



For Immediate Release

Contact: Michael Daly, Pres. Orange Duffel Bag 770-331-7605/ MDaly@ODBF.org
Keri Unsworth – 864-933-6733/keriannunsworth@gmail.com (for golf tournament questions)

Tee One Up for Georgia's Youth in Foster Care and Homeless Teens *Atlanta charity to host inaugural golf fundraiser for at-risk youth*

ATLANTA (September 9, 2013) –Shining bright orange this fall with hope and possibilities for Georgia's youth in foster care and homeless teens is **Orange Duffel Bag Initiative (ODB), a 501c3 public charity**, and its inaugural golf tournament!

On **Monday, October 21, 2013**, the organization will hold its first **Tee One Up golf tournament fundraiser**. The event will begin at **Governors Towne Club in Acworth at 8:00AM** followed by an awards ceremony, lunch and silent auction at 1:30PM. Proceeds will support ODB's work and programs, which have improved the lives of hundreds of at-risk youth since its founding in 2010. **Donations and sponsorships are tax-deductible.**

The Atlanta-based charity provides certified executive-level coaching and advocacy to help teens who are homeless, in foster care or have recently aged out of the system continue with their education and lead meaningful, productive lives.

The need is there: 50% of teenagers in foster care age out of the system without a high school diploma or GED. Within six months of leaving the system, 50% will be homeless. In Georgia alone, 35,000 youth are homeless and that number continues to grow.

Luckily, ODB programs and advocates are there, too: "Thank you so much...[people] always said I would never make it in high school, especially not graduate. But look at me now, one more year and I graduate." (ODB grad Class 6 now enrolled in college!)

ODB's evidence-based model and success are built on a "collaborative approach to achieve collective impact" notes ODB Board Chair Echo Garrett. ODB was co-founded by authors Sam Bracken and Garrett. Bracken was once a homeless teen who earned a Georgia Tech football scholarship and became a successful executive. His story of triumph over adversity is the basis of ODB's after school program. Visit **www.theODBi.org** or email **Info@theODBF.org** for more information.

ODB's golf tournament fundraising goal is to serve 200 youth next year. Its programs are free to youth. For supporters, it's a worthwhile investment to educate and empower some of the most vulnerable children in our communities.

Orange Duffel Bag: Coaching and Championing Youth to a Lifetime of Success!