

# 15 Years of Big Top

The 15th annual A NIGHT UNDER THE BIG TOP took place on Friday, Feb. 22, 2019. Each year the Junior Board of Glenwood hosts this important event to support children with autism. Over 700 people attended, raising over \$254,000. It was the most money raised to date!

The event has grown so much with the help of a fantastic Junior Board. **In 15 years, Big Top has raised over \$2.2 million!**

**Save the Date:  
February 21, 2020**



# CONNECT with GLENWOOD

Summer 2019

## Glenwood Expands Services & Locations



2018-19 Junior Board



A ribbon was recently cut for the newly named Mallie M. Ireland Building, marking the official celebration for and completion of Glenwood, Inc.'s \$10 million capital campaign.

Thanks to the success of **Renowned Care, Renewed Hope: Campaign for Glenwood**, three buildings in the Avondale area of Birmingham were purchased and renovated to provide easier access to people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other mental health concerns.

Glenwood began services at the Avondale campus in October 2018 with the opening of the Children's Center in the Mallie M. Ireland Building. The Children's Center offers intense Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) therapy, along with Speech and Occupational

therapies, to prepare young children for school. ABA is one of the most successful therapies for children with ASD. The Center also offers family support and education sessions.

Glenwood plans to seek funding for a simulation classroom, where graduates of ABA therapy can prepare for inclusive learning settings. This classroom would also provide excellent on-site training for teachers and healthcare professionals across Alabama. The Center plans to serve as a training site for area universities.

The Avondale Outpatient Center opened in June 2019 to provide the best in diagnostic, psychiatric and behavior therapy. The Outpatient Clinic provides professional analysis and compassionate direction to families in need of diagnostic services. The first step is a Diagnostic Assessment with an individualized therapy plan presented to each family that includes recommendations for intervention and specialized therapies. Early intervention is proven to improve outcomes for children on the autism spectrum.

In addition to the new Avondale campus, Glenwood has expanded services in Birmingham and Huntsville through Journey Academy, a center for adults with ASD to prepare for employment. Residential facilities for children and adults have also been acquired and/or renovated, both on campus and in the community.

All of this was made possible through the generous donors to the campaign. It has opened doors to new opportunities and Glenwood is now in the beginning stages of creating a year-round art program for education and recreation purposes, as well as creating a Center for art and other extracurricular activities to be offered in the future. (See story ART FOR AUTISM).

Philip Young, Glenwood Board of Directors Chair and Campaign Co-Chair says, "Glenwood is determined to provide the best services to the most people possible. Congratulations to all who participated in making HOPE HAPPEN!"



**Thank you  
for making more  
smiles possible!**

Students and residents were off to the races when racecars and their drivers from the Historic Sportscar Racing (HSR) League visited Glenwood's campus. Drivers spent time with students answering questions, giving tours of their cars, signing autographs and handing out the distinctive Racing For Kids® hats. There were smiles all around with students, staff and volunteers enjoying a fun day in the sun!



Title Sponsor Team, King Acura, has sponsored the tournament for over 10 years



Ceremonial first putt by individuals served by Glenwood.

# Golfing for Good

This year we celebrated the 27th Ireland Legacy Tournament, presented by King Acura. The golf event took place May 6, 2019, at Old Overton and the proceeds benefited adults with autism spectrum disorder. The golf tournament was established in 1974. This year the total revenue was more than \$147,000 with more than 100 golfers. Regions, Vulcan Materials Company and CS Beatty Construction also sponsored the event.

## Ireland Legacy



We can never thank Mrs. Mallie Ireland enough for her ongoing support," says D. Lee Yount, FACHE, Glenwood's President and CEO. Almost a year after naming the Children's Center in honor of her 90th birthday, Mrs. Ireland passed away on July 20, 2019. She, and her husband Glenn, who helped found Glenwood, have left a wonderful legacy of caring for children with special needs.

Her daughter Mallie Ireland Dansby says, "My mom, born and raised in the Birmingham

area, has always been passionate about children. Her community involvement focuses around children and mental health. What Glenwood is today, serving some 10,000 families, rose out of need for services recognized by my parents and others in the community." Friends and family donated to Glenwood, allowing us to complete and furnish the new Children's Center in Avondale, naming it in her honor. On April 11, 2019, it was officially introduced to the community as the Mallie M. Ireland Building.

## Service Spotlight

- Pediatric Occupational Therapists are now seeing clients at the Avondale Children's Center. Therapy sessions may address fine or gross motor development, sensory processing, executive functioning, daily living activities, and more. Contact Catherine Efford, Cefford@glenwood.org or 205-795-3240.
- Glenwood offers vocational training and job placement programs through JOURNEY ACADEMY, with locations in Birmingham and Huntsville. For more information, call 205-969-2880.
- This spring, Cathy Pratt, BCBA-D, Director of the Indiana Resource Center for Autism, spoke at UAB on

Approaches For Students With Complex Challenges. This annual lecture series is a free joint offering with UAB and Glenwood, Inc.



# Art for Autism

Activities such as art and music are very enjoyable experiences of everyday life that anyone, regardless of diagnosis, should be able to access.



Glenwood is in need of a dedicated Arts Center where children and adults with autism will enjoy extracurricular activities such as

visual arts, performing arts, music, dance, yoga and more.

"A program and center dedicated to art classes and activities for overall health will help individuals develop leisure skills and discover new passions that they may not otherwise have the opportunity to experience," says Paul Agostini, Senior Director of Education and ABA Services at Glenwood. He explains that one major deficit observed in individuals with autism and other disabilities are restricted interests or lack of

preference for new experiences. "People with ASD need opportunities to be out and about as a break from therapy, as exercise and as real world experience. Isolation is negative. Structured activities such as swimming, yoga, hiking, biking, theater, etc. are positive." We are working to take Glenwood's loving care to the next level. We hope that you are as excited about our art dream as we are! If you would like to help, you can donate at [glenwood.org](http://glenwood.org) or call Linda Baker at 205-795-3376.

## Inaugural Friends & Family Fund

As a child becomes an adult, a parent wants him or her to be happy, healthy and as independent as possible. When a child who has autism grows into adulthood, a parent's desires are the same. For those on the severe end of the spectrum, Glenwood offers residential care and a day program, in addition to other services.

As a person ages out of children's services at age 21. The impact is about a \$10,000 per person gap between funding and the cost for services. Last year, we served 74 adults, leaving a gap of \$740,000. It's important that the individuals we serve are treated with dignity and respect and have every opportunity to live as independently as possible.

to Glenwood families and friends asking for their help in starting the new Families and Friends Fund to help fill the gap for more than 70 adults in need. Thank you to those who responded to the letter! We have not met our goal, but we are on our way thanks to your help.

Financial support from the state drops dramatically when

Philip Young, Board Chair and Parent, sent a letter in November

Join the Friends and Families Fund and help the adults in our care. Please contact Linda Baker, [lbaker@glenwood.org](mailto:lbaker@glenwood.org).

Pecan Season is coming soon! The online store opens November 1. Start planning your corporate gifts and give a gift that gives twice! For more information on the corporate holiday giving program, contact Shanda Daniel: (205) 795-3211 or [sdaniel@glenwood.org](mailto:sdaniel@glenwood.org).

