



## ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

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July 23, 2008

Councilmember Felicia Moore  
Chair, Committee on Council  
Atlanta City Council  
55 Trinity Avenue  
Atlanta, GA 30303

**08- C-1557**

Dear Chairperson Moore,

Attached is the biography of Mrs. Sallie Clark Hughes, Mrs. Hughes is my nominee for the Atlanta Commission on Aging. She is a long time resident of the City of Atlanta and has a stellar record of hard work and civic dedication. She is a capable, willing and eager nominee for the Atlanta Commission on Aging.

Mrs. Hughes can be contacted via telephone at 404-755-1387 or by mail at:

1246 Centra Villa Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30311

Yours for a Better Atlanta,

H. Lamar Willis  
Post 3, At-Large  
Atlanta City Council

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**PERSONAL PROFILE  
OF  
MRS. MARY SALLIE CLARK HUGHES**

Mary Sallie Clark Hughes was born on December 8, 1913 in Oglethorpe County, Maxey, Georgia to Annie and West Clark. It was in this rural Georgia area, where she received her early years of education. Both of her parents, Annie and West Clark died when she was merely an infant, leaving her absolutely no knowledge of either of her parents.

Later, when she became of age, Mary S. Hughes migrated to Atlanta, where she continued her education in the Atlanta Public School System. This ambitious and determined woman maintained full time employment during the day, while likewise working toward the completion of her secondary educational school training at Booker T. Washington School.

At fifty plus years of age, Mary S. Hughes, not only graduated with outstanding honors, but as the Valedictorian of her class. She was awarded a scholarship to Atlanta's Morris Brown College, but choose to further her academic education in the specialized field of nursing because of her deep love for helping others! With this thought in mind, she enrolled in The Bennett School of Nursing, Atlanta, Georgia. She completed all of her academic course requirements and graduated with Outstanding Honors. She was also the recipient of the award for "The Most Outstanding Student Most Likely to Succeed".

Mary Sallie Clark Hughes took the Georgia State Licensing Board Examination for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) in 1964, and has been a practicing registered Licensed Practical Nurse, since that time. Today, she continues to maintain her current LPN Nurses Licenses, so whenever she is needed or called upon to render service, she can answer the call with an immediate state of readiness! Mrs. Hughes has been a widow for many years, after the passing of her first husband, Herbert Bridgewater, Sr., a Military Solider, who died from service injuries sustained in World War II. This union gave rise to one son, Herbert Jeremiah Bridgewater, Jr. Later this inspirational and strong woman married Lowell Hughes and they enjoyed a colorful marriage, Lowell Hughes passed away in 1978.

Mrs. Hughes, affectionately called "Mother Hughes" has been an active member of The Mount Zion Second Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia since 1942, and some 55 years. For more than decade, she has served faithfully as a member of the Gospel Choir has and for many of those years, she was the choir's president. She has served in the position of Assistant Department Superintendent of the Adult Sanctuary Sunday school Class, and as Sunday school Teacher for countless number of years. Mrs. Hughes was an active member of Mt. Zion Second Baptist Church Pastoral Pulpit Search Committee. She was chosen the 1995-96 Mt. Zion Second Baptist Church "Woman of the Year". Mrs. Hughes continues to maintain active membership and participation in a number of religious organizations and affiliations, such as: Mt. Zion Second Baptist Church Ward Number Four, Mt. Zion Second Baptist Church Citizen Ministry, The Missionary Society of The Mount Zion Second Baptist Church, Member of the Northern Region of The New Era State Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, and The Women's Auxiliary of The Atlanta Baptist Association. Mary S. Hughes has had duly involvement in The Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., and The National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Her church (Mt. Zion Second Baptist) has chosen her on many occasions as an official delegate (messenger) to various conventions, both within the state and national bodies.

For a record number of years, Mary Sallie Hughes was an active member of The Fifth District Licensed Practical Nurses Association, serving the organization's president for a large portion of those years, and Member of the Retired Licensed Practical Nurses Association of Georgia. Mrs. Hughes served as President of the Fourteen New Yorkers Social and Savings Club for an unprecedented number of years and continues to maintain active participation in the organization as its president-Emeritus.

This committed volunteer, with over 56 years plus service in volunteerism, continues to be a loyal volunteer of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change. Mrs. Hughes has worked diligently for many years with the Salute to Greatness Host and Hostesses Dinner Committee, during the Annual Observance and Birthday Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Mary Sallie Hughes is the 1995-1996 Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change Community Service Award Recipient, which was presented to her by Mrs. Coretta Scott King, The King Center's Founder and President/CEO Emeritus.

Mrs. Hughes currently serves as a member of The City of Atlanta Water and Sewer Appeal Board, a position to which she was appointed and has been re-appointed by the Atlanta City Council with Mayoral approval. She was for numerous years, the private duty nurse attending to Georgia State Representative Grace Towns Hamilton, who was Georgia first African-American elected to the Georgia House of Representatives. Mrs. Hughes was Representative Hamilton's nurse until the historical legislator past away.

Mary Sallie Hughes is an active member of the Atlanta Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc. (GWMA), and Member of the Fraternal Council of Church Women. She has been for many, many years a loyal participant in The Congressional Black Caucus.

Mrs. Hughes is the 1997-98 recipient of the WXIA-11 ALIVE Television Station (an NBC Affiliate) Community Service Award for over 50 years of volunteer service to persons who are the victims of poverty, fires, and homelessness. She has been a dedicated Atlanta, Georgian and vital Community Activist working throughout the county, attempting to bring about social and economic reform in the lives of many disadvantaged persons living in our city, county and state. Her life goal is to work toward the day when we will eliminate ALL poverty and homelessness from our city, county, state, and nation! Each year on her birthday, Mrs. Hughes has chosen to deliver some 50 boxes or more of clothing and food to various shelters, homelessness families and individuals. Instead of receiving gifts on her birthday, this Good Samaritan, humanitarian, and unsung hero, take great joy and pride in giving to those destitute individuals or victims of winter fires, whom she only knows by learning of their misfortune from Television News Reports. She has an unlimited supply of clothing of all sizes, ranging from infant to adult sizes to donate at free will, whenever there is someone in need!

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. honored Mrs. Hughes with its "1997 Outstanding Community Service Award" for her unheralded noble deeds to the community. This unique and unselfish "Unsung Hero" who has dedicated her life toward helping others in her individual struggle to eliminate poverty and homelessness from our city, state and nation, was honored by The National Urban League Guilds as one of its "1997 Prominent Citizen Award Recipients" for having made a significant community contribution toward the betterment of the community, and for maintaining a continuous commitment to service rendered to men, women, youth and children.

The Mary S. Hughes Evangelistic Outreach Scholarship Fund has been established at The Morehouse School of Religion for student matriculating in the field of ministry and are likewise engaging in some above and beyond outstanding and meritorious project (s) to help eliminate poverty and homelessness in our society. All cash awards and donations received by Mary S. Hughes have been donated to this existing non-profit scholarship fund.

Growing up, Mrs. Hughes, who never knew her parents, was reared by a White family, who abused her and as a result, she ran away. Thus, rearing her in the best honest means humanly possible! She is indeed a testimony to the believe that "Tuff time don't last always, but Tuff People Do!" Her continued prayer is that, " the Lord will Order her steps in his will and in his way to allow her to continue to serve others!"