

State Convention '22
Sevierville, TN

SOBRIETY IN THE SUN



Summer started early in Tennessee. The season officially kicked off with a beach-themed State Convention.

Oxford House members showed up and showed out in leis, pool floaties and sun hats.

Attendees came from every corner of the state. With representation from all 22 chapters, it was a family reunion that sailed far beyond expectations.

The Convention was held at the Stone Hill Lodge, Wilderness at the Smokies Resort. Everyone attending received all-access passes to the waterparks and were able to enjoy the amenities at the end of the educational seminars.

ALOHA, OUTREACH!

For months, Outreach Workers met regularly with The State Association to plan the perfect Oxford House get-together. By creating an event laced with fun and education, OHI staff was able to captivate the attention and participation of attendees.



MAKING WAVES

For the first time since the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic, members were able to gather, celebrate and learn what it means to be "Oxford Strong".

This was the first Oxford House Convention for most of the attendees. For years, interactions have taken place virtually. Brothers and sisters in recovery have gotten to know each other through the screen. The Convention gave everyone some much-needed family time.



WHO ARE WE? TENNESSEE!



134 HOUSES AND GROWING

From Memphis, at the edge of the Mississippi River, to Johnson City, east of the Smoky Mountains, Tennessee is Oxford Strong.

- Clarksville - 12 Houses
- Nashville - 29 Houses
- Chattanooga - 21 Houses
- Knoxville - 27 Houses
- Jackson - 9 Houses
- Memphis - 17 Houses
- Kingsport - 5 Houses
- Johnson City - 14 Houses

City Stats:



NEW FACES

As the number of beds increases, so does the size of the Tennessee Team. Since Staff Training, two new Outreach Workers have started in The Volunteer State. Welcome Bill MacManus and Regina Bunting!

"Hello, my name's Bill. I'm a 67-year-old father of three from Dallas, TX. I've been a member of AA for 32 years. My passions are photography, camping and playing bridge. I'm the Outreach Worker for the Clarksville area."

"Hey, everyone! My name is Regina Bunting. I'm the Outreach Worker for the Tri-Cities area. I am honored to be of service to Oxford House and all of its residents. I'm excited to see where this journey takes me!"

NASHVILLE MUSIC CITY



The men and women of Nashville Oxford Houses came dressed for the occasion at the convention's formal banquet!



SATURDAY, JUNE 11

OXFORD HOUSE

Fundraisers Event

**SLIP & SLIDE, FOOD, RAFFLES
WATER WAR, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP**

\$10 SUGGESTED DONATION
100% GOES TO HELPING A FELLOW ADDICT.

1 PM - 5 PM **BRING YOUR OWN WATER GUNS**

Oxford House Nashville North
109 Holiday Dr Madison, TN 37115

CashApp Donations \$OxfordHouseTN

Have you ever been in an Oxford House and one of your housemates can't go to work due to health complications? Next thing you know, weeks have gone by, he/she is \$500 behind on EES, and will be over \$1,000 behind before things get better?

FUNDRAISING FOR A FRIEND

Oxford House Satori-Life opened in February 2022. As a new WC house, one of the core members opening the house, Lara R., was 28 weeks pregnant. At 33 weeks, Lara was struggling with severe anemia and fainting daily. Her doctor ordered her to stay home from work; the constant fainting was dangerous to both Lara and Baby Ava.

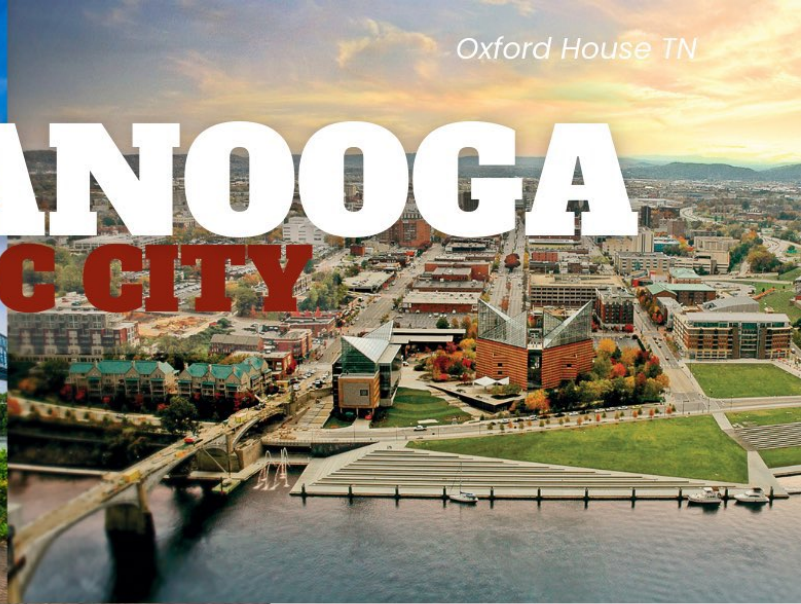
Chapter 14 saw their sister in a very precarious situation. She applied for grant after grant, each time getting denied. The Chapter stepped in and developed a fundraiser committee. The Fundraiser will be a summer party, hosted by Oxford House, all are welcome!

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEWCOMER:

"I came to Oxford House with only two bags of clothes and no money. When I got here, I felt welcomed, loved and accepted. The girls here fed me when I had nothing to eat. They gave me motivation, inspiration and a voice to stand up for myself. I'm so grateful for Oxford House giving me the chance to start my life over. This is the start of my journey; living the steps and principles; being of service and helping others." -D.C.

CHATTANOOGA

SCENIC CITY



UNITY ON THE BRIDGE



On September 4th at 8:00AM the fourth annual Unity on the Bridge will take place at Coolidge Park in beautiful Chattanooga. The purpose of this event is to show solidarity, unity, and singleness of purpose. To show that not only Can we recover, but that we DO recover, and that there IS hope! Oxford House hosts this event for the recovery community as a whole. Any and all are welcome. To stand together is representation of what we cannot do alone we can achieve together. For many of us, prior to stepping into recovery, we were swallowed alive, into the depths of loneliness and despair. We no longer live this way. We are united.

September '21



A family photo of Chattanooga members, alumni and staff at the 2022 State Convention

Did You Know?

For climbers, Chattanooga is a mecca. There is more rock within a 25 mile radius of the Scenic City than Boulder, Colorado.

KNOXVILLE

THE MARBLE CITY



MELISSA WHITE

"When I came into Oxford House I was still fresh in my recovery, 6 months clean. I've really opened up since I got here.

OH has provided me a life I couldn't have imagined. Oxford House Epperly is my home.

Holding a chapter position and going around to all the houses as service work has helped me stay clean. It has awarded me the opportunity to meet so many people that I love dearly. It has given me a new life, a new job, new relationships, and a new aspect on helping others. Oxford House has saved me; I hope to carry that message to others."

Melissa was a rockstar at the State Convention. Not only did she win "Best Dressed" for the beach theme (wearing pool floaties, a bucket hat, carrying around a pail and shovel), she was also awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from her Chapter. The certificate recognizes Ms. White for her support, dedication and contributions to the success of Tennessee Oxford House Chapter 10.



Melissa with Outreach Worker Prudence Spencer

Newsletter by Sarah Harris

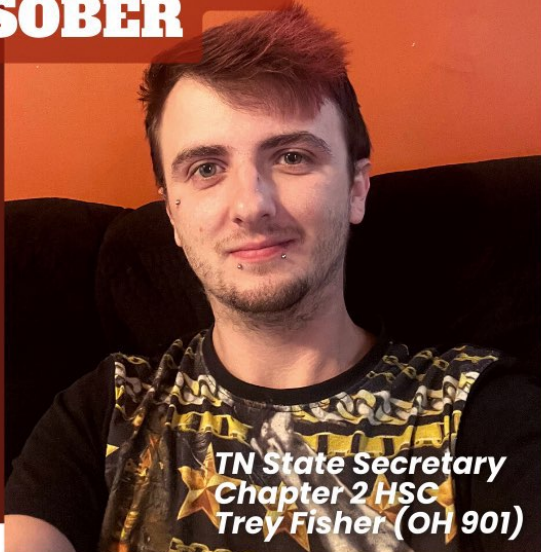


Oxford House of Knoxville is growing! Chapter 10 just split, and Knoxville is now home to Chapter 22.

MEMPHIS & JACKSON



SERVICE KEEPS US SOBER



TN State Secretary
Chapter 2 HSC
Trey Fisher (OH 901)

"I moved into an Oxford House on September 9, 2020, and that's the day my life changed forever. Since moving into an Oxford House, I've met so many wonderful people. I was elected to the Chapter committee, as well as the State Association. I really feel that these positions I hold have given me a sense of purpose. Oxford House came to me when I was in a dark place. I was homeless on the streets of Memphis just prior to moving in to an Oxford House. I immediately began throwing myself out there; volunteering for every position that was open. It's been two years and I can't imagine my life any other way. If you are an Oxford House member, you are my family."

TAKE MY WILL AND MY LIFE GUIDE ME IN MY RECOVERY SHOW ME HOW TO LIVE CLEAN

"I walked through hell with no shoes
And climbed out with no gloves.
I had to go through it to get to it.
My struggle built character; what was once
weakness is now where I find my strength.
I want to go back.
With God I broke the shackles and the
generational curse. I survived an addiction
that could have killed me.
But I passed the test.
This is my testimony of God's goodness and
merciful grace.
Look to God and keep striving. Keep praying.
Believe in you."

- Shannon Watson (OH Hogwarts)

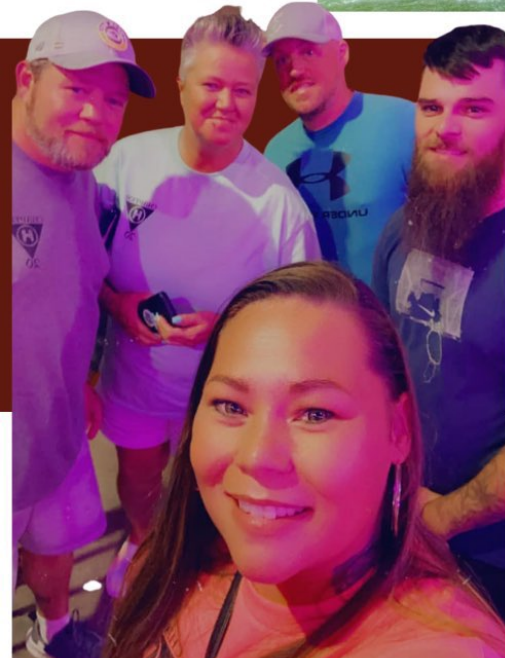


TRI-CITIES

KINGSPORT, JOHNSON CITY, BRISTOL



The next State Association Meeting is only a month away. Oxford House of TN wanted to do something fun; especially for the members traveling from the furthest corners of the state. (Up to an 8 HOUR drive!) Staff and state officers juggled ideas around. The team decided to find a campsite and turn this SAM into a Summer retreat! At this point, the majority of campgrounds are booked until next Summer... But Outreach Worker, Regina Bunting, continued relentlessly searching until... YAHTZEE! She found USA Raft Adventure Resort, a campsite located on the Nolichucky River. The trip is on the calendar for July 15-17.



"My name is Randy Light. My clean date is October 23, 2021. I love Oxford House. I found the stability and the fellowship I've always been looking for. I couldn't do this on my own.



Chapter 20 HSC

RANDY LIGHT

Today, I'm able to give back to my community. I have solid H&I commitments in my fellowship. It's an honor to go into these treatment facilities and share my experience, strength and hope with the newcomers. I feel blessed to be here."

CLARKSVILLE

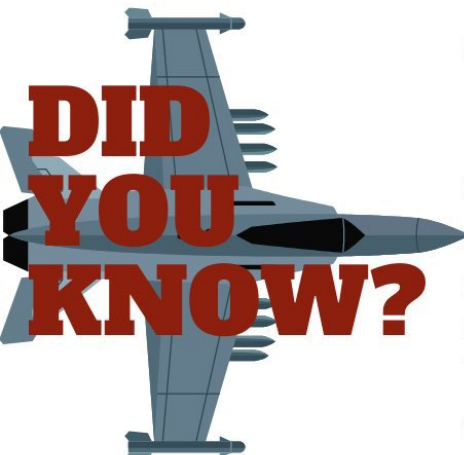
THE QUEEN CITY



KATRINA BROWN

"When I first came to Oxford House Matay I didn't know what to expect. I pulled up to this beautiful home and I kept checking the address to make sure I was in the right place. My son and I were welcomed by warm smiles and hugs. I felt at home. Then, when I met the rest of the Oxford Family, I knew this was truly home for me. I am blessed to have 2 1/2 years of sobriety and still going strong! God saved my life, but Oxford showed me how to live clean and sober. I have a real family here. #OxfordStrong!!"

(Chapter II Chair)



Clarksville is site of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Fort Campbell is located about 10 miles from downtown Clarksville, and spans the Tennessee-Kentucky state line.

Oxford Houses in Clarksville with names paying homage to the 101st Airborne Division

- Blue Angels
- Tango
- Bravo
- Warthog
- Honor
- Blackhawk
- Echo
- 101st