

ALEXANDER CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

May 2026 eNews



LETTERS FROM LYNN: MAY 2026

Thank you to all who attended Celebrating Our Kids in April. Our May flowers are in full bloom because of your generosity! I continue to be grateful for the amazing support and generosity of our donors, advocates, and volunteers. You are all bridge builders to hope and healing for the children we serve.

With your support, we are rising to the challenge of meeting the needs of the vulnerable children and youth of North Carolina. This includes ensuring that our team is continuing to receive training in the most up to date evidence-based programming that enables them to provide the best possible care to our kids. The need for our services is increasing every day. North Carolina has seen a steady increase in youth Emergency Department visits for mental health crises; notably, self-harm visits for children ages 10-14 have nearly doubled in the last decade, according to the NC Medical Journal. Additionally, in the 2024 State of Mental Health in America Report, North Carolina ranked 44th in access to care for these critical services.

To help meet these rising demands, Alexander Youth Network is expanding our Greensboro Residential Treatment Center for adolescents ages 13-17. By increasing our capacity from 12 to 48 beds, we will be able to provide access to intensive mental health treatment to more youth before this crisis escalates further. [Please visit our website](#) to learn more about how Alexander is answering the call to provide these much-needed services.

As we head into these summer months, our campus will be alive with volunteer groups, a career day, ice cream socials, birthday parties, and special summer programming. If you are interested in learning more about these and other volunteer opportunities, please reach out to Ashley Nieves at anieves@aynkids.org.

Thank you for all you do to support the children and youth at Alexander Youth Network.

Gratefully,
Lynn

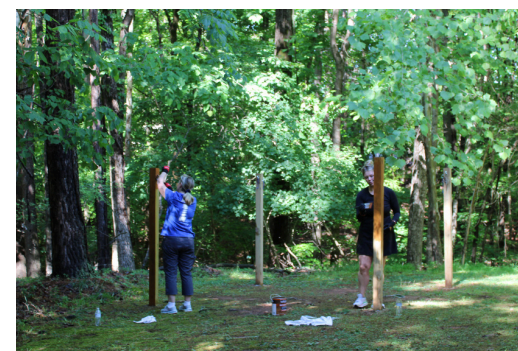
VOLUNTEER CORNER

Another successful Marsh Day of Service volunteer event is in the books! Earlier this month, we welcomed a group of 22 volunteers for a day of campus beautification. From spreading playground mulch to building new benches, the team's hard work and enthusiasm made a tremendous impact on the kids and staff at Alexander Youth Network.

The fact that not only Marsh employees attended, but also retired employees and spouses, speaks to the group's dedication and shared passion for supporting the work of Alexander Youth Network. We are truly grateful that their team chose our campus to spend their day - and for the fourth year in a row!

We deeply appreciate Marsh's continued partnership and the compassion they show our community year after year.

If you're feeling inspired and want to learn more about getting involved, reach out to our Volunteer Engagement Officer, Ashley Nieves, at anieves@aynkids.org.



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Crowder Construction was founded in Charlotte by brothers, Otis P. (O.P.) Crowder and Bill Crowder, Sr. in 1947 as a concrete contractor. Today the company is led by the founders' sons, Otis A. Crowder and Bill Crowder, Jr., and specializes in building bridges, dams, highways, water and wastewater facilities, industrial and power facilities, and alternative energy facilities. Crowder is dedicated to superior performance and committed to making a positive difference for their clients, for their communities, and in the lives of their employees. Alexander Youth Network has experienced their commitment to the community from Crowder Construction firsthand.

For over twenty years, Crowder Constructor has been a sponsor of our annual fundraiser, Celebrating Our Kids, and has been the presenting sponsor since 2015. We are so grateful for their continued support of our mission and the children we serve! Our strong relationship with Crowder Construction is due to the support we've received from Bill, Jr. in the over 50-years he has supported our agency personally.

Bill was first introduced to Alexander Youth Network as a child by his father, Bill, Sr., to volunteer around the holidays. As an adult, he has been a lunch buddy, board member, board chair, table captain, and donor - always doing whatever he can for the children served at Alexander. Other members of the Crowder family, including Bill's cousin, Otis, sister, wife, and son, have all also given freely of their time, talent, and treasure to support our mission. For three generations, the Crowders have been involved in our mission, helping us build the bridge to hope and healing for the children in our programs. We cannot express our gratitude enough for all that they've done for Alexander Youth Network. [Check out the video below](#) to learn more about the Crowder family and how they got involved on campus.



COMMUNITY CORNER



Alexander Youth Network is honored to be selected as a beneficiary of Ace the Stigma's 3rd Annual Tennis Memorial Event. This annual event honors the memory of Chuck Reiney and provides two days of tennis, community, and conversations that matter.

The event returns June 19-20 at the Olde Providence Racquet Club. To learn more about this impactful weekend and register to play, [please visit their website](#).



We need your help! Alexander Youth Network is hosting a Career Day on our Charlotte Main Campus on June 18 from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM, allowing our kids to explore careers, ask questions, and connecting with professionals from a wide range of industries.

For many of the youth we serve, exposure to different career paths can spark new possibilities and help them begin imagining a future they may have never considered before.

We are looking for individuals in the following industries:

Trades & Tech: Auto Mechanics, Builders, Upholsterers, and Tradespeople

Creative Arts: Photographers, Videographers, and Stylists

Service & Safety: First Responders, Veterinarians, and Culinary Artists

We encourage you to share this opportunity with professionals in your network who may be interested in inspiring the next generation. Participants are encouraged to bring tools, equipment, or examples from their profession to engage with youth through hands-on conversation and real-world insight.

If you are interested in participating and helping inspire the next generation, please contact Courtney Hayes at chayes@aynkids.org by Wednesday, June 10.

CELEBRATING OUR KIDS

We are excited to announce this year's luncheon has raised \$1 million to support Alexander Youth Network! To see photos from the event, please [visit our Facebook page](#).

Thank you to our generous event sponsors – your commitment to our cause is the cornerstone of our success. Your support empowers us to continue our vital work, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

CHAMPION SPONSOR



HERO SPONSORS



VISIONARY SPONSOR

PAUL
HASTINGS

ROLE MODEL SPONSORS

ALSTON & BIRD

HAYNES BOONE

HOOD
HARGETT

SIDLEY

FRIEND SPONSORS



CADWALADER

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Alexander Ricks PLLC

Thrift CRES

Matthews Mobile Media

CAMPUS TOURS

Join us for a tour of Alexander Youth Network! Tours are scheduled for the first and third Thursday of the month. This is a great opportunity for a personalized, guided tour where you can ask questions and learn about all the amazing programs and services provided by Alexander Youth Network.

All tours of Alexander will take place on the Charlotte campus, located at 6220 Thermal Road, Charlotte, NC. Campus tours are 1 hour long. You can [sign up for a tour by visiting our website](#). If you would like to come for a tour, but are not able to make one of the scheduled dates, please contact Kaitlyn Dixon at kcoppadge@aynkids.org or 704-227-9159.

Tours in June will take place on the 4th at 12:30 pm and the 18th at 4:30 pm. July tours will take place on the 2nd at 12:30 pm and the 16th at 4:30 pm.