

# People of Impact: Gregory Williams and Warren Phippen

[Local](#)

December 29, 2006 | [\(see in print version\)](#)



Gregory Williams, left, and Warren Phippen during a mentoring program at Georgia Power sponsored by Males Advocating Change Collectively and Females Advocating Change Together, the program they co-founded in 1995 by merging existing mentoring services. (Photo: [Steve Bisson](#))

(Photo: [Stephen Berend](#))

[There are in our lives pivotal people who can change how we think of things and see the world around us. Some are unlikely leaders. Others are controversial figures. Still others are hometown heroes. Here is one in a series highlighting th](#)

[Since 1995, Males Advocating Change Collectively and Females Advocating Change Together have served the Savannah, Effingham, Hinesville and Augusta areas, working to empower at-risk youth through guidance, workshops, seminars, sports initiatives and outreach services. All participants have graduated from high school and about 50 percent have graduated from college. Some of the college graduates have gone on to medical school.](#)

[For allowing kids to maintain their individuality while finding their place in the larger society, beyond the confines of their neighborhood, town, state or region For working with families to turn future generations into successes and not statistics For realizing that mentoring isn't a 9-to-5 job - a child in need is in need 24/7 For pressuring kids to stand up for themselves the right way - speaking up in groups, asserting themselves in work situations, holding their peers to higher standards, showing respect and demanding it from others For making their program one that never ends and encouraging "graduates" to reach back and help others find the right path For turning out high success rates - 98 percent of participants go to colleges or universities and the remaining 2 percent attend technical training For putting kids on the straight and narrow and recognizing that too many options keep them from respecting rules For not thriving on "I told you so," but helping kids back up when they fall and setting them back on the right path.](#)