



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Okfenokee Alliance for the Homeless, Inc.

www.oathnsega.org

tel: 912-816-4399

115 Albany Avenue, Waycross, GA 31501

Our mission is to meet the needs of the homeless and precariously housed through a continuum of care that leads to self-sufficiency.

The Okefenokee Alliance for the Homeless, Inc. (OATH) is a not-for-profit organization founded to fill the service gap that exists for the homeless in Ware, Pierce, and Brantley Counties.

We believe everyone deserves a home.

Homelessness is the result of a multitude of issues culminating over time – it does not happen instantaneously, but instead evolves out of precipitating issues. There is no single cause of homelessness, and there is no single, simple solution. We serve single women with children, single men with children, families, seniors, and unaccompanied youth who lack safe and secure housing.

What we do.

Client service at OATH is multi-faceted and often involves street outreach and resource sharing, food assistance, job placement, housing placement, transportation, mental health services referrals, medical treatment referrals, and assistance with applications to educational institutions. We also provide toiletries, clothing, blankets, tents, socks, and basic necessity items; most of which are generously donated. Clients who are homeless can receive their mail at the office and get vouchers to have a hot shower and laundry vouchers to wash their laundry. OATH offers its clients hot lunch daily. OATH also operates a virtual second-hand store that receives donated household furnishings that are utilized by our clients or sold to fund our operations. OATH's office is open Monday through Thursday from 8 am until 5 pm.

In 2023, OATH **served 511 individuals** from its service area covering Ware, Pierce and Brantley Counties: **171 children** ages 0-17 years; **302 adults** ages 18-59; and **38 seniors** age 60+. OATH still works with 65 of those clients – 46 adults and 19 children and of those - 22 have no housing, 20 are couch surfing with others, 2 are in unlivable housing, and 2 are in a local men's shelter and the list grows daily.

OUR VISION

The staff and board of directors are committed to the cause of ending homelessness. We are tirelessly working to find stable and affordable housing so that everyone can find a home. Our vision for the future includes a full-service day center where homeless clients can receive a complete continuum of care that includes shower and laundry facilities, meeting spaces for group support and rehabilitative classes aimed at providing the necessary life skills to permanently transition out of homelessness.



Our longer-term goal is to operate a shelter to provide a temporary living space to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness as we work to place them in long-term housing solutions.

We believe that through collaboration with community partners this dream is attainable. OATH works with collaboratively with other agencies to help serve our clients, including Unison

Behavioral Health, Pierce, Ware, and Brantley Family Connections, Sycamore Tree, City of Waycross, Magnolia House Shelter, Memorial Satilla Health, and many churches, civic groups, and community service agencies. We are continually seeking additional partners with whom we can work to serve the needs of the homeless.



Board member Renee Martin and dance partner Dantay Cooper accept the prize for most funds raised at the 2023 Dancing With the Southern Stars competition.

Niki Spivey reports live from the storm shelter OATH operated with the City of Waycross during Hurricane Idalia.



2023 SPONSORS

Dancing with the Southern Stars/Magnolia House

Memorial Satilla Health

Cannington Agency

Adam Smith
Amy & Scott Cunningham
Amy Hitt
Andrea Carter
Ann Combs
Barbara King
Ben & Mary Stewart Bishop
Benjamin and Kandace Hersey
Bennett Bennett & Johnson
Beth McClelland
Brenda Caton
Bridge Community Church,
Pastor Chris Roberts
Bryan and Jenna Fey
Bryon Tyrone
Burch Fire Systems
BYRT CPAs
Carrie Boatright
Catherine Cason
Center Stage Studio
Charles Eames
Christi's Downsouth Living
Church of Christ Written in
Heaven
Crossway Realty
Dale & Virginia Montero
Dan Prewitt
Daniel Harding
David & Christine Rafus
David & Wanda Morton
Debi Jones
Dr. & Mrs. A.W. Strickland
Dr. Earl Martin
Emmanuel Baptist Church
First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Waycross
First United Methodist Church
Pastor Mary Ann Braswell
Gail & Jim Seifert
Gail Walker
Gary Nals
Georgia Power
GHC Hospice
Grace Episcopal Church
Greater St. Paul Baptist Church
Greg & Judy McGahee
Hilda McMonigle
Holly Interest Club
Hortense COGOP Pastor
John Hutto
Iva Lee McDaniel
Jennifer & Robert Scurry
JG Elbaz
Joel & Reba Smith
Joseph & Irene Arnold
Joy Williams
Kaley McArthur
Kim Gibson
Kit Brinson
Law Office of Ken Taft
Lewis & Raulerson
Linda & Allen Sweat
Linda and Dan Booker
Lindsay Smith
Lisa & George Fesperman
Mamie Holland
Marla & Derrick Meeks
Michael & Renee Martin
Michelle and Michael Beach
Miya White

Monroe Foundation
Norman & Dot Gibson
Okefenokee Black Nurses Assoc.
Okefenokee Ladies Golf Assoc.
Pam Taylor
Pamela Jackson
Patricia & Richard Corbett
Paulette B. Taylor
Phantom Fireworks
Primesouth Bank
Remnant Church
Renee Mumford
Rhonda Jo Dowling
River of Life Church of God
RJ Accounting & Tax Service
Robert & Ada McIntyre
Robert and Liz Williams
Rochelle Holmes
Ronald Tugend
Roxie Tumlin
Sandy Osburn
Satilla Advocacy Services
Satilla Forest Services
Scott Glazer
Second Baptist Church
Sweat Memorial Baptist Church
The Hoboken Company LLC
Timothy & Kim Bonvechio
Tom Strickland
Turner Appliance
Unison Behavioral Health
Virginia Lovett
Ware Children's Initiative
Waycross Reads



Staff:

Niki Spivey, Interim Executive Director; Abby Horne, Assistant

Board of Directors:

Ken Taft, Chair; Kim Gibson, Vice-Chair; Renee Martin, Secretary;
Patricia Hall, Treasurer; Rev. Kit Brinson, Dawn Deen, Sarah Jumper,
Shonda Miller, Sandra Osburn, Gail Seifert, Patrick Simmons

Total Revenue **\$155,254**

Total Expenses **\$121,759**