth 'Surprise Grant' from the Central Alabama Community Foundation**

MONTGOMERY – This year the Central Alabama Community Foundation (CACF) is celebrating 30 years since its founding in 1987. To commemorate this milestone anniversary, CACF will award 30 surprise grants to local nonprofits. These grants will be awarded over the course of 2017.

The thirteenth surprise grant was awarded Wednesday, July 19 to Aid to Inmate Mothers, (AIM) Inc. CACF staff surprised AIM Executive Director Carol Potok with balloons and a \$3,000 check.

AIM provides services to Alabama's incarcerated women with emphasis on enhancing personal growth and strengthening the bonds between inmate mothers and their children. AIM was founded in 1987, by Church Women United, The Alabama Prison Project, and The Alabama Department of Corrections, after a group of committed volunteers discovered that there were many women in prison who never saw their children. AIM offers family outreach programs, birthday and Christmas gifts for families, the Storybook Project, where mothers record a message or song for their child, and classes for mothers during incarceration at Tutwiler Prison, Tutwiler Annex, Birmingham Work Release and the Montgomery Community Based Facility.

In 2013, with the help of a grant from the City of Montgomery, AIM opened the GENESIS House, a transitional home located at 660 Morgan Avenue. This home provides women ages 21 to 59 with an independent living environment for at least a year, following their release from prison. The women must have the mental capacity to participate in transitional activities and a sincere desire to change negative behavior. The women receive one-on-one mentoring, drug treatment and counseling, and participate in employment readiness classes.

"AIM staff and volunteers take an interdisciplinary approach to rehabilitating mothers during and after their incarceration. With this grant, we support the work of AIM and hope to give these women and their families a meaningful second chance," said CACF President Burton Ward.

Donate to our surprise grants and help CACF celebrate our 30th anniversary, by making a contribution at [www.cacfinfo.org](http://www.cacfinfo.org) or by check to CACF, 35 S. Court Street, Montgomery, AL 36104. For more information, contact CACF Development Officer Whitney Griswold Califf at (334) 264-6223 or [whitney.griswold@cacfinfo.org](mailto:whitney.griswold@cacfinfo.org)

*CACF was founded in 1987 and has grown to hold over \$59 million in charitable assets while distributing over \$50 million to organizations that serve the community. CACF serves several counties including Autauga, Coffee, Dale, Elmore, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lowndes, Macon, and Montgomery.*

*Through its 200+ funds, CACF addresses a wide variety of concerns, supporting projects and programs in education, health, human services, cultural arts, recreation, historic preservation and other civic concerns. Each year, the Foundation distributes over \$3 million through hundreds of grants and scholarships.*

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