

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025



Thank You!

Because of you, we were able to provide services to approximately 350+ children in Shelby County during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Your support doesn't just fund programs—it changes lives. We hope you enjoy reading about the incredible difference you're making and feel as inspired as we do by the progress we're achieving together.

Welcome

Welcome to the Owens House newsletter! As we share updates about the work we've accomplished, we want to begin with our most important message: *Thank You*. Your generosity is the heartbeat of our mission, and every success story we tell begins with your kindness.



OWENS HOUSE



Catherine Alexander-Wright, LICSW-S
Executive Director



Tori Overton
Operations Manager &
MDT Coordinator



Eva Thau, LICSW-S
Clinical Director



Katie Kramer, LMSW
Therapist & Forensic
Interviewer



Reagan Story, LMSW
Therapist & Forensic
Interviewer



Nicole Greer
Family Advocate



Mattie Cleckler
Development Coordinator

Meet the Team

Behind every success at Owens House is a dedicated group of people who bring passion, creativity, and heart to our mission every day. Our team of seven works collaboratively to ensure every project, program, and partnership runs smoothly. From coordinating events to managing outreach, each member plays a unique role in making our work possible—and we can't wait for you to get to know them!

From the Executive Director

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve Owens House in 2025! I come from a background of clinical social work and non-profit management. I was asked to serve as Interim Executive Director in February 2025, and this position became permanent in May of 2025.

It has been a season of change at Owens House, which has provided us with opportunities to think critically about our community's needs and how we want to serve our clients and constituents.

We remain grateful for our legacy supporters and are delighted to have welcomed new ones. Thank you for your partnership on behalf of children and families in Shelby County!

Catherine Alexander-Wright, LICSW-S

OWENS HOUSE

Office Updates

It's been an exciting season of growth at Owens House! We've made several updates to create a more welcoming, comfortable, and inspiring space for everyone we serve. Several of our rooms have been refreshed, resulting in a brighter and warmer atmosphere. The playroom used for play therapy has been revamped with a new layout and mural, making it an even more engaging and supportive environment for children. We're thrilled to share that we have broken ground on a brand-new sensory garden—an outdoor space designed to spark curiosity, promote mental health, and support sensory development. We can't wait to see it come to life in the months ahead!

How We Are Doing

Over the past year, Owens House hosted Rhythm & Brews, our annual fundraising event. During this event, we raised nearly \$14,000 in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month!

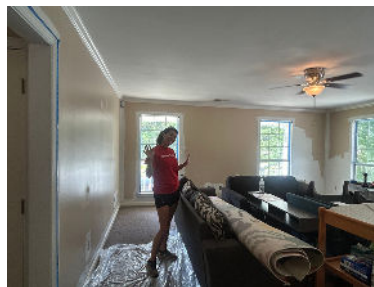
We were also chosen as the beneficiaries of the proceeds raised during the Lay Lake Boat Club's annual Poker Run in July. The event raised \$52,000 for Owens House!



UNITE volunteer group that helped build furniture, hang decor and prepare advocacy materials.



Land clearing for the Sensory Garden that is coming soon to Owens House.



Church of the Highlands volunteers repainted the main floor of our office, creating a more welcoming environment for our clients.



Hope Mountain Church volunteers relocated cabinets from an office, making both the office and cabinets more functional.



Mural commissioned to bring light and happiness into our play therapy room, creating a welcoming and comfortable space for our clients.



Hope Mountain Church volunteers helped repair sheetrock and repaint areas on our bottom floor to continue updating our office.



In July, we had the opportunity to volunteer with the Lay Lake Boat Club during their annual Poker Run.



In April, Owens House hosted Rhythm & Brews for their annual fundraising event.

OWENS HOUSE

Upcoming Events

Child Abuse Prevention Month (April 2026) event planning is underway! We will kick things off by hosting the 4th Annual Rhythm & Brews Event at the Siluria Brewing Company in Alabaster in March. More details about the event will be announced on our social media platforms as we enter the new year!

Be on the lookout for further information! You won't want to miss any of our events!



Additional Resources

Complete our donor feedback survey and:

- Sign-up for quarterly updated donation letters for 2025.26, to be sent in December, March, June and September
- Sign-up for our bi-annual newsletters, scheduled for October and April
- Update contact information and preferences



Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: OwensHouse and owenshousecac

- Take a look at our Amazon Wishlist linked on both platforms!

Contact us if you are interested in volunteering; we love our volunteers! For more information, please contact Mattie Cleckler at mattiec@owenshouse.org