

# A Report to Our Members

*Citizen -Centric Report for 2015—2016*



## Who We Are

The Atlanta Chapter is a local chapter of the Association of Government Accountants, a national organization of professionals interested in efficient, effective and economical financial management at all levels of government—Federal, State and Local, including agencies, counties, schools, and universities.

## Mission

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.

## President's Message

Welcome and thank you for your interest in AGA's Atlanta Chapter. If you are looking for the most diverse and talented group of financial management professionals in the heart of southeastern U.S., then you have come to the right place. Our goal is to be the premier educational and networking organization for government financial managers and accountability professionals in the Atlanta area. So, if you're interested in continuing education, networking, and camaraderie with other government financial professionals then give us a try and join the AGA's Atlanta Chapter.

For those of you that are already part of the Atlanta Chapter, I want to thank you for everything you do to make this organization what it is today and I want to encourage you to continue your involvement with AGA-Atlanta. We have a fantastic year of events and training planned and we want you to take advantage of these opportunities.

## Accomplishments

It has been an exciting year for AGA-Atlanta. Our members and our officers have planned and hosted four continuing professional education events and one professional development conference for our members; fully redesigned our Webpage, updated the chapter's by-laws; created the chapter's first Facebook page; updated our chapter CPE forms and event registration process. Additionally, through the efforts of Community Service Committee, the chapter's membership helped make the holiday season a great deal better for fifteen children and eight senior citizens via the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program. Our officers have also been innovative and committed to our early career members and the community through their focused and imaginative outreach activities, including the rekindling of our first CGFM study group of the year and a forthcoming mentoring program. Take this with all the great work we've also done with our membership, meetings, and administration and this has been a banner year in terms of activities and opportunities.

**Larry Scott Owens - Atlanta Chapter President 2016-2017**

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Membership	Count
Number of current members	228
Number of new members	40
Early Career members	12
CGFM	117
Membership	Count
Federal employee	69
State	61
City	27
Private	18
Academia	8
Student	3
Membership	Count
Men	107
Women	132
Retired	17
Reinstatements	0

# What We Are Doing

## Current Strategic Goals

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability. The Atlanta Chapter is committed to these goals as well.

### Certification



The primary objective for the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Certification Committee in the upcoming year will be to promote, enhance and increase awareness of the CGFM Certification as

certification is a critical part of AGA's mission and a major focus of AGA.

Chapter CGFM Goals	
Goal 1	Support current CGFMs
Goal 2	Market CGFM service mark locally
Goal 3	Assist potential new CGFMs in attaining certification
Goal 4	Designate a chapter resource to work with CGFM certification

### Community Service

AGA members will volunteer their time throughout the Atlanta area by collecting and donating items on a charity's wish list, adopt a specific child for the holiday season, and participate in a pledge drive.

Community Service Plan	
July	MedShare – Send Medical supplies to those in need
August	Television Pledge Drive – Georgia Public Broadcasting
September	Atlanta Community Food Bank – Food Drive
October	Reading to under privileged children
November/December	The Salvation Army Angel Tree
March	Atlanta Community Food Bank – Food Drive
April	MS Walk – The Multiple Sclerosis Society
May	MedShare – Send Medical supplies to those in need



## Early Career and Student Committee Plan

The primary objective in the upcoming year will be to promote, enhance, and build the skills necessary for new professionals to be successful in the public finance sector. This will require concentrating on establishing solid support systems and good networks in order to offer individuals early in their careers the best opportunity to excel.

Early Career and Student Committee Plan Goals
Develop, guide, and mentor those individuals about to start and recently started their careers in public finance.
Encourage members through our chapter newsletter and website to join the mentor program.
Establish an award recognizing rising professionals of Government.
Provide listing of career opportunities via twitter and Facebook.
Provides support to those individuals interested in becoming CGFM certified.

## Membership Plan / Goals

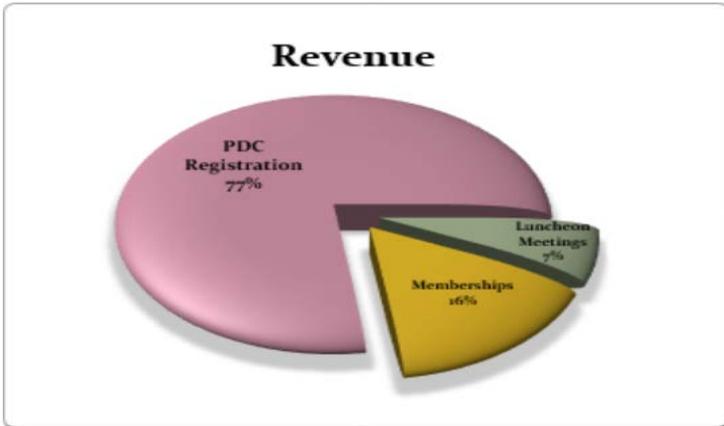
Membership Plan / Goals	
Goal 1 / 2	Encourage members through our chapter newsletter and website, and throughout member incentive program to invite non-members to participate in the Atlanta chapter events and then to join the AGA.
Goal 3	Highlight ways the membership may earn CPEs through our chapter newsletter and website. Identify the needs of the chapter membership through a chapter membership satisfaction survey.
Goal 4	Contact suspended members to encourage them to renew their membership. Send welcome emails to visitors and to new members to inform them about AGA Atlanta chapter activities. Encourage members to invite guests to chapter events. Publicize and make efforts to participate in the national Get-A-Member campaign.



# Our Finances

## Revenues and Expenses

### Primary Association Sources of Revenue Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Revenues

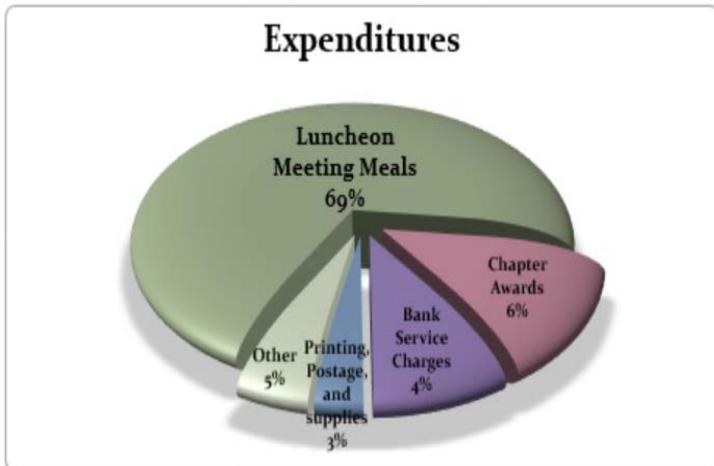


2016 was a challenging year for the chapter for meeting attendance. We have ramped up our marketing strategy for 2017 and are starting to see improvements. Our membership remains strong.

### Primary Association Revenue

Sources	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Percent change
Luncheon Meetings	\$2,496	\$991	-60%
Training Seminars	10,161	5,300	-48%
Donated Services	0	0	
Memberships	1,048	1,114	+6.3%
Interest—Checking Account	0	0	
Chapter Scholarships Award	263	0	-100%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$13,968</b>	<b>\$7,405</b>	<b>-47%</b>

### Primary Association Expenses Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Expenses



Even though our revenues were down, net income remained about the same as 2015, due to the reduction in expenses.

### Primary Association Expenses

Expenses	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Percent change
Luncheon Meeting Meals	\$3,565	\$2,769	-22.3%
Training Seminars	5,479	1,176 <sup>(1)</sup>	-79%
CGFM	484	0	-100%
2016 PDC		0	
Chapter Awards	654	538	-17.7%
Scholarships	260	0	-100%
Bank Service Charges	408	429	+5%
Printing, Postage and Supplies	0	136	+100%
Other	355	210	-41%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,205</b>	<b>\$5,258</b>	<b>-63.9%</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Additional 2016 PDT expenses were paid in July 2016 and are not included in this number.

## Review of the Financial Statements

The Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2014 have been reviewed by an accounting firm. The Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2015 and 2016 are under review.



# What's Next?

## *Challenges Moving Forward*



## AGA Atlanta Chapter Strengths and Weaknesses

### Strengths

- Continuing involvement of many of the AGA Board/ committee members over the past 5 years.
- New executive committee members have revitalized and energized many of the chapter's outreach and communications activities.
- The proximity of Federal, State, and Local Government offices in the Atlanta metro area.
- The availability of high quality speakers and accounting professionals in the metro area.

### Weaknesses

- With the increasing use of telecommuting, more members are working outside of downtown Atlanta (where our meetings are held). So, attendance is down at chapter events.
- Easily promoting our activities to the larger governmental accounting and finance community in the metro area has been difficult to achieve.
- Lack of involvement by federal agencies and their personnel in chapter leadership and events.
- Finding chapter sponsors.

### We want to hear from you.

Do you like this report?

Would you like to see other information?

Please let us know by contacting Marvin Dereef at [mdereef@hotmail.com](mailto:mdereef@hotmail.com). For more information on our services, visit our website at [www.aga-atlanta.org](http://www.aga-atlanta.org)

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