

# ZENA'S HOUSE, INC

## WHERE YOUTH HAVE HOPE!

**Fall 2024**

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### ZENA'S HOUSE CELEBRATES 20 YEARS!

We are grateful to God and to all our incredible supporters for 20 years of empowering youth! This milestone is a powerful testament to what's possible when there's a vision to serve—and when God provides the people, resources, and financial support to bring it to life. Our 20th anniversary celebration was truly unforgettable—an evening filled with joy, laughter, and heartfelt moments. We honored remarkable individuals, enjoyed a wonderful dinner and entertainment, and were especially moved by the voices of our students. Thank you to everyone who helped plan, attended, and gave generously to make this celebration a success. #ZHIS20

#### 2024 Honorees



**Champion Supporter**  
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Dr. Kimberly Sellars-Bates  
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**Community Partner and Fundraising Champion**  
Yolanda Magee



**Community Partner Champion**  
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Anitra Myles



**Parent Champion**  
Deborah McGuire



**Perserverance Award**  
Ny'Asia Jesquith



**Volunteer Champion**  
Berdell Johnson



**Volunteer Champion**  
Autumn McNeill, MPH



**Volunteer Champion**  
Arnelle Konde, MPH



BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERNICE BRONSON, MPH \*TRINITY TOWNSEND, ESQ.\*DANIELLE WALLACE, MPA \* ANFERNEE MORGAN  
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### THE WELL-ROUNDED STUDENT (WRS)

So... What's a Well-Rounded Student (and Why Should You Care)?

If you're thinking about college, scholarships, or just standing out in a good way—being a well-rounded student is key. But what does that even mean?

Our recent workshop, hosted with the Fulton County Library System, broke it all down with tips, real talk, and hands-on activities.

Here's what makes a well-rounded student:

- You know your school counselor and actually talk to them
- You've got a scholar profile (aka a brag sheet or resume) with a headshot
- You're involved—community service, clubs, sports, you name it
- You can introduce yourself confidently in just 30 seconds
- You're working hard, keeping those grades up, and you know your GPA

At the workshop, students rotated through different stations to learn each of these steps. They even got to take a professional headshot with Official.KingPhotography (IG), create their scholar profile, and work on their elevator speech.

Big shoutout to the Tau Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, plus all our awesome speakers and volunteers who helped make this event fun and inspiring!



### LET'S GET COLLEGE-READY!

College preparation can be overwhelming. Let's Get College Ready workshop to the rescue! Our workshop helps students and parents better understand and successfully navigate the college and scholarship application process.

Attendees rotated through four stations to learn about the college application process, finding scholarships, financial aid and how to submit a winning scholarship application.

Students and parents appreciated the small sessions and felt empowered to begin the process. They also shared that they wished the workshop was longer!

Where to start?? Include these resources as you begin the college application process: **Naviance; Commonapp.org; commonblackcollegeapp.com; Gafutures.org; collegeboard.org, studentaid.gov; @the360counselor on Instagram. Also, connecting your school counselor is a must!**

Special thanks to our partner, the Fulton County Library System, speakers Tyshiba Maxie of the 360 Counselor, Marnessa Vital of G.R.A.S.P and all our amazing volunteers.



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### IN MEMORY OF MRS. THERESA STORY



Our beloved Zena's House Bookkeeper of 10 years, Theresa 'Terri' Story of Likely Story Financial Group, passed away on November 22, 2024. She was a phenomenal woman, full of knowledge, patience, and very supportive.

Terri was introduced to us through her daughter, Raechel, who served as a Zena's House tutor in 2010. Raechel stayed connected with Zena's House and kept her children, Avery and Malik, involved in our workshops. In 2014, we hired Terri as our bookkeeper. It was a beautiful fit. Terri kept our books in great order until the end.

Terri supported and volunteered in several of our events. She served as a chaperone on our college tour to Columbus State in 2012, volunteered as a speaker at our What's Your Hustle Entrepreneur workshop in 2014, attended our 15th anniversary celebration, and was a monthly donor. She was looking forward to celebrating our 20th anniversary with us but fell ill. We are happy to know that Rachel was able to share pictures of our 20th anniversary celebration with Terri. She wholeheartedly believed in Zena's House and supported us at every turn.

Our Money Moves Financial Literacy workshop will be renamed in her honor.

We love you, Terri, now and always.





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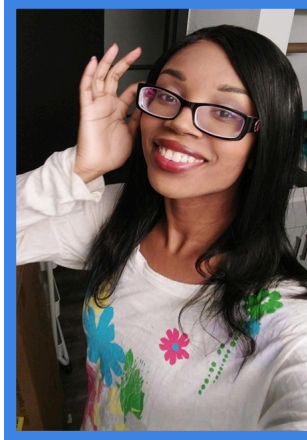
### WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER ANFERNEE MORGAN



We are excited to welcome Anfernee Morgan to our board. Anfernee has been involved with Zena's House since 2017, participating in various workshops, including our recent "The Law & You" workshop. Anfernee is a Morehouse College graduate with a Master of Science in Criminal Justice from Albany State, is currently a police sergeant with Clayton County. He brings his passion, education, and skills to help us achieve our goal of empowering students to thrive and succeed.



### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT : AVENUE WADDY



Avenue Renee Waddy is a former Zena's House (ZH) student and current volunteer. She was introduced to ZH by her mother, Rachel Waddy, who was a tutor for ZH in 2010. Avenue is the granddaughter of our late bookkeeper, Terri Story. Avenue attended a number of our workshops and now volunteers! She volunteered at our 20th Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser and coordinates our Chipotle fundraisers.

In 2018, Avenue participated in Mrs. Bronson I'm That Girl "charm school," which she says refined her etiquette and communication skills. She believes charm school broadened her ability to express gratitude and the value of communication.

Avenue encourages her peers to empower their sense of community. She emphasizes the importance of making the world a better place and supporting friends through hard times.

Avenue is currently studying interior design at Savannah College of Art and Design while saving and preparing to obtain a real estate license.

Avenue fondly remembers her grandmother, Terri, as a strong and determined person who always emphasized the importance of family.

Thank you, Avenue, for being a part of Zena's House. We are proud of you and grateful for your continued support!



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR AMAZING DONORS AND SPONSORS!!



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Hope Stirrer, \$1000

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Village Member, \$250

\*Donated more than the category amount

## 20th Anniversary Planning Committee

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# ZENA'S HOUSE, INC

## WHERE YOUTH HAVE HOPE!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE A REALITY!

### BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR!

**DONORS: \$1- \$99 \$100—\$999/YEAR \$1,000+/YEAR (\*) MONTHLY DONORS**

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**ZENA'S HOUSE IS A NONPROFIT YOUTH ORGANIZATION NAMED AFTER THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BERNICE BRONSON'S SISTER, ZENA. ZENA LOVED SCHOOL, HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS. ZENA DIED AT THE AGE OF 17 (2002) DUE TO LUPUS AND ITS CO MPPLICATIONS. ZENA'S HOUSE EMPOWERS METRO ATLANTA YOUTH THROUGH SKILLS WORKSHOPS, MENTORING , SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXPOSURE TRIPS**

**OUR VISION IS TO INSTILL HOPE IN YOUTH THROUGH EDUCATION, LIFE-SKILLS WORKSHOPS, EXPOSURE, ENCOURAGEMENT AND LOVE—ULTIMATELY TO SEE YOUTH SO FULL OF HOPE WHEREBY THEY KNOW AND BELIEVE NOTHING SHALL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO THEM!**

**WANT TO DONATE? ZELLE: ZENASHOUSE85@GMAIL.COM \* CASH APP \$ZENASHOUSE \*  
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WWW.ZENASHOUSE.ORG**