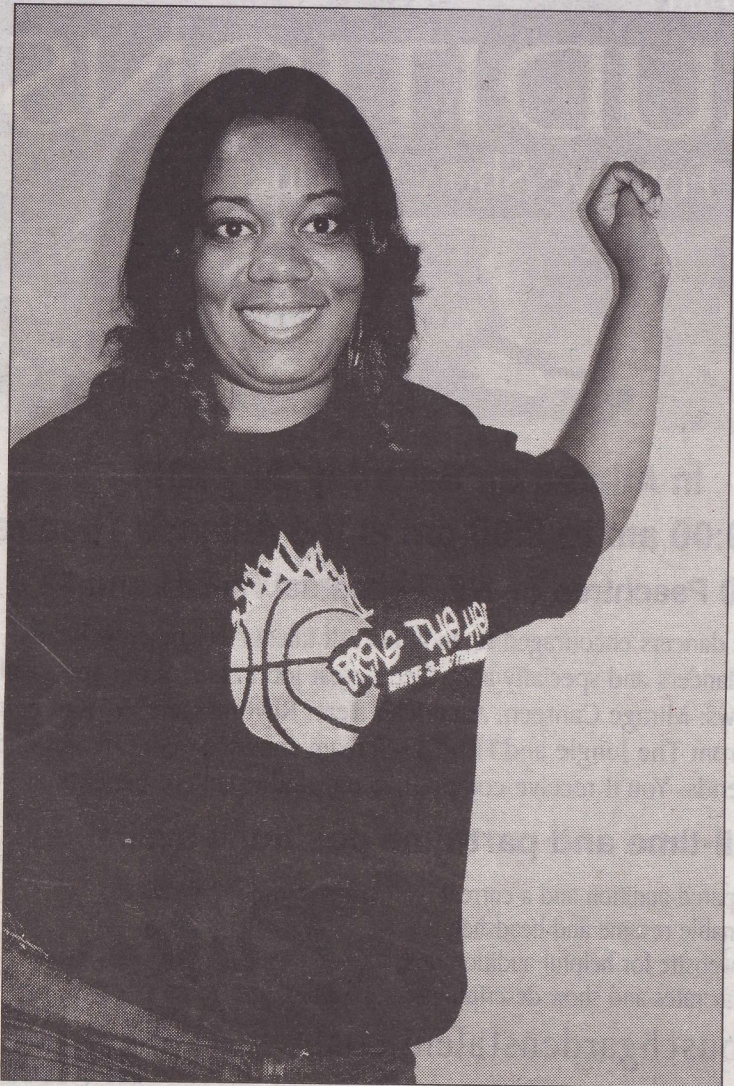


human kind



President, Dream Makers Youth Foundation

nikki wilson


changing lives

Nikki Wilson isn't the president of a big corporation. But what she does touches the lives of everyone involved, and that is her goal: to get the entire community involved. Wilson is the president of Dream Makers Youth Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in April 2001 that provides a wide range of services to children with disabilities and special needs.

"We work with kids that have autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and various [other] conditions," Wilson shares. "We sponsor a wheelchair soccer team. We frequently get donated tickets from the [Atlanta] Hawks, so we take them to games. We also have tutorial program called Foundations for Learning. It's a one-on-one tutorial service. Our focus has really been on reading."

Dream Makers Youth Foundation is hosting its

third annual "Bring the Heat" 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, with wheelchair and able-bodied divisions, on Saturday, July 28, 2007 from 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at Campbell Middle School in Smyrna, Ga.

"What we try to do with the organizations, especially the sports teams, is to have our kids interact with other kids with similar difficulties, so they get a chance to talk and interact with them. Most of the time when I'm with the kids, it's fun," says Wilson. "Even in our therapy sessions, we have fun; we play therapeutically. It's not like they are focusing on [the] issues they are having. It kind of diverts their minds from other things, rather than focusing on upcoming hospital stays." —*adrienne gadling* 

For more information, please visit www.dreammakersyouthfoundation.org.

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