



HOLY ANGELS

Loving, living and learning for the differently able.®

HEARTLINE

SUMMER 2023



Shana sharing this special moment with our Prom Queen, Jakayla.

Jakayla's Journey to Prom Queen

Plain and simple, Jakayla is a miracle!

The 17-year-old defied all odds following a life-altering accident and is thriving after finding a new home at Holy Angels. Jakayla is a cheerleader, loves Cam Newton, binge-watches Hallmark Christmas Movies and "H2O Mermaids," and has a smile that can light up any room. Now, you can add royalty to her list of accomplishments.

Attending her first prom, Jakayla's journey of resilience reached new heights as she was crowned prom queen. Her family, overwhelmed with pride, expressed gratitude for the unwavering support of Holy Angels.

"Seeing Jakayla being crowned as prom queen fills our hearts with so much pride," expressed Shana, Jakayla's mom, through tear-filled eyes. "We are forever grateful for Holy Angels and the support they have provided our family. They have truly been a blessing in our lives."

Jakayla's transformation for prom was nothing short of magical. Assisted by her family and a talented makeup artist, she radiated elegance in her stunning gown. The atmosphere buzzed with excitement as she entered the ballroom, her smile reflecting the joy within her.

The residents and staff, recognizing Jakayla's strength and perseverance, voted her as prom queen. The announcement was met with cheers, symbolizing not only her personal triumph, but also the profound impact of Holy Angels.

From the moment she arrived at Holy Angels, our dedicated team embraced her as family, ensuring she received the finest care and support. Their tireless efforts nurtured Jakayla's resilience, allowing her to thrive and discover her inner strength.

Jakayla's journey to her prom experience is a testament to the transformative power of Holy Angels. It is a home where lives are rebuilt, hope flourishes, and dreams are rekindled. Every individual, regardless of their background or circumstances, receives specialized care and support in this nurturing environment.

In the words of her mom, "We are proud that Jakayla was crowned prom queen, but we are even more grateful for Holy Angels. They have given us hope and a place where she can thrive. We couldn't have asked for a better support system and home for our beautiful queen."



James and his grandmother tearing up the dance floor.



Rusty escorts his daughter, Kinsey, to the Prom.

Connecting Hearts: The Return of our Volunteen Program



Volunteen Addilyn Wingate shares a smile with Bhoomi.

For the first time since the pandemic, Holy Angels enthusiastically welcomed back our youngest and most energetic supporters with the return of our Volunteen Program.

A group of twenty five extraordinary teenagers dedicated their time and energy to connect with our resident angels this summer. Through art and music therapy, visits to Camp Hope, engaging games, and heartfelt conversations, these remarkable young individuals left a lasting impact on the lives of our residents.

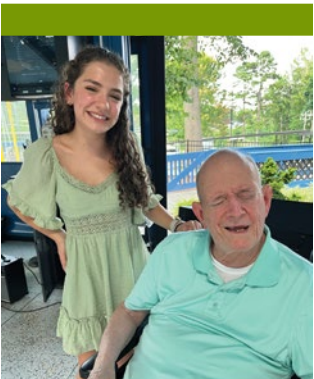
“The Volunteen Program holds special significance at Holy Angels, bridging the gap between generations and nurturing the spirit of compassion and service within our younger supporters,” said Holy Angels President and CEO Kerri Massey. “These dedicated teens exemplify the core values of Holy Angels, demonstrating the profound impact they make through genuine connections and acts of kindness. We hope they had an exceptional experience and created a lifetime of memories.”

Throughout the summer, the volunteens brought so much enthusiasm, igniting smiles and laughter, and instilling a sense of belonging within our community.

“I love doing this program! Volunteering at Holy Angels is an awesome thing to do, not only for the experience but because I get to become friends with the residents,” said Volunteen Addilyn Wingate, an 8th grader at Piedmont Community Charter School.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our volunteens for their support, spirit, and commitment to Holy Angels this summer. The future is bright for these teenagers and Holy Angels.

Summer Concerts: How Sweet the Sound!



Anna and Butch performed another duet at a concert.

The Holy Angels Summer Music Concert Series brings the community together in a beautiful display of harmony and unity.

At our July concert, a duet with 81-year-old resident piano player Butch and 15-year-old singer Anna Haller created a special Mercy Moment. Butch, the oldest resident at Holy Angels, has played the piano throughout his life, even gracing the White House with his musical talents. Anna, who gained recognition for her role as young Elsa in “Frozen on Broadway,” is now performing regionally. This talented duo, whose previous video collaboration singing ‘Silent Night’ in 2020 went viral, showcased their musical prowess once again.

Their performance of “Amazing Grace” and “America the Beautiful” captivated the audience, evoking powerful emotions and inspiring unity.

“Music is a universal language that brings people together. It transcends age, background, and abilities. It connects all of us to enjoy listening and creating beautiful sounds,” said Creative Arts Director Gaye Dimmick.

Holy Angels resident musicians and dancers also took the stage at another performance highlighting their remarkable abilities and talents. Residents and staff also enjoyed other guest musicians who performed throughout the summer.

The Summer Music Concert Series exemplifies the inspiring power of music, bringing us closer together and celebrating the beauty within us all.



Torrance and music therapist, Jessica, performed during a summer concert.

WBTV News did a story about Butch and Anna and the unifying power of music. You can watch using this QR code.



L O V I N G , L I V I N G



Aiden enjoying arts and crafts during the safari adventure at Camp Hope.

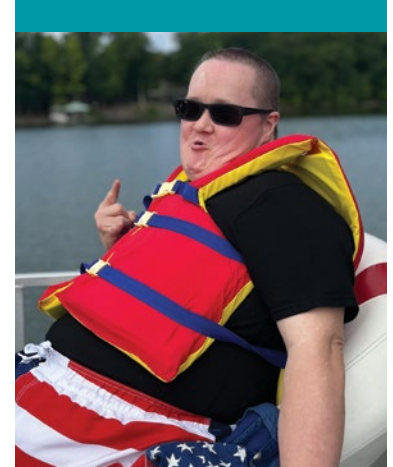
Safari Adventure at Camp Hope

“I LOVE Camp Hope,” exclaimed Holy Angels resident, Mark followed by a fist pump and salute.

Camp Hope was abuzz with excitement as residents returned for their much-anticipated summer retreat. With hearts full of joy and spirits high, the residents embarked on a safari adventure like no other.

The residents braved the jungles on the wilderness trail filled with multiple sensory adventures. Safari-themed arts and crafts allowed residents to unleash their wild creative side. Our residents enjoyed taking rides aboard our pontoon boat, the “Spirit of Maria,” named after Holy Angels first little angel, Maria Morrow.

It has been a summer filled with the warmth of friendship and great adventures, but it’s not over yet. Our residents get to enjoy camp activities into October. The magic of Camp Hope continues to fill the air, creating an atmosphere of love and happiness...and HOPE!



Mark LOVES Camp Hope, and America too!

Spotlight Angel: A Summer of Fun

Our Spotlight Angel, Nolan, is known for his relaxed demeanor. One word often used to describe Nolan – “chill”.

Dressed in a tank top and shorts, Nolan enjoyed several adventures and field trips this summer. On a trip to the aquarium, Nolan didn’t even flinch as sharks swam just feet away from him.

During a boat ride at Camp Hope, Nolan sported a pair of cool sunglasses while feeling the sunshine on his face and the wind blowing through his hair. He shared a small smile letting us know things were all good.

The best part of summer for Nolan is sharing it with his older brother, Evan, a Holy Angels volunteer. They spent many days hanging out with Nolan’s friends. It was truly a summer to remember for our “chill” Spotlight Angel.



Nolan relaxing and enjoying a boat ride at Camp Hope.

Modernizing and Renovating the Greenhouse



An inside look at the renovated greenhouse, complete with irrigation and cooling systems.

One of Holy Angels most popular programs on campus is horticulture therapy which started more than 25 years ago. After decades under the hot sun, our greenhouse needed significant renovations.

Thanks to a generous grant from the George T. Lewis Foundation, we were able to replace all the panels, install new cooling and irrigation systems, and add hanging rails. The improvements allow our resident gardeners to continue to use the greenhouse year-round.

The freshly renovated state-of-the-art facility will greatly enhance our program, providing a nurturing environment not only for our plants but also for our residents. We can’t wait to show it off at our Fall Plant Sale in October. Stay tuned for more information.



The SteelFab Team posing for a picture during the shoot.

Record-Breaking Clay Shoot

Holy Angels 6th Annual Sporting Clay Shoot surpassed all expectations making it a record-breaking year! Thanks to the incredible turnout of sponsors, shooters, and donors, we exceeded our \$200,000 goal. It truly was a great day to break clays for our resident angels.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who wholeheartedly supported this remarkable event, including our generous sponsors, determined committee members, dedicated volunteers, and the Barker family for graciously sharing their son, Jack's, inspiring Holy Angels story.

The entire day was one big Mercy Moment. Mark your calendars for next year's Clay Shoot extravaganza on May 3rd at Meadow Wood Farms, where we promise another unforgettable day of fun and philanthropy.

Special Thank You to Our Sponsors

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Three Great Reasons to Celebrate

 <p>Holy Angels Receives Perfect Score in Survey</p> <p>Holy Angels received a perfect score for its Intermediate Care Facility program from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services for a fifth consecutive year. A team of surveyors spent multiple days looking at programming and services to ensure Holy Angels is providing the absolute best possible care. After reviewing documentation, observing care, and evaluating practices, this team recommended no changes – a PERFECT SURVEY.</p>	 <p>Holy Angels Receives 100% Rating from Charity Navigator</p> <p>For the first time, Holy Angels achieved a perfect rating of 100% from Charity Navigator, the renowned nonprofit evaluator. Receiving this exceptional rating requires an independent audit of financial accountability, organizational leadership capacity & adaptability, evidence of strategic planning, governance, and transparency. According to Charity Navigator, a charity that receives this rating is making good use of resources to improve the lives of the people it serves.”</p>	 <p>Holy Angels Chosen Best Nonprofit</p> <p>Within the past month, Holy Angels was chosen as Best Nonprofit in the annual Best of Gaston Awards, sponsored by the Gaston Gazette. The readers of the Gazette nominated and then voted to award Holy Angels with this honor.</p> <p>This recognition is a testament to the incredible work and dedication of the Holy Angels team in providing exceptional care and support to our resident angels.</p>
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Donor Spotlight: Knights of Columbus and LAMB Foundation Transforming Lives at Holy Angels



Richard White and Bob Desch, LAMB Foundation Board of Directors, visit Holy Angels to present a grant check.

Holy Angels is blessed with two incredible organizations whose generosity has made a profound impact on the lives of our resident angels at Holy Angels. The Knights of Columbus and the LAMB Foundation (the larger umbrella organization of the Knights) have collectively donated more than \$1.5 million, leaving a lasting impact for the residents of Holy Angels.

There are nearly 70 chapters of the Knights of Columbus, a renowned fraternal organization committed to charity and unity, who have spent decades supporting the mission of Holy Angels. The Knights frequently attend and sponsor our events. They also dedicate their time as volunteers. For more than half a century, the Knights have handed out tootsie rolls on street corners to raise money to support those with disabilities.

Similarly, the LAMB Foundation of North Carolina's contributions have been instrumental in our pursuit of excellence. With their generous donations, we have implemented innovative new programs that support round-the-clock specialized care for our residents.

"The sole purpose of the LAMB Foundation of North Carolina is to support the remarkable individuals who are differently able," said State Director Richard White. "Our organization is made up entirely of volunteers with big hearts who just want to make a difference. We love the work of Holy Angels and want to support the residents as much as we can."

We are deeply grateful to the Knights of Columbus and the LAMB Foundation for their longtime support. Through their compassion and financial contributions, they have brought so much joy and fulfillment to the lives of our residents. Thank you for helping to create a world where the differently able are embraced and celebrated.



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Holy Angels was founded in 1955 by the Sisters of Mercy.

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SAVE THE DATE!



GRAZIE MILLE WEEKEND!

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 17-18, 2023

MT. HOLLY GRAND HALL

Grazie Mille ... a thousand thanks
for a thousand needs

Double Your Impact

Many companies will match employee contributions to nonprofits. **DOES YOURS?**

We make it easy to find out. Please use the QR code to see if your company makes a matching gift.



Our Mission

The mission of Holy Angels is to provide compassionate, dependable care and opportunities for high-quality living to those with intellectual developmental disabilities and delicate medical conditions through physical, social, spiritual, vocational, educational and emotional support.



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From the Heart: Moved by Mercy Moments



As we embrace the warmth and beauty of the summer season, let us reflect on the meaningful activities and Mercy Moments that have filled our days at Holy Angels.

A special Mercy Moment occurred for all our high school students during prom. The energy and joy in the room was undeniable. There was so much love, energy, and excitement from all involved. I was touched by so many things, from the "Glam Teams" to the residents' smiles. This was one of my all-time best Mercy Moments!

Camp Hope on Lake Wylie is a beloved tradition, offering our residents a safe and engaging summer experience. It's a place where our residents and colleagues foster connections and create lasting memories.

Seeing our summer volunteers inspiring us with their selflessness and acts of love for our

residents, was another touching Mercy Moment for me. These remarkable young individuals lend a helping hand, provide companionship, friendship and embody compassion and generosity. They are truly a blessing to Holy Angels.

Our summer music concert series unites our residents and the community in joyous celebration. Talented musicians fill our hearts with uplifting melodies, creating an atmosphere of togetherness and joy.

We are profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve our wonderful residents and their families. Their strength and resilience inspire us every day. Our dedicated direct support professionals work tirelessly to ensure our residents feel loved and empowered.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to Holy Angels. It's an honor to serve this organization and I eagerly anticipate the wonderful Mercy Moments ahead.

Kerri C. Massey
President/CEO

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