



Safety · Protection · Support

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

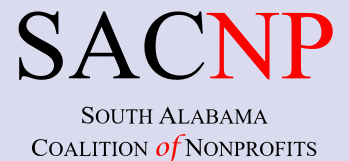


October Domestic Violence Awareness Display

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



Executive Director's Message

The year of 2020 will be remembered for eternity. While Penelope House has faced many challenges through 41+ years, COVID-19 was like no other challenge we have ever faced. But, in true Penelope House fashion, we faced it and continue to face it with compassion and professionalism for those we serve, diligence in following medical and government guidelines, and determination for obtaining funding and resources necessary to fulfill our mission. The Penelope House Board continued to meet in 2020 through in-person meetings early in the year, to conference calls and Zoom meetings, and back to in-person meetings later in the year with social distancing and masks in place. The Board's concern and support allowed the staff at Penelope House to work throughout the pandemic and two hurricanes in 2020! To say our staff is flexible and dedicated is an understatement!!! Thank you to so many - individuals, faith communities, organizations, businesses, and foundations- we all have struggled in 2020 and yet, you all found a way to continue to care for others and support victims of Domestic Violence and their children through the various Penelope House programs and services. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Tonie Ann Coumanis Torrans, LMSW
Executive Director



*Tonie Ann with Waconda Williams
DVA Month Proclamation
Mobile County Commission*

President's Message

In writing this, I am hit with the realization of the world we are living in right now. With a global health pandemic still looming, Penelope House continues to face its share of challenges but each time rising to those challenges and adapting to overcome each hurdle.

Whether you are a volunteer, donor, community partner or supporter, you have played an important role in allowing Penelope House to successfully carry out its mission. Since 1979, that mission has been to provide safety, protection, and support to the victims of Domestic Violence and their children through the provision of shelter, advocacy and individual & community education.

Throughout a challenging 2020, it has been an honor to serve as President. I would like to express my appreciation to the Administrative and Advisory board members for their diligent leadership. I would also like to thank the entire Penelope House staff for their hard work and unwavering dedication throughout this unprecedented year; they serve as an inspiration to us all.

When I reflect upon 2020, like many of you, I never imagined we would be living under such trying circumstances. In the midst of such upheaval and uncertainty, I am so proud of our community for coming together to support Penelope House during these difficult times.

Stacey L. Killingsworth



*Stacey masking up & wearing purple
in support of DV awareness*

Ambassador's Message

What a year 2020 has been! One that most would like to forget for obvious reasons. It seems the world stopped spinning and everything came to a screeching halt. Everything except Penelope House! I am so proud of Tonie Ann and our wonderful staff, all essential workers by any definition of the word who stayed the course, pandemic or not and continued to provide uninterrupted and quality services to all victims of domestic violence in our service area. While some of us were initially able to work from home, that was not the case for all, especially the shelter staff. They all showed up ready to do their job meet the endless challenges without complaint.

I have to say that there was sadness when yet another past Board President Millie Long (President 1996) passed away on February 29th 2020 at the age of 92. May her memory be eternal! Millie was involved with Penelope House from our very beginning. As fashion coordinator at Gayfer's Department Store she sponsored Fashion Shows and fundraisers on our behalf for many years. She was a very active and devoted Board member. We also lost another very active and long serving Board Member Penny Adamo in January of 2020. Penny was very devoted to Penelope House having lost her daughter to Domestic Violence.

Our Past President's Board held its last meeting on January 15, 2020. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic all scheduled quarterly meetings were cancelled in 2020. We did try to keep in touch with our past presidents and keep them up to date with email communication. In-person meetings with our Past Presidents remain on hold until we can meet safely hopefully in early 2021.

The Daughters of Penelope locally, nationally and internationally continue to be committed to Penelope House as a National Project. We keep them informed through regular emails, telephone calls and Zoom meetings. Their dedication and support of Penelope House remains strong even though Conventions were suspended for the entire year of 2020.

We appreciate all the love and support we have received from our Board, friends, local, State and Federal governments during this most difficult and challenging year. Praying for a return to normalcy in 2021.

Kathryn Coumanis, MSW, Ed.D, LCSW



*Kathryn pictured with Clay Foundation
President Mary Powell*

Officers and Board of Directors

Stacey Killingsworth	President	Gwyn Howard	At Large Member
Dana Polk	President-Elect	Tina Lackeos	At Large Member
Mitchell Edwards	Secretary/Treasurer	Serena Chen Low	At Large Member
John Pierce	Vice President Legal Council	Leanna MacRae	At Large Member
Jessica Welch	Vice President Governance	Ashley Rich	At Large Member
Dr. Bobbie Holt Ragler	Past President	Marion Stille	At Large Member
Sheri Bosarge	At Large member	Stephanie Streeter	At Large Member
Sheriff Sam Cochran	At Large Member	Leah Williams	At Large Member
Rep. Victor Gaston	At Large Member	Marilyn Wood	At Large Member

Advisory Board

Angelique Agee	Sheryl Falkos	Rhonda Lucas	Carol Robbins
Allison Tanner Allen	Bobby Foropoulos	Darby Luxenberg	Belinda Shoub
Ernie Bankhead	Melanie Frain	Fran Lyons	Debbie Simpson
Lisa Barnhill	Douglas Frazier	Paula Marshall	Mary B. Smith
Laura Haas Becker	Sam Gadd	Karen McGill	Kymberly Soulé
Shelly Beech	Tracey Gann	Ashley McKeithan	Dr. Judy Stout
Joseph Blaise	Jacquitta Powell Green	Pamela Millsaps	Titsa Stratas
Panay Lignos Burland	Maria Greenwald	Kalishia Mitchell	Chris Stratas
Mallory Brooke Carey	Nina Hayes	Vicki Mitchelmore	John Teal
Dr. Ted Catranis	Sharon Hindman	Alec Naman	Tonie Ann Torrans
Davey Chastang	Angel Howell	Judge Edmond Naman	Jo Vaughn
Rebecca Classic	Kanecka James	Gina Nolfé	Cecilia Wallace
Kathryn Coumanis	Matthew M. James	Trey Oliver	Cheryl Ward
Peggy Cronin	Kerrianna Johnson	Tabitha Olzinski	Angela Weaver
Jennifer Curry	Dr. Quinn Kennedy	Janis Pearman	Tonyea Weber
Gayle Davidson-Shivers	Tara Kleinpeter	Amber Pierce	Raymond Weinschenker
Rena Davis	Michelle Krulewicz-Dees	Paul Platis	Andy Wynne
Kathleen Duthu	Cheryl Lawrence	Mary Powell	Sandi Zoghby
Pat Edington	Cindy Leonard	Beverly Kennedy Reed	
Virginia Edington	Irene Lignos	Sharon Young Rhodes	

Emeritus Board

Vivian Du Valle	Leannah Holland	Marie McConnell Perkins	Father Warren Wall
Dr. Bill Higgs	Susan Morrison	Davis Pilot	Mary Zoghby

Posthumous / Founding Members

Wiley Butler	Jack Grove	Millie Long	Freda Roberts
Ethel Catranis	Sue Hanlein	Alice Meadows	Joe Wilson
Sophia Clikas	Janie Ladas	Emily Panayiotou	



Orange for Teen Dating Violence Awareness



Tyndall Federal Credit Union



Bon Voyage to DV

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 in 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 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.

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 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.



Regional Child Advocacy Center
Clarke County



Washington County
DV Task Force



National Purple Day

Service Statistics

In Shelter		Court Advocacy	
Adults Sheltered	252	Adult Clients	5,997
Children Sheltered	273	Children	5,344
Total Client Service Hours	10,536.50	Court Appointments with Clients	4,078
Total Nights (Units) of Shelter Provided	4,881	Clients Assisted to obtain protection from abuse or no contact orders	1,000
Crisis Calls	1,419	Prevention Education	
Meals Served	14,573	School Based Program (PreK-12)	
Victim Support Group Participants		Total Reached	14,904
Adult Support Groups	65	Volunteers	
Adult Attendees	161	Volunteer Hours	3,574
Child Support Groups	27	Value of Volunteer Hours	\$35,740
Child Attendees	47		

Administration

Natalie Cartledge	<i>Personnel Manager</i>	Angela Sledge	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Kathryn Coumanis	<i>Ambassador</i>	Tonie Ann Torrans	<i>Executive Director</i>
Mary Hickman	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	Deirdre Williams	<i>Grant Writer</i>
Marian Ponder	<i>Grant Manager/CFO Assistant</i>		

Programs

Jasmine Agee	<i>Night/Weekend Staff</i>	Allison Ross Scott	<i>Outreach Coordinator</i>
Melanie Bankhead	<i>Shelter Supervisor</i>	Douglas R. Soutullo	<i>Maintenance</i>
MacKenzie Barron	<i>Court/Victim Advocate</i>	Regina Thomas	<i>Transportation Aide</i>
Brittany Bergren	<i>DV Case Manager</i>	Amanda Thompson	<i>Children's Program Coordinator</i>
Gaberial Brasher	<i>Night/Weekend Staff</i>	Heather Wainwright	<i>Weekend Supervisor</i>
Sharina Brown	<i>Court Advocate</i>	Waconda Williams	<i>Court/Victim Advocate</i>
Maria Brutkiewicz	<i>Shelter Advocate</i>		
Stacy Burroughs	<i>Shelter/Facilities Manager</i>		
Whitney Cannedy	<i>Shelter Advocate</i>		
Elaine Clikas	<i>Receptionist</i>		
Kristen Clikas-Murphree	<i>Court Advocate Supervisor</i>		
Shannon Cutler	<i>Court Advocate Admin Assistant</i>		
Joan Duncan	<i>Community Education Coordinator</i>		
Gina Fleming-Shinn	<i>Community Educator Assistant</i>		
Reagan Frost	<i>Court/Victim Advocate</i>		
Aubrey Glenn	<i>Cook</i>		
Autumn Green	<i>Court/Victim Advocate</i>		
Brooke Herren	<i>Shelter Advocate</i>		
Kelsey Horton	<i>Shelter Advocate</i>		
Heather Howard	<i>Thrift Store Manager Assistant</i>		
Alanna Johnson	<i>Court/Victim Advocate</i>		
Sharon Jones	<i>SAIL Specialist</i>		
Shirley LaDuna	<i>Thrift Store Associate</i>		
Karen Lambert	<i>Child Advocate/Counselor</i>		
Julie Ledkins	<i>TLC Transportation Aide</i>		
Jennifer Pappas	<i>Transitional Housing</i>		
Deborah Parker	<i>Cook</i>		
Mercedes Pearson	<i>Community Educator Assistant</i>		
Fulinda Phillips	<i>Crisis Counselor</i>		
Lauren Poiroux	<i>Court/Victim Advocate</i>		
Jillian Pope	<i>Rural Counties Advocate/SAIL Specialist</i>		
Kirstie Pugh	<i>DV Case Manager</i>		
Rachele Reis	<i>Shelter Advocate</i>		
Karen Robinson	<i>Thrift Store Manager</i>		



Penelope's Closet

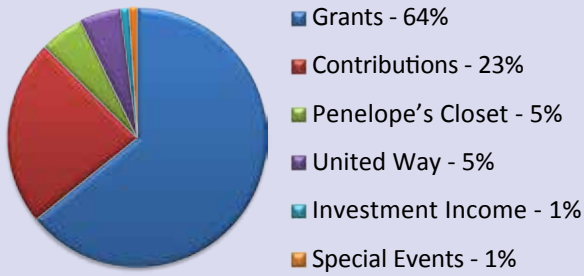


Staff in PPE

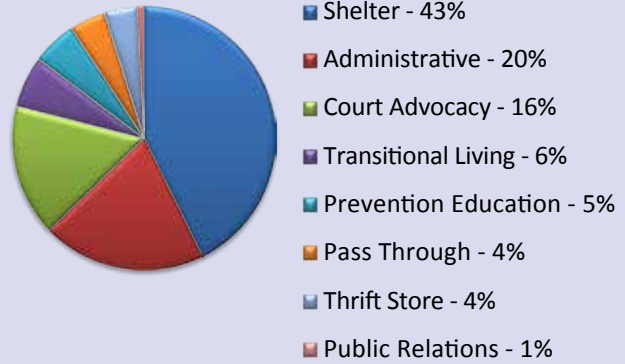


Staff with Mardi Gras spirit

2020 Income



2020 Expenses



*Based on 2020 Budget of \$2.6 million.

These Mobile Chocolate Festival Sponsors became DONORS as they all agreed to donate their sponsorship to Penelope House when the MCF was canceled due to COVID-19!

A-Cool Self Storage

AHEPA District 1

Alta Pointe

American Foods

Ascension Health

B&J Janitorial and Maintenance

Dr. Maureen Baldy

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama

Carzinement

The Center for Reproductive Medicine

Craig & Co Apparel

Daughters of Penelope-Thais Chapter

Donna Gatlin- State Farm

Goldstein's Jewelers

Harcros Chemicals

Harper Technology

The Hargrove Foundation

Hunter Security

Iberiabank

Joe Bullard

Tara and Shawn Kleinpeter

Maloney-Lyons

Medical Center Podiatry

Mobile County District Attorney's Office

Mobile Fixture

Zach Moore

New Horizons Credit Union

Newman's Ambulance

Pilot- Adjusters Give Back

Franklin Pratt- "Sloth"

Rich's Car Wash

Sheriff Sam Cochran

Spine and Rehab Solutions

Synovus

Tyndall Federal Credit Union

Village Antiques- Auburn

Wilcox Chevron and Outpost Food Store

Wilderness R.V. Park

Zoghby's Uniforms

2020 Foundations and Trusts

AHEPA William G. Hellis Charitable Foundation

AHEPA 29 Charitable Foundation

AHEPA District One Charitable Foundation

Alabama Power Foundation, Inc

Barbara Kazazes

Bonney Harrison Irwin Charitable Fund

Drs. Philip and Roberta Butera

Crampton Trust

DuValle Charitable Foundation Trust

Eichold Family Foundation Fund

Estate of Mabel S. Forsman

Ethel Burgess Maschmeyer Trust (DVA & CP)

Glaze Foundation

Helen M. Nelson Charitable Trust

INEOS Community Fund

Laura Lee Pattillo Norquist Charitable

Lisa Mitchell Charitable Foundation

Malbis Memorial Foundation

Mitchell Charitable Foundation

Nan H. Altmayer Charitable Trust

Nick's Kids Fund

P&R Charitable

Penelope 54 Charitable Foundation

Pledgeling Foundation

Sarah Rutherford Hall Revocable Trust

The Boutzale Family Foundation

The Daniel Foundation of Alabama

The Miller Charitable Foundation

The Moses Foundation

The TJX Foundation, Inc

Threaded Fasteners Charitable Foundation

Willis Foundation



New Horizons Credit Union



United Way of Southwest Alabama



Bryant Bank

In Memoriam - Nickolas M. Stratas

The AHEPA 310 Housing Corporations approved a request for funding to Penelope House in June 2020. The very generous donation of \$150,000.00 allowed for the Shelter Dining Room, Kitchen, and an area of the client hallway to be beautifully renovated. AHEPA 310 Housing Corporations are not-for-profit corporations that operate 653 independent apartment-style housing units for Seniors in twelve different apartment sites throughout Mobile and Baldwin Counties. This donation was made in honor and memory of the founder, incorporator, and founding President, Nickolas M. Stratas who died in March 2018. Mr. Stratas and his wife, Titsa Stratas, have been long-time supporters of Penelope House.



In Memoriam - Barbara A. Kazazes

Penelope House recognizes an outstanding benefactor, Barbara A. Kazazes who passed away on May 23, 2020. Ms. Kazazes was a member of the Daughters of Penelope, Ktimene Chapter 70 in Greensboro, North Carolina. She was an avid supporter of Penelope House and upon her death bequeathed a substantial monetary gift to Penelope House. We are most grateful for her love and generosity and pray that her memory will forever be eternal.



2020 Memorials

Penny Adamo
Ricky Adams
Callieroy Andreades
Maria Andreades
Orestos Andreades
Joe Andress
Maria Athanasios
Chris Bithos
Michael Chad Bowman, Sr.
Tina Buckley
Christy Catranis Sperantsas
Ethel Catranis
George Chiagouris
Fr. Jimmy Cleondis
James Theodore Clifton
Marion Griser Schmohl Cooper
Laverne Dalaune
Marie Daniel
Elizabeth Ann "Meco" Day

Richard Drew
Robert Edington
Hopper Flemming
Doug Frazier
Father William Gaines
Martha Kay Gingles
Vera Grosz
Robert Grush
Marlene Hart
Gwen Johnson
Charles Kamburis
Rena Karalis
Billy Keller
Bill Lacey
Cheryl Lawrence
Dr. William Lightfoot
Steve Lignos
Jean Love
Tommy Malbis

Polly Mirabella
Sally Matthews
Marie Matthews
Paul Moreno
Jackie Nassar
John Papastephan
Jimmy Patronis
Bob Perkins
Linda Pulliam
Amanda "Amy" Roberts
Jesse Laffayette Rogers
Helen Savas
Georgia Scarmoutsos
James Blake Schaffer, Jr.
Sharon Spence
Mary Sullivan
Lillie Thomas
Gris Vallas
Holly Lee Wiseman



Post Office Box 9127
Mobile, Alabama 36691

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



Penelope House



*Morningside Elementary School
Socksgiving*



Prism Systems



Big Dave



Ozanam Charitable Pharmacy



Phi Mu Sorority



Eastern Shore Toyota



*Grove Hill
Medical Center*



Mobile Bay Harley-Davidson



*UMS-Wright
Christmas PJ Donation*



*USA Department
of OBGYN*



Shoe Station



Mobile County Educational Support Professionals



*Drive Thru Trunk or Treat
Mobile Parks and Recreation*



*Volunteering with Transitional
Living Program*



Truist Bank

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



Mobile County Sheriff's Office



Youth Camp in Saraland



*Alabama Power
Service Organization*



Mobile Police Department Domestic Violence Unit



Jackson Fall Festival