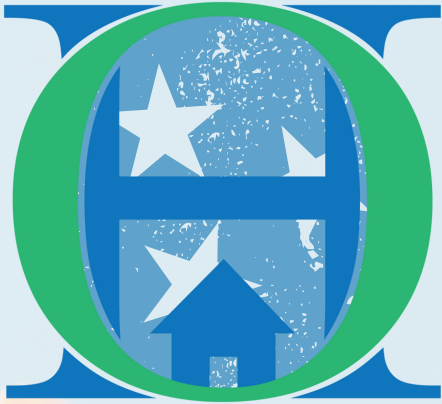


Oxford Tri-Star

Spring 2024

"Spring is far more than just a changing of seasons; it's a rebirth of the spirit."



Oxford House of Tennessee is blossoming this Spring with exciting new developments! Members, alumni and staff are embracing the changes that have evolved throughout our state. As of April 1st, there are 154 Oxford Houses in TN. The number of field staff has nearly doubled and the possibility for growth seems endless. In addition to new outreach workers, OHTN proudly has multiple Senior Outreach Coordinators, a State Resource Coordinator, as well as a State Training and Education Coordinator. We're on the right track to unstoppable growth and continuing to achieve our primary purpose.



Pictured above and below; the Oxford House of Tennessee State Association met in Murfreesboro Tennessee for the quarterly Chapter Summary Reports and to handle new State Business. With the 10th Annual State Convention rapidly approaching, members took their time to finalize some planning, and of course enjoy some food, fun and fellowship with their extended family.





Oxford Tri-Star



2024 Tennessee State Convention

Once a year, Oxford House Tennessee gathers for the State Convention. This is a wonderful and exciting opportunity for members and alumni to gather, sharing experience, strength and hope with each other. Guest speakers are flying in from across the country, and the members are met with a chance to learn something new and to find inspiration to continue along this path of recovery. And of course, have a ton of fun!

REGISTER TODAY !!

Oxford House of Tennessee

Green State Convention

For More Info
Scan the QR Code
or visit the link below:



<https://forms.gle/ChepeCbAteHkyg8H8>

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024 4PM
to
SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024 11AM



(Top left; 2022 State Convention, Sevierville, TN. Bottom left; 2023 State Convention, Gatlinburg, TN) This year, our Convention will be held at the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro, the Heart of Tennessee. Here's a sneak peak at the agenda:

- SAFETY IN OH
- GAME NIGHT
- BINGO
- SPADES TOURNAMENT
- OH AND INCLUSION
- EMPOWERMENT LUNCHES
- OXFORD IMPROV
- INTERACTIVE OFFICER TRAINING
- HAVING FUN IN OH



Oxford Tri-Star



Growth and Expansion: Meeting our Primary Purpose



(Above) Oxford House Bella Grace.

(Below) (Top) Oxford House Comet Trail. (Bottom) Oxford House Fox Trail - fully handicap accessible.



Memphis recently welcomed a new womens house into the family. Oxford House Bella Grace opened March 1st, for 8 women serious about their recovery.

The Memphis chapters are doing well and continuously improving. We are always willing to learn. We regularly do presentations and are trying to find new platforms to propagate the model. We look forward to doing more unity events in the near future and welcome any of our Oxford House family to come visit Memphis and let us show you how we do recovery! Oxford Luv!

-Jeremy Wilkerson, Outreach Worker, OHI

The Chattanooga area has opened 2 new houses in the 1st quarter of 2024. Comet Trail is a beautiful home for 8 women serious about their recovery. With a spacious backyard, quiet street, and plenty of parking, this home is sure to host many future events for the Houses in Chattanooga.

Fox Trail was named in honor of the late, great OHI legend John Fox. In the heart of Chattanooga's Chapter 8, this handicap accessible home is available to 9 men serious about their personal growth. Nestled in a charming neighborhood this home is sure to provide untold opportunities to many men throughout the coming years.

Chattanooga is dedicated to continuing the Oxford House Legacy. A legacy that has been left in our willing, capable and most assuredly thankful hands.

-Sammie Hartley, Resource Coordinator, OHI



Oxford Tri-Star



Growth and Expansion: New City, Welcome to Bristol!



Last year, Oxford House opened Houses in new cities Murfreesboro and Cookeville. Today, there are 4 Houses in Murfreesboro, and soon to be 4 Houses in Cookeville. Despite the challenges that come along with assimilating in a new community, the TN Outreach Staff is passionate about expanding the network of recovery homes to areas that don't have any.

Oxford House Commitment opened on March 15th in Bristol, TN. This massive 8 bedroom, 4 bath Victorian Giant has over 4,200 sqft of living space.

New City. New Chances.

Bristol is an amazing opportunity for those seeking a new way of life. Opening a House in a new city comes with some struggles. It's challenging to learn a new area, find available resources, and open utility accounts with new providers. But the vision I have of saving lives and bringing recovery to those that need it, makes all the struggle worth it! Multiple people I've connected with are consumed by these huge smiles, and tell me they've been waiting on us.

The community here cares deeply about its people and its history. We do too. As time goes on, I'm sure we will cultivate a wonderful relationships. It's beautiful to see the impact Oxford House Commitment has already had. The new members here have been telling me they're so excited to be on this journey and that they needed a safe, stable environment with sober friends. It really is the small things. Sitting down together and having dinner means the world to us. Doing yard work together, helping the neighbors with theirs, gives us a feeling of connectedness. We're glad to be here. -Justin Collins, Outreach Worker, OHI



Did you Know...?

"Oxford Houses in residential areas sometimes face significant opposition," (Community Mental Health Journal. 1997;33:301-309.) "with neighbors' concerns relating to property values, traffic, noise, inappropriate behavior, and safety." (Community Mental Health Journal. 1997;33:287-299.) "Local communities reported Oxford House residents blended well into the neighborhood and made good neighbors. The majority of Oxford House neighbors interviewed had either gained resources, friendships, or a greater sense of security following contact with the Oxford House residents. Furthermore, no evidence of property devaluation was found for neighborhoods containing Oxford Houses; community members who knew of the Oxford House actually saw an increase in property value over an average of 3 years." (Neighborhoods and attitudes toward recovery around self-run recovery homes. Journal of Community Psychology. 2005; 33:529-535.)



Oxford Tri-Star



Unity and Growth: Magic in Cookeville By Lakeisha Starks, OH1

To be the newest Chapter in the State, we are hanging in there, despite the struggles. We are opening up the fourth house in this area May 1st. Oxford House Solaris will be the home to 10 men in recovery. Chapter 26, also has another women's house in the works. Cookeville will have expanded from 0 to 5 Houses in just over a year! The Chapter is super excited about opening up these houses. I'm elated to be a part of it because it is the first House I've opened as an Outreach Worker!

This area is beginning to unite and come together as one and it's making my heart smile. The guys from OH Samurai have put in hours of service work to pick up donations for the new Houses. The ladies at OH Koi do regular unity events, like bowling night or going out to dinner. Last, but not least, OH Kahu has struggled recently, but is now running at full capacity as a House for women and children.

I'm very proud of this area.





Oxford Tri-Star



Outreach Workers: Working with the Members

(Top) Jeffrey Marshall from Oxford House Tennessean cooking out.



(Bottom) Jason Moore, Oxford House TN Vice Chair, from Oxford House Stone Manor, and Tayler Newbern from Oxford House Tatum taking a family photo with their baby girl.



Oxford House in Knoxville has turned a new leaf to renew unity, fellowship, and community relations. One of our own, Jeffrey Marshall, had spearheaded a seafood broil at our inter-chapter meeting! Bringing chapters 6,10,17, and 22 that much closer together. State Training and Education Coordinator Rachel Ketelle and I are building strong relationships with various treatment centers in Knox county. We're honored to introduce their clients to Oxford House and how it can benefit them. A few of our members, such as Dexter Manning and Jason Moore, have been instrumental in bringing the Oxford House message to newcomers. Even with all the wonderful things happening in our area, we aren't immune to strife. Whatever challenge we face, we always come together as a whole to find the solution and overcome the situation.

-Travis Booher, Outreach Worker, OHI

February 16th, 2024 was the start of my amazing journey as an Outreach Worker. I relocated from Knoxville to Memphis and 2 months later I still have boxes left to unpack! In this short time, I've attended staff training, met landlords, and fostered relationships with treatment providers. The highlight for me is being invited to facilities with our members, getting to see the model in action! I feel like I am being prepared to achieve great things. This Outreach life is definitely an amazing experience and opportunity for me to give back to the organization that helped me take back control of my life. *-Leah Amoraq, Outreach Worker, OHI*