

*Safety • Protection • Support*



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Strike Out Domestic Violence- Mobile BayBears

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



Daughters of Penelope



United Way  
of Southwest Alabama



## Director's Message

Persistence is the word that comes to mind when thinking of 2018. The Kid's Dictionary defines persistence as "the act or fact of stubbornly continuing to do something". I really like this definition as Penelope House stubbornly proclaims the message that abuse is not acceptable and should not be tolerated. Each year we hope to decrease the numbers of those hurt and/or killed by the hands of someone they thought was going to love and protect them. Each year we realize that in its own stubborn way, Domestic Violence continues and the types of abuse are horrific! We also realize that our Board, Staff, Donors, and volunteers are just as stubborn, persistent, in making a difference and making sure that our safe haven is open 24/7 for those in need. Benjamin Franklin said "Energy and persistence conquers all things"- whether it is funding issues or frustrations of not getting accomplished all the things we want accomplished, we know that persistence will help us get to a community with no Domestic Violence if we all work together!

Tonie Ann Coumanis Torrans, MSW  
Executive Director



Tonie Ann with Jill Chenoweth,  
United Way of Southwest  
Alabama CEO/President

## President's Message

One of the goals during my tenure as Board President was to see Penelope's Closet moved to a new location. Penelope's Closet was first opened at a location at the Loop (donated by Greg Saad), then moved to a building space on Government Street (donated by Alfred Delchamps). Later, the estate from a member of The Daughters of Penelope in San Francisco provided the funds to purchase our Florida Street location. Since then, Penelope's Closet has served important roles in supporting Penelope House clients and the community. All clients, whether in shelter, Transitional Living or OutReach can obtain clothes and home goods from the Closet free of charge. Donating to Penelope's Closet affords a tangible way for members of our community to support victims of domestic violence.

Through the dedicated efforts of Karen Robinson who has managed Penelope's Closet since 2010, the Closet has thrived and become the popular midtown thrift store. So popular, in fact, that donations overtook the interior of the building and there was never enough parking. The recent years of road work on Florida Street made it difficult for patrons and donors to get to the Closet. In looking for a new location, it was important to us that the building would be larger and that it should still be in Midtown Mobile. We wanted a building that had plenty of parking and allowed donations to be dropped off easily. The building we purchased on December 2017 completely fit the bill but required significant renovations.

The renovations for the new location were made possible through the cooperative volunteer efforts of engineers and architects at Hargrove Engineering, Thompson Engineering and Watermark. Ideas for store layout, customer flow and inventory management were provided by the Airbus Experienced Manager Program. A host of friends and family have aided with painting, repairing flooring, and moving the contents of Penelope's Closet to the new location. We are so grateful for all their assistance.

After a series of delays, I am happy to announce that Penelope's Closet will complete the relocation in the coming days and our Grand Opening is being planned. We look forward to being able to expand the services that we offer to Penelope House clients and the community. As Penelope House enters its 40<sup>th</sup> year of service, we continue to be appreciative of the efforts of all those who help make our mission possible.

Dr. Sharon Young Rhodes



Sharon at Mobile Bay Harley-  
Davidson Christmas Donation

## Ambassador's Message

The year 2018 was another busy and exciting year. I am so pleased that the Penelope House Past Presidents continue to meet quarterly and are participating in events and activities to promote our agency. They have been assisting and volunteering with all fundraisers including the Mobile Chocolate Festival. This is a group that has so much history and a wealth of knowledge to share regarding Penelope House.

In January of 2018, Tonie Ann and I were invited to Dallas, Texas where we received humanitarian awards from the Daughters of Penelope and AHEPA at a Grand Banquet attended by over 300 people. We also were honored to tour the Mary Kay Headquarters in Dallas. Penelope House has received several grants from the Mary Kay Foundation and it was exciting to take that tour and learn about the history of the founder and legacy of Mary Kay, a pioneer entrepreneur.

As liaison between PH and the Daughters of Penelope both locally and nationally, I was busy coordinating our Martini Booth for the Mobile Chocolate Festival which once again collected over \$1,000 in donations for Penelope House. Thanks to the hard work of our local DOP and AHEPA members. We were fortunate to have a member of the DOP Grand Lodge, Stella Serk, visit us during the Mobile Chocolate Festival. She had a grand time and worked side by side with us in the Martini Booth and served as a Chocolate Challenge Judge.

We attended the Daughters of Penelope/AHEPA National Convention in Atlantic City in July. Once again, for the 37<sup>th</sup> year we were able to convince the Assembly to keep Penelope House on as a mandatory National Project. The importance of this is that every chapter, nationally and internationally, must make a contribution to Penelope House during the year in order to maintain good standing within the Organization.

It is such an honor to be able to represent Penelope House in so many ways for over 39 years. Thank you for your trust and support.

Dr. Kathryn Coumanis



Kathryn (seated) with Daughters of  
Penelope at the Mary Kay Museum

# Officers and Board of Directors

Sharon Young Rhodes	President	Tina Lackeos	At Large Member
Bobbie Holt Ragler	President-Elect	Darby Luxenberg	At Large Member
Serena Chen Low	Secretary/Treasurer	Leanna MacRae	At Large Member
John Pierce	Vice President Legal Council	Dana Moore	At Large Member
Jessica Welch	Vice President Governance	Ashley Rich	At Large Member
Bobby Foropoulos	Past President	Marion Stille	At Large Member
Sheriff Sam Cochran	At Large Member	Stephanie Streeter	At Large Member
Rep. Victor Gaston	At Large Member	Leah Williams	At Large Member
Stacey Killingsworth	At Large Member	Marilyn Wood	At Large Member

# Advisory Board

Angelique Agee	Virginia Edington	J. Jeffrey Lawrence	Beverly Kennedy Reed
Allison Tanner Allen	Mitchell Edwards	Cindy Leonard	Carol Robbins
Ernie Bankhead	Andrew Erdmann	Irene Lignos	Belinda Shoub
Lisa Barnhill	Sheryl Falkos	Rhonda Lucas	Debbie Simpson
Laura Haas Becker	Melanie Fraim	Fran Lyons	Kymberly Soule'
Shelly Beech	Douglas Frazier	Sally Massey	Fr. Elias Stevens
Joseph Blaise	Sam Gadd	Karen McGill	Dr. Judy Stout
Carroll Blow	Marie Gilbert	Ashley McKeithan	Titsa Stratas
Panay Lignos Burland	Misty Gray	Pamela Millsaps	Kathryn Stringfellow
Mallory Brooke Carey	Jacquitta Powell Green	Kalishia Mitchell	John Teal
Dr. Ted Catranis	Maria Greenwald	Vicki Mitchelmore	Tonie Ann Torrans
Davey Chastang	Sharon Hindman	Frances Moore	Jo Vaughn
Rebecca Classic	Gwyn Howard	Alec Naman	Robert Vrocher
Maria Coleman	Angel Howell	Judge Edmond Naman	Cecilia Wallace
Kathryn Coumanis	Sheri James	Gina Nolf	Cheryl Ward
Peggy Cronin	Kerrianna Johnson	Trey Oliver	Tonyea Weber
Jennifer Curry	Dr. Quinn Kennedy	Tabitha Olzinski	Ray Weinsenker
Gayle Davidson-Shivers	Tara Kleinpeter	Janis Pearman	Andy Wynne
Rena Davis	Lisa Kolb	Amber Pierce	Melva Zinaich
Kathleen Duthu	Michelle Krulewicz-Dees	Paul Platis	
Pat Edington	Cheryl Lawrence	Mary Powell	

# Emeritus Board

Wiley Butler	Dr. Bill Higgs	Susan Morrison	Father Warren Wall
Vivian DuValle	Leannah Holland	Marie McConnell Perkins	Mary Zoghby
Sue Hanlein	Millie Long	Davis Pilot	

# Posthumous/Founding Members

Ethel Catranis	Jack Grove	Alice Meadows	Freda Roberts
Sophia Clikas	Janie Ladas	Emily Panayiotou	Joe Wilson



Annual Meeting



Mobile Chocolate Festival



Past Presidents Meeting

# Services

**CRISIS HOTLINE** -A crisis hotline is answered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide counseling, information and referral service 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 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 victims both 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 professions 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 the intimate partner violence. These services include domestic violence education, support groups, legal referral, victim advocacy, vocational counseling, housing referral and assistance with victim compensation.

**ON-SITE MEDICAL CLINIC**-Medical care is provided to shelter residents who have no other means of obtaining medical care through a collaborative effort between the University of South Alabama and Penelope House.

**THE ALMA TAYLOR PROJECT**- 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 VOCA guidelines. They must also agree to develop a case plan, with the assistance of the Case Manager, which will lead to permanent housing within 24 months. Clients receive Life Skills classes dealing with subjects such as financial literacy, home ownership, 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 of all 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 63 North Florida Street, Mobile, AL. 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.



Domestic Violence Awareness



Woofstock



Kiss A Cop- Mobile Police Department



Kiss A Cop- Mobile County Sheriff's Office

# Service Statistics

## In Shelter

Adults sheltered	302
Children Sheltered	326
Total Client Service Hours	10,073.25
Total Nights (Units) of Shelter Provided	5,753
Crisis Calls	1,416
Meals Served	17,259

## Victim Support Group Participants

Adult Support Groups	93
Adult Attendees	304
Child Support Groups	28
Child Attendees	56

## Court Advocacy

Adult Clients	5,700
Children	5,028
Court Appointments with Clients	4,632
Clients Assisted to obtain protection from abuse or no contact orders	987

## Prevention Education

School Based Program (K-12)	
Total Reached	25,555

## Volunteers

Volunteer Hours	4,056.00
Value of Volunteers Hours	\$40,560.00

## ADMINISTRATION

Tonie Ann Coumanis Torrans	Executive Director	Mary Hickman	Chief Finance Officer
Motricia Burks	Community Educator Assistant	Marian Ponder	Personnel Manager/CFO Assistant
Natalie Cartledge	Grant Coordinator	Angela Sledge	Administrative Assistant
Kathryn Coumanis	Ambassador	Deirdre Williams	Grant Writer
Joan Duncan	Community Educator/Volunteer Coordinator		

## PROGRAMS

Melanie Bankhead	Shelter Supervisor	Julie Ledkins	TL Transportation Aide
Shonda Bradley	Night/Weekend Staff	Amanda Merriweather	Cook
Steffany Brown	Court/Victim Advocate	Ashley Palmer	Night/Weekend Staff
Kendall Buchanan	Night/Weekend Staff	Jennifer Pappas	Transitional Living Coordinator
Stacy Burroughs	Shelter/Facilities Manager	Deborah Parker	Cook
Whitney Cannedy	Night/Weekend Staff	Cheryl Paul	SAIL Specialist/Ct-Victim Advocate
Alana Carter	DV Case Manager	Fulinda Phillips	Crisis Counselor
Elaine Clikas	Receptionist	Lauren Poiroux	Court/Victim Advocate
Kristen Clikas-Murphree	Court Advocate Supervisor	Rachele Reis	Night/Weekend Staff
Shannan Cutler	Court Advocate Admin Assistant	Karen Robinson	Thrift Store Manager
Sharina Duncan	Court/Victim Advocate	Allison Ross Scott	Outreach Coordinator
Reagan Frost	Night/Weekend Staff	Demanda Smith	Court/Victim Advocate
Autumn Green	Court/Victim Advocate	Randy Soutullo	Maintenance
Chrystal Harris	Cook	Regina Thomas	Transportation Aide
Brooke Herren	Night/Weekend Staff	Amanda Thompson	Children's Program Coordinator
Heather Howard	Thrift Store Manager Assistant	Heather Wainwright	Weekend Supervisor
Sharon Jones	SAIL Specialist	Waconda Williams	Court/Victim Advocate
Karen Lambert	Child Advocate/Counselor		



Staff - Halloween



Staff at Theodore High School



Staff- Christmas



Staff

# Thank You 2018 Event Sponsors

## Strike Out Domestic Violence

Domke Market  
 Providence Hospital  
 Spine and Rehab Solutions  
 Rena Davis  
 Leannah Holland  
 Bobbie Holt-Ragler  
 Stacey Killingsworth  
 Nicole Wu

## 10th Mobile Chocolate Festival

Pilot Flying J  
 Saad Healthcare  
 Saad Development Corporation  
 Tyndall Federal Credit Union  
 Hargrove Foundation  
 Wind Creek Casino & Hotel - Atmore  
 Wilcox Chevron & Outpost  
 The Caring Foundation of Blue Cross Blue  
 Shield of Alabama  
 Estes Heating & Air  
 Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union  
 Mobile County District Attorney's Office  
 Goldstein's Jewelers  
 Wells Fargo Bank  
 Regions Bank  
 New Horizons Credit Union  
 Angelique Agee - Avon  
 AltaPointe Health Systems

Carlisle Medical  
 Dex Imaging of Alabama  
 Zoghby's Uniforms  
 Gulf Coast Federal Credit Union  
 Dr. Felicia Stella  
 Airbus DS Military Aircraft  
 The Hernandez Firm  
 Airbus Americas  
 Roberts Brothers  
 Coastal Bank and Trust  
 Bobbie Holt-Ragler  
 Stacey Killingsworth  
 Spine and Rehab Solutions  
 The Man about Town - Ray Weinshenker  
 Warren Averett  
 Dr. & Mrs. Hercules Panayiotou  
 Carol Robbins  
 Village Animal Clinic  
 Wimpee's Floor Center



Board members- Strike Out DV

# Foundations and Trusts

Ann M. Kilpatrick Rev Living Trust  
 Bolling Charitable Foundation  
 Charities Aid Foundation of America  
 Duvalle Charitable Foundation Trust  
 Eichold Family Foundation Fund  
 Fidelity Charitable  
 G.A. West & Co.  
 Helen M. Nelson Charitable Trust  
 Laura Lee Pattillo Norquist Charitable  
 Lisa Mitchell Charitable Foundation  
 Malbis Memorial Foundation  
 Mayer & Arlene Mitchell Foundation  
 Mitchell Charitable Foundation

Nan A. Altmayer Charitable Trust  
 Nick's Kids Fund  
 Penelope 54 Charitable Foundation  
 Poarch Band of Creek Indians Endowment Fund  
 The Boutzale Family Fund  
 The Alabama Romanchuck Fund at The Community Foundation of  
 South Alabama  
 The Grainger Foundation  
 The Miller Charitable Foundation  
 The Moses Foundation  
 The US Charitable Gift Trust  
 Willis Foundation



8K By the Bay/ Port  
 City Pacers



The Grainger Foundation

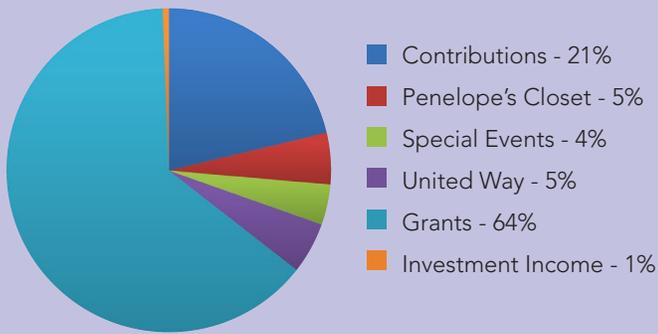


City of Mobile

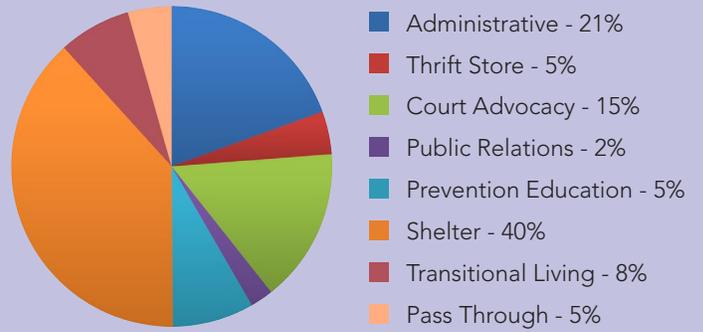


United Way Day of Caring- AM-NS Calvert

## 2018 Income



## 2018 Expenses



\* Based on 2018 Budget of \$2.3 million

## 2018 Memorials

Rose Amacker  
 Orestis Andreades  
 Maria Andreades  
 Callieroy Andreades  
 Margaret Andrianopolous  
 Stanley Bergman  
 Fr. James Bogdan  
 Dorothy H. Bonds  
 Michael Boulegeris  
 Jacquelyn Brunson  
 Joanne Calogrides  
 Jean and Jayne Capps  
 Jimmy Carter  
 Christy Catranis Sperantsas  
 Ethel Catranis  
 Sandy Davis  
 Joan Dodici  
 Richard Drew  
 Clyde Edwards

Kyra Franchetti  
 Dorothy Freeland  
 Charles Nicholas Galanos  
 Shana Glass  
 Helen Haginas  
 Cindy Hammer  
 Joanne Hoffman  
 Sue Houston  
 Leon Howell  
 Greg Kotis  
 Virginia Faye Gilbert Kramer  
 Billy Lacey  
 Louis Ladas  
 Suzanne Long  
 Yvonne Matthews  
 Jayne Meaut  
 Dolly Mirabelle  
 Clarence Packer  
 Nicholas Palles

Adam Panayiotou  
 Shannon Perryman  
 Doris Pugh  
 Freda Roberts  
 Francis Robertson  
 John and Brad Saint  
 Marion Griser Schmohl  
 Sharon Spence  
 Katherine Spyridon  
 Rose Stein  
 Nick Stratas  
 Mary Sullivan  
 Irene Theofilis  
 Suzette Trzaskowski  
 Althea Fort Vacalis  
 Barbara Joyce Walker  
 Frank Wright



Carlisle Medical- Carlisle Cares



Corsentino Chiropractic



Greek Fest Charity Gala



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](http://www.penelopehouse.org)

Like Us On Penelope House



Domestic Violence  
Awareness



Carter's



Alabama Power Service Organization

# Penelope House thanks the entire Community for their support



Mobile County Commission



Army Aviation Federal Credit Union



Domke Market



Alpha Delta Kappa



City of Prichard



Clark-Shaw Middle School



Providence SEARCH Program



Cammie's Old Dutch  
Ice Cream Shoppe



University of South Alabama  
Career Services



Making Spirits Bright- Better Homes & Garden  
Real Estate Main Street Properties



Innerspace Architectural  
Interiors



Kiss A Cop- Poarch  
Creek Indians



Mobile City Council



United Way of  
Southwest Alabama



National Night Out  
Mobile Police Department

*Safety • Protection • Support*