



January 2017

NEWS & UPDATES

FUNDRAISING: Keeping Shelter Operations Funded

We were excited to participate for the second year in a row in the 4th annual Charity Chase 5k and Fun Run on January 28 at the University of South Alabama Intramural Fields. Almost 200 runners came out to run for their favorite charity. McKemie Place had 7 runners participate on our behalf that morning! Our Director even took part in the action, running her first Fun Run in over 18 months! Way to go for all who ran in the 4th annual Charity Chase!!

DONATIONS: Our lifeline

Please be sure to check our #WishlistWednesday that's posted each Wednesday on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/mckemieplace, Twitter account (@mckemieplace) and Instagram account (McKemie Place). This #Wishlist is for the Shelter's URGENT needs of the week. We're always in need of items such as laundry detergent, garbage bags, cleaning supplies and toilet paper.

Our Staff member, Ms. JP, held a bleach drive on her Facebook page that netted the Shelter over 150 gallons of bleach—and still counting! Her dedication to this Shelter and our Guests is insurmountable. Assisting us with donations is just that easy—from a donation drive at your Church, to Facebook posts. We appreciate all of your donations, and could not provide safe shelter for those in need without them!

SERVING THE HOMELESS: Our mission

15 Place, our area's homeless day service center, is closing its ancillary services (laundry, showers, mail and lunch) beginning February 15, 2017. Please keep us in your prayers as we work with the City and other agencies to find new ways to help our area's homeless during the day.

With 15 Place closing its lunch, laundry, mail and shower/bathroom services, we are seeking donations of individually-wrapped snacks and breakfast items for our Guests. We know that with 15 Place closing its lunch services, we'll be the only meal many of our Guests receive all day. We'd love to be able to distribute snack items in the morning, to insure that our Guests have some nutrition throughout the day.

Our Staff participated in Suicide Prevention Training with Chalissee Peltier of Lifelines Counseling Services on January 21. We never know what each of our Guests are going through when they reach our doors. It is important for us to stay up-to-date on the latest information possible when it comes to encouraging and lifting up those in need. Thanks to Chalissee for spending her Saturday afternoon with us!

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MISSION STATEMENT: *To make a difference*

The mission of McKemie Place as the only emergency overnight shelter for unaccompanied, homeless women in Mobile, Baldwin, and Washington Counties is to provide a safe haven for women in distress. Its focus is to facilitate their access to resources offering counseling, education, employment, personal care, and spiritual encouragement. As a community based non-profit entity, McKemie Place has to rely on the financial and material contributions of individuals and organizations, grants, and fundraisers.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER: *2017 To Bring Many Changes*

"From beginning the New Year with excitement for wonderful things to come, to dealing with the daily issues to insure our Guests receive the best care and are treated with utmost dignity and respect, there is never a lack of work to be done at McKemie Place. You can help us by simply thinking of us on your next shopping trip and assisting us with our weekly #WishlistWednesday items, and keeping the decision makers in your prayers as we seek new ways to productively help our Region's homeless. Change is good for growth. We must never lose sight of that fact during trying times." – Jessica James



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The Region's only emergency shelter for single women. McKemiePlace.org

