



Dear friends of The CARE Center,

Spring has brought a full season of momentum at The CARE Center, and this month has been a powerful reflection of what can happen when a community comes together to uplift one another. We began by rolling up our sleeves for our garden clean-up meeting, where volunteers helped us prepare a space that will continue to give back to neighbors in the months ahead. We're also eager to shine a light on an important cause by recognizing April as **Child Abuse Prevention Month**- a meaningful reminder of our shared responsibility to protect and care for children in our community.

Looking ahead, we're celebrating the future by opening our annual **Scholarship Opportunities** for local students, investing in the next generation of leaders right here in our community. *Click the link below to download the applications from our website.* Behind the scenes and on the ground, we're excited to report that progress has also continued with our New Futures Housing project, where volunteers worked hard to create a safe, welcoming space for families transitioning into stable housing.

In addition to these initiatives, we've been able to meet practical needs through our **Free Tax Preparation Services**, helping individuals and families navigate tax season with confidence. We're also preparing for our **Hampton Cove Yard Sale** pickups and donation drop-off opportunities, giving the community an easy and tangible way to support our thrift stores and extend resources to neighbors in need.

Finally, we're excited to launch our **Summer Snack Drive**, which helps fuel hundreds of children attending our summer programs. This year, we anticipate serving close to 300 students daily, and community support through snack donations, Amazon wish list purchases, and meal sponsorships will play a vital role in ensuring every camper is cared for throughout the summer.

*View more details about all these opportunities below.*

With so much happening across so many areas of impact, staying connected has never been more important. We are actively sharing updates, stories, needs, and opportunities across our social media platforms, monthly newsletters, and website. We encourage you to follow along to stay updated and be part of what's happening. Together, we are continuing to make a meaningful difference in our neighbors' lives!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Bridges". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrea Bridges  
Executive Director  
The CARE Center  
[abridges@thecare-center.org](mailto:abridges@thecare-center.org)

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# THE CARE CENTER 2025 IMPACT DATA



- ▶ **498 neighbors** received high quality case management.
- ▶ Propane Assistance through Partnership: **300 gallons**.
- ▶ Our Food Pantry served **636 families**, providing essential food and hygiene supplies.
- ▶ The recovery group logged **290 attendees** during the year. This figure represents cumulative visits, as many participants attended multiple sessions. One positive story is seeing a mom come out of jail, gain employment and regain custody of her children.
- ▶ **3 vehicles** were donated and given to qualifying individuals. This helped them sustain their jobs and ability to be independent.
- ▶ **\$48,382.09 invested** in providing financial and food assistance to our neighbors.



- ▶ We recycled **372,903 pounds** of stained and torn textiles, diverting waste from landfills while **generating \$59,266** to directly support our ministries.
- ▶ The thrift stores gave away **290 Bibles** to our neighbors.
- ▶ Clothes, shoes, and households provided to **187 local families** in crisis from generous donations made to our thrift stores.



- ▶ **543 students** served through our high-quality afterschool and summer programs.
- ▶ Served **113 high school students** across **105 households**, delivering **307 targeted supports**, from basic needs to mentoring and transportation, identifying, addressing, and removing barriers and helping students stay on track to graduate.
- ▶ **8 scholarships** given at NHHS and MCHS to seniors, **totaling \$6,000**.
- ▶ **\$448 provided** in graduation fees assistance.
- ▶ **3,128 Bags** of Blessings delivered.
- ▶ **107 of our youngest neighbors** identified as most in need received weekend food support each week.
- ▶ **104 children** served through our Christmas Store, while protecting their parents dignity.
- ▶ **\$872,284.88 invested** in our children across five local schools (NHES & NHHS, OCRS, MCES & MCHS).



- ▶ **35 adult learners** attained their GED, enrolled and stayed in college, and gained and sustained employment.
- ▶ **12 neighbors** were provided a second chance through employment, mentoring, and compassionate accountability, supported by recovery services and financial counseling to help them build stable, productive futures.
- ▶ **\$131,551.07 invested** in our adult learners including GED, college and career counseling, workforce development, and second-chance employment.

**OVER 362 volunteers served OVER 3,490 volunteer hours in our mission in 2025, this includes volunteer support for our Food Pantry and garden, Bags of Blessings, meal ministry, holiday shop/thrift store volunteers, GED mentors, Christmas Store, and volunteer receptionist.**

the **CARE** center

# SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

***SUBMIT BY APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2026***



Angela Hawke First in Family Scholarship, \$1000



The CARE Center's Presidential Service Award, \$500



Becca Abercrombie Excellence Award, \$1000

We're proud to support high school students in our community as they pursue higher education. Applications are now open and must be submitted to our business office by **April 20, 2026**. Apply today and take the next step toward your future!



***Angela Hawke First in Family Scholarship - \$1,000***

Awarded to a student who will be the first in their family to attend college.



***The CARE Center's Presidential Service Award - \$500***

Recognizes a student who has demonstrated outstanding service and commitment to their community.



***Becca Abercrombie Excellence Award - \$1,000***

Honors a student who has shown excellence through leadership, dedication, and academic achievement.

[CLICK HERE to visit our website  
and download the scholarship applications](#)



## Resources & Opportunities

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The advertisement features a background of tax forms. The word "Free" is written in red cursive at the top left. Below it, "TAX PREP SERVICES" is written in large, bold, blue capital letters. Underneath that, "PROVIDED BY PROFESSIONALS AT AARP" is written in red capital letters. A blue horizontal bar contains the text "Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays" and "February 4th - April 15th" in white. At the bottom, "SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT" is written in blue, followed by an email icon and "info@thecare-center.org" and a phone icon and "256.723.2273".

### Tax Services: **LAST CHANCE**

The CARE Center is teaming up with AARP to provide FREE tax preparation services for qualifying individuals.

Appointments are available on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and select Saturdays through **April 15th**.

Call **256-723-2273** to book your spot or email [info@thecare-center.org](mailto:info@thecare-center.org) with your availability.

If we miss your call, leave a message with preferred days/times, and we'll get back to you.

\*Appointments are limited and fill up fast!

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HAMPTON COVE

# YARD SALE PICKUP

**APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>**  
One truck at McMullen Cove pool house 10am-12pm,  
and two trucks at Sanctuary Cove pool house 12-2pm  
(Taylor Road side)

**APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
Two trucks at Cove Methodist Church 12-2pm  
& one truck at our donation drop-off location all day!



Donation dropoff location:  
**283 Sutton Rd**  
Call us to schedule a pickup:  
**256-723-2281.**

## Hampton Cove Yard Sale Thrift Truck Pickups

On **April 18<sup>th</sup>**, we will have a truck at the McMullen Cove Pool House from 10 am-12 pm, and two trucks at the pool house in Sanctuary Cove from 12-2 pm to collect any items you'd like to donate.

On **April 25<sup>th</sup>**, we will have two trucks at Cove Methodist Church from 12-2 pm and one truck at our donation drop-off location all day!

- You can call our thrift store for pickups at **256-723-2281**

- Donation dropoff location:  
**283 Sutton Rd.**

- Donation dropoff hours:  
**9 am - 4 pm**



## Garden Donations Needed!

As we prepare for a new growing season, we're inviting our community to help us plant seeds of hope! Our garden helps provide fresh, healthy food to families in need, and we can't do it without you.

Current Needs by Priority:

- Volunteers
- Compost
- Seeds & starter plants
- Gardening tools (new or gently used)
- Wheelbarrow
- Watering cans
- Trellises

Every donation helps us grow something meaningful for our neighbors!

For questions, please message [priscilla.ballard@thecare-center.org](mailto:priscilla.ballard@thecare-center.org)



## Join our Community Connections Meeting

Please join us for our next SE Madison County Community Connection meeting on **May 6th, 2026!**

This is a great opportunity for community members, local leaders, and partners to gather and share updates, resources, and important community information.



## Summer Snack Drive

Help keep our campers fueled! This summer, we'll serve close to 300 students daily across four weeks of camp, providing approximately 5,700 snacks and bottles of water. We're collecting individually packaged snacks for 240–300 children each day.

**Deadline:** May 22nd

**Drop off or deliver to:** The CARE Center Business Office (Mon–Thurs, 9 AM–1 PM)

**[Click HERE for Amazon Wishlist](#)**

*We are also in need of support for providing breakfast and lunch on select camp days.*

*Please email [abridges@thecare-center.org](mailto:abridges@thecare-center.org) if you are interested in helping!*



## Meal Ministry Volunteers

“Do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.” Is volunteering on your heart? We are currently seeking volunteers to help support our meal ministries!

If you're interested in getting involved, we want to hear from you!

Learn more [HERE](#)

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## Recovery Support Group

Thursdays / 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm  
Ministry Building

Research shows that a positive, encouraging support system makes addiction recovery much more likely. Join our onsite group today!

Registration is not required. Come as you are and bring a friend. Dinner will be provided at the top of the hour.

Email [amy.parker@thecare-center.org](mailto:amy.parker@thecare-center.org) with questions.

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## Counseling Services

Mon, Tues, Thurs | **By appointment only.** Adult Learning Center

We offer on-site appointments with a licensed therapist for adults only. Everyone's situation is unique, so flexible payment options tailored to your insurance or income are available.

To learn more or schedule a session, please call **256.723.2273** or email [shanai.moore@thecare-center.org](mailto:shanai.moore@thecare-center.org).

**STAY UP TO DATE!  
CLICK TO FOLLOW  
OUR SOCIAL MEDIA**



**Questions?**

256.723.2273

[info@thecare-center.org](mailto:info@thecare-center.org)

**Business Office**

5410 Main Drive

New Hope, AL 35760

**Ministry Building & Adult  
Learning Center**

5414 Main Drive

New Hope, AL 35760

**Mailing Address**

PO Box 51. New Hope, AL 35760

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