

Safety • Protection • Support

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Domestic Violence Awareness Month- "Awareness is Key"

The mission of Penelope House is to provide safety, protection, and support to victims of Domestic Violence and their children through the provision of shelter, advocacy, and individual and community education.



**United Way
of Southwest Alabama**

SACNP

SOUTH ALABAMA
COALITION of NONPROFITS

Executive Director's Message

As I reflect on 2025, the lyrics from a familiar Beatles' song keeps coming to mind- "I get by with a little help from my friends". However, it is more than a "little" help and I consider many to be "friends" who may only know me through a thank you note or a one-time meet up to collect a donation. In so many ways, Penelope House would not continue to provide the level of services provided and fulfill our mission without the help of the Penelope House Board, staff, donors, volunteers, and many "friends" cheering us on, near and far. At times, we see the ugliest of humanity, but we are fortunate to also witness hope in action for those we serve and the generosity of so many who believe in the work that is done through Penelope House. Whether it is a large, very public fund raiser held by The Red Clay Strays, or the small school holding a socks drive, all efforts support victims of Intimate Partner Violence and their children that are hoping for positive change through the many programs offered by Penelope House. Thank you to all my "friends" and the many friends of Penelope House who are committed to seeing a better, more peaceful community.

Tonie Ann Coumanis Torrans, LMSW

President's Message

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Penelope House proudly marks 46 years of service to the Mobile community. It is a privilege to be part of an organization that has walked alongside so many individuals and families as they navigate some of the most challenging moments of their lives.

For more than four decades, Penelope House has remained a reliable and compassionate presence for those seeking a safe place to turn and an opportunity for a new beginning. That trust is made possible through the dedication of our staff and volunteers, as well as the generosity of our donors, sponsors, and community partners.

Your continued support enables us to respond to the needs of those taking brave steps toward a safer and more stable future, while helping to sustain this essential resource for the years ahead. Together, we are ensuring that individuals and families in our community have access to the assistance and advocacy they need to move forward with strength and confidence.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to this important work.
With sincere gratitude,

Tara Kleinpeter

Ambassador's Message

Ten years ago, we formed the Past Presidents Council. In assessing the Penelope House progress and growth over the past 45 years it is not hard to understand that every step forward we have taken has been on the shoulders of those who came before us. Every board member over the years has given their best and hardest to move us further into the future. Simply stated, we would not be where we are today without those dedicated and visionary individuals who gave their all to our mission.

It seemed only natural to assume that those who had served aggressively in the past would have much to offer those who currently serve on the Penelope House Board. We decided to form a Past Presidents Council so that we could learn from them about their many successes that brought us to our current status. So much wisdom and dedication had to be sustained.

In 2021 we reached out to all our Past Presidents regarding getting together quarterly to share past experiences as well as keep them in the loop of our present status. While many of our Past Presidents have either moved away or passed away, those who remained local immediately agreed to form the Council and meet quarterly. What a blessed group. Not only are we sharing experiences and knowledge, but we also love (me included) getting together and being updated on Penelope House, and many have reinvested their time and energy as current volunteers. I thank God for all who serve on our Board and especially those who gave so much of themselves in those difficult early years of Penelope House.

God Bless and keep all our current and Past Presidents and Board members.
Kathryn Coumanis (President 1979, 1980, 1987)



Nick's Kids Foundation



Halloween in Shelter
Tonie Ann, Tara, Florence



Bobby Foropoulos, Board President 2016

Officers and Board of Directors

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tara Kleinpeter | President |
| Marilyn Wood | President – Elect |
| Jessica Welch | Secretary/Treasurer |
| John Pierce | Vice President Legal Council |
| Stephanie Streeter | Vice President Governance |
| Stacey Killingsworth | Past President |
| Mobile DA Keith Blackwood | At Large Member |
| Sheriff Paul Burch | At Large Member |
| Jennifer Curry | At Large Member |

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Victor Gaston | At Large Member |
| Nina Hayes | At Large Member |
| Gwyn Howard | At Large Member |
| Serena Chen Low | At Large Member |
| Harry Palles | At Large Member |
| Dana Polk | At Large Member |
| Bobbie Holt Ragler | At Large Member |
| Marion Stille | At Large Member |
| Florence Stratas | At Large Member |

Advisory Board

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Angelique Agee | Evangelia Grevenitis | Ellen Platis |
| Allison Tanner Allen | Kari Guidry | Paul Platis |
| Cyndy Baggett | Todd Hall | Mary Powell |
| Ernie Bankhead | Angel Howell | Sharon Young Rhodes |
| Allan Julian Barnes | Kanecka James | Amy Rice |
| Lisa Barnhill | Kerrianna Johnson | Ashley Rich |
| Laura Haas Becker | Brock Killingsworth | Rhonda Roebuck |
| Joseph Blaise | Tina Lackeos | Anna Saad |
| Sheri Bosarge | Cindy Leonard | Belinda Shoub |
| Panay Lignos Burland | Darby Luxenberg | Debbie Simpson |
| Elliot Carter | Fran Lyons | Kymerly Soule' |
| Ted Catranis | Leanna MacRae | Judy Stout |
| Sam Cochran | Sheena Marler | Chris Stratas |
| Kathryn Coumanis | Paula Marshall | Titsa Stratas |
| Peggy Cronin | Tobey Matthews | Shellie Brooks Teague |
| Gayle Davidson-Shivers | Karen McGill | Renee Elizabeth Thiry |
| Rena Davis | Ashley McKeithan | Tonie Ann Torrans |
| Alesia Davis | Pamela Millsaps | Jo Vaughn |
| Kathleen Duthu | Vicki Mitchelmore | Father Warren Wall |
| Pat Edington | Dani Moore | Cecilia Wallace |
| Virginia Edington | Alec Naman | Cheryl Ward |
| Toni Fassbender | Edmond Naman | Angela Weaver |
| Ashley Ferguson | Gina Nolfe | Tonyea Weber |
| Bobby Foropoulos | Eleanor Odom | Raymond Weinschenker |
| Melanie Fraim | Tabitha Olzinski | Ketti Smith Williams |
| Kelsey Gallahar | Janis Pearman | Leah Williams |
| Tracey Gann | Sandy Penton | Claire Wilson |
| Jacquitta Powell Green | Karen Pettiford | Andy Wynne |
| Maria Greenwald | Amber Pierce | |



Board Meeting- Orange for Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month



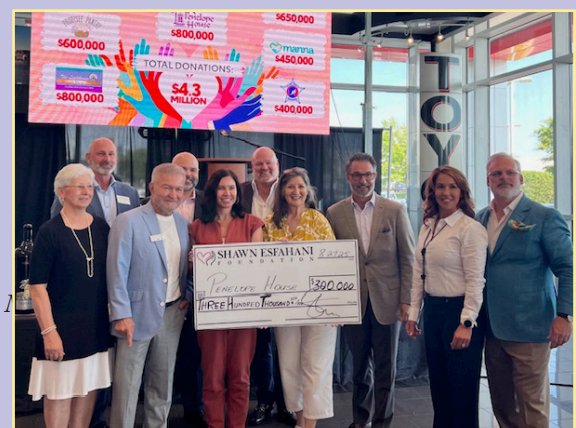
Impact 100 Mobile

Emeritus Board

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Leannah Holland | Susan Morrison | Davis Pilot |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|

Posthumous/Pounding Members

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Wiley Butler | Sue Hanlein | Emily Panayiotou |
| Ethel Catranis | Dr. William (Bill) Higgs | Marie McConnell |
| Sophia Clikas | Janie Ladas | Perkins |
| Vivian DuValle | Millie Long | Freda Roberts |
| Jack Grove | Alice Meadows | Joe Wilson |



The Esfahani Foundation

Services

CRISIS HOTLINE A crisis hotline is answered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide counseling, information and referral services to families in abusive situations.

SHELTER: Emergency shelter for victims of intimate partner violence and their children is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Victims who are admitted for shelter care are provided a safe place to stay while assessing their life situation and setting goals for the future. Shelter services include food, clothing, case management, advocate services, vocational counseling and children's services.

COURT ADVOCACY: Court Advocates assist domestic violence victims in Mobile, Washington, Clarke and Choctaw counties to navigate within the court system. The advocates provide information to victims about their rights and options in the legal system, assist with obtaining warrants and protection from abuse orders, and accompany them to court, both criminal and civil. One of the advocates is located in the Mobile Government Plaza Complex to assure services are readily available to the Domestic Violence Court and for victims needing assistance in filing some form of protection order.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: The Children's Program services are provided in the shelter and through referral to community agencies as needed. Recreational activities are scheduled for children with assistance from volunteer groups. Support groups are provided for shelter and outreach children. A full time child advocate provides individual support.

VICTIM SUPPORT GROUP: Meetings are held weekly. These groups are conducted for both victims in shelter and on an outreach basis. The group's purpose is to provide support as well as education about issues related to intimate partner violence and to empower the individual to make safe choices for themselves and their children. Children's support groups are also provided in coordination with victim support groups.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION: Penelope House provides workshops and speaking engagements directed toward the prevention of family violence through education. Workshops are routinely provided for other professionals such as medical, social services and law enforcement on the dynamics of intimate partner violence, the effects of violence on children and the prevention of family violence.

PREVENTION EDUCATION: The Penelope House school-based Prevention Education Program is for grades Pre-K through 12. The purpose of the program is to help children understand that abuse and violence is wrong, no one deserves to be abused, how to be safe when abuse is occurring in their home, and to never keep abuse a secret. Children are taught to recognize inappropriate adult behaviors and who they can turn to for help. The program also teaches teenagers about the warning signs and dynamics of unhealthy dating relationships and how to seek help if they are in an abusive relationship.

OUTREACH SERVICES: Services are provided to victims who do not request shelter care but are in need of assistance in dealing with intimate partner violence. These services include domestic violence education, support groups, legal referral, victim advocacy, vocational counseling, housing referral and assistance with victim compensation.

TRANSITIONAL LIVING COMMUNITY: A Transitional Living Community (TLC) provides housing and supportive services to victims of domestic violence (with or without children) who are homeless as a result of the domestic violence and who meet the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) guidelines. They must agree to develop a case plan, with the assistance of the Case Manager, which will lead to permanent housing within 24 months. Clients will receive Life Skills classes dealing with subjects such as financial literacy, homeownership, budgeting, parenting and other issues that will assist them in moving towards independence and self-sufficiency. While in the TLC program, our clients may also avail themselves to all of the services provided by Penelope House and its staff

PROJECT ID ABUSE: A domestic violence data collection and perpetrator identification program. Project ID Abuse identifies abusers in twenty south Alabama counties, tracks their criminal histories and provides partners in the project vital information to assist in the arrest and prosecution of domestic violence offenders. Project ID Abuse has been funded by the Department of Justice - The Office of Violence Against Women. Project ID Abuse was commissioned by the Mobile County Domestic Violence Task Force in July 2005 and has been administered through the Mobile County District Attorney's Office.

PENELOPE'S CLOSET: Penelope's Closet is located at 2907 Old Shell Road, Mobile, Alabama. It continues to flourish due to the combination of location, loyal volunteers, donors, and the public. It is absolutely an essential component to our mission. Penelope's Closet provides our clients with clothing and other necessities at no cost. All proceeds from the Closet return to the shelter to further assist victims and their children.



Impact 100 Mobile



Clarke County Sheriff's Office
DV Awareness Month



Azalea Trail Maids delivering dinner
from the Mobile Jaycees

Service Statistics

| | | | |
|--|--------|---|-----------|
| In Shelter | | Court Advocacy | |
| Adults Sheltered (unduplicated) | 203 | Adult Clients (unduplicated) | 1,718 |
| Children Sheltered (unduplicated) | 182 | Children (unduplicated) | 695 |
| Total Nights (Units) of Shelter Provided | 8,992 | Court Appointments with Clients | 5,260 |
| Crisis Calls | 1,583 | Clients Assisted to obtain protection from abuse or no contact orders | 1,206 |
| Meals Served | 26,976 | | |
| Victim Support Group Participants | | Prevention Education | |
| Adult Support Groups | 32 | School Based Program (PreK-12) Total Reached | 15,095 |
| Adult Attendees | 124 | | |
| Child Support Groups | 33 | | |
| Child Attendees | 50 | | |
| | | Volunteers | |
| | | Volunteer Hours | 7,234 |
| | | Value of Volunteer Hours | \$122,978 |

ADMINISTRATION

Kathryn Coumanis *Ambassador*
 Ellen Platis *Human Resources Coordinator*
 Ingrid Ramdeen *Grant Manager*

Caryn Scott *CFO*
 Angela Sledge *Administrative Assistant*
 Tonie Ann Torrans *Executive Director*
 Deirdre Williams *Grant Writer*

PROGRAMS

JoAnn Baluyut *Cook*
 Eris Blankenhorn *Court/Victim Advocate*
 Jessica Brown *Shelter Advocate*
 Shelia Brown *DV Case Manager*
 Maria Brutkiewicz *Shelter Advocate*
 Pamela Bryant *Shelter Advocate*
 Stacy Burroughs *Shelter/ Facilities Manager*
 India Campbell *Shelter Advocate*
 Tiffinie Chase *Shelter Advocate*
 Kristen Klikas-Murphree *Court/Victim Advocate Supervisor*
 Laura Curtis *Shelter Advocate*
 Joan Duncan *Community Education Coordinator*
 Gina Fleming-Shinn *Community Education Assistant*
 Kirstie Gates *Community/Prevention Ed.*
 April Gatson *Shelter Advocate*
 Hilary Granger *Court/Victim Advocate*
 Kori Grindle *Court/Victim Advocate*
 Brooke Herren *Shelter Advocate*
 Heather Howard *Thrift Store Assist. Manager*
 Betty Jacobs *Shelter Advocate*
 Miya Johnson *Shelter Advocate*
 Sharon Jones *SAIL Specialist*
 Shirley Laduna *Thrift Store Associate*
 Karen Lambert *Child Advocate*
 Kathryn Lawerence *Court/Victim Advocate*
 MaKayla Lolley-Brewer *Shelter Advocate*
 Cheryl McCarroll *Shelter Advocate*
 Bethany McClurg *Court/Victim Advocate*
 Jennifer Pappas *Transitional Living Coordinator*
 Deborah Parker *Cook*
 Fulinda Phillips *Crisis Counselor*
 Jillian Pope *Rural Counties Adv./Sail Specialist*

Breley Rhodes *Shelter Advocate*
 Toni Richard *Shelter Advocate*
 Karen Robinson *Thrift Store Manager*
 Allison Scott *Outreach Counselor*
 Amanda Shirah *DV Case Manager*
 Douglas Soutullo *Maintenance*
 Sabrina Turner *Court/Victim Advocate*
 Mary Vanderlinde *Children's Program Coordinator*
 Heather Wainwright *Night/Weekend Supervisor*
 Autumn Walker *Court/Victim Advocate*
 Sybrena Williams *Shelter Advocate*



Denim Day



Mobile Chocolate Festival



Halloween- Court Advocates



Santa in Shelter

2025 Foundation/Trust Contributions

AHEPA 29 Charitable Foundation
 AHEPA 310 Senior Housing
 AHEPA Senior Housing
 AHEPA One Charities, Inc.
 Alabama Power Foundation
 C.D., Helen and Jeff Glaze Foundation
 Dog Hill Foundation
 DuValle Charitable Foundation Trust
 Eichold Family Foundation Fund
 Helen M. Nelson Charitable Trust
 Julien E. Marx Foundation
 Malbis Foundation
 Mayer & Arlene Mitchell
 Charitable Foundation

Megan Montgomery Foundation
 Mitchell Charitable Foundation
 Nan H. Altmayer Charitable Trust
 Nick M. Stratas Chapter 310 - AHEPA
 Nick's Kids Foundation
 Penelope 54 Charitable Foundation
 Shawn Esfahani Foundation
 Skyros Benevolent Society
 The Boutzale Family Fund
 The Daniel Foundation
 The Moses Foundation
 Your Barefoot Neighbor/
 Gulf Coast Community Foundation



Chocolate Challenge Judges



Boxes of chocolate from PNC Bank

2025 Mobile Chocolate Festival Sponsors

Moonpie Sponsors

Carlisle Medical
 Advanced Plumbing Company
 AHEPA 310 Senior Housing

Truffle Sponsors

New Horizons Credit Union
 The Hargrove Foundation
 Tyndall Federal Credit Union
 PNC Bank
 AHEPA 310 Nick M. Stratas Chapter
 Xfinity

Bonbon Sponsors

Advantage IT Management
 Peak Pilates On The Hill
 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama
 Mobile County Sheriff's Office
 Order of AHEPA-District 1
 GMC
 Hedge Copeland, P.C.
 Tara & Shawn Kleinpeter
 Gardberg & Kemmerly



Mobile County Commissioner
 Randall Dueitt

Chocolate Covered Cherry Sponsors

Alta Pointe Health
 RTJ Golf Trail-Magnolia Grove
 Zoghby's Uniforms
 AARP - Alabama
 Community Insurance Partners
 TCC Aviation Solutions
 Pilot Adjusters Give Back
 Wilkins Miller
 American Foods, Inc.
 Wilcox Chevron & Outpost Food Store
 Gulf Coast Federal Credit Union
 State Farm-Agent Tim White
 Smartbank
 The Link Companies
 Florence and Mike Stratas
 Estes Heating and Air
 Abdallah Chocolates
 Rich's Carwash

Silver Bells Sponsors

Blake, White and Farnell
 Daughters of Penelope Thais #344
 Ellen & Paul Platis
 Duthu Consulting
 Thirty and Cadell, LLP
 Bryant Bank
 Coumanis & York
 Ladot Bespoke Brands
 Earl's Pawn & Jewelry
 Hillcrest Dental Care
 Dr. Bobbie Holt Ragler
 Titsa Stratas
 Willing Workers Home Healthcare
 Coca-Cola Bottling Co. United
 Home Depot
 Greene & Phillips Injury Lawyers
 Fastsigns

Other Donations

Mobile Co. Commissioner Randall Dueitt, District 3
Pipe & Drape
 Mobile Co. Commissioner Connie Hudson, District 2
Magic Memories Photo Booth
 Joe Bullard
Kid's Area
 Target
Fishing Booth
 City Councilwoman Gina Gregory, District 7
Princesses
 Tyndall Federal Credit Union
Sunshine the Clown
 Mobile Co. Commissioner Merceria Ludgood, District 1
Cupcake Booth
 Mobile Fixture
Apron Decorating Booth
 Aaron's Rent to Own
Willy Wonka Space

2025 Memorials

Ashley Anderson
 Carol Burland
 Mary D. Bouklas
 Ethel Catranis
 Christy Catranis Sperantsas
 Nick C. Coumanis
 Gordon Everette
 Brenda Fraim

Vicky Lynn Fram
 Paul Freeman, Jr.
 Casey Fulford
 Laura Garri
 Caroline Gentry
 Byron Hinton
 Jean Archibald Hopson
 Gwen Johnson

Reed Mattingly
 Maria Pappas
 Barbara Powell
 Jamie Praytor
 Mary Delchamps Reyner
 Mary Pearson Sullivan
 Dorothy White
 Rebecca Jobs Wise

Penelope House is thankful for many community partners



Daughters of Penelope, Thais Chapter, Mobile



Choctaw County Proclamation- October DV Awareness Month



Subaru Cares



Mobile Police Department- DV Unit



Alabama Service Organization- Mobile Chapter



Continued Education



The Lighthouse



Post Office Box 9127
Mobile, Alabama 36691

(251) 342-2809 Administrative Office
(251) 342-3144 Shelter
(251) 342-8994 24-Hours Crisis Line
www.penelopehouse.org



Daughters of Penelope Sock Drive



AHEPA PENELOPE
DISTRICT 1
Senior Housing, Hoover



United Way of Southwest Alabama



Kappa Delta
University of South Alabama

*Penelope House thanks
the entire community
for their support!*



Lemonade fundraiser



Home Depot- Mobile Chocolate Festival



Shimmy Mob at Penelope's Closet



Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Lutheran Women In Mission



Carlisle Medical



Walmart event

Safety • Protection • Support