



RISE AGAINST HUNGER

is a global movement that empowers people to address the needs in their communities to combat hunger and nourish lives. Tavonia and Sam recently participated in a community service event at the Deep Creek United Methodist Church in Chesapeake. They and other volunteers packaged more than 18,000 meals and clothing for individuals and families.



HOPE HOUSE GIVES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

~ Mahatma Gandhi



GREEN BUCKET BRIGADE

is the City of Norfolk's newest litter task force uniting businesses, nonprofits, government and residents in the fight against litter. Victoria volunteers in her community with local churches, her local library and her newest endeavor is being part of the Green Bucket Brigade. Victoria is hopeful that she will inspire her neighbors to join her in keeping Norfolk litter free.



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

honors service members who sacrificed their lives to preserve our freedom. The organization coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and more than 3,700 locations across the U.S., at sea and abroad. Hope House staff and volunteers selected All Saints Catholic Cemetery in Portsmouth. Danyail, Consuela, Keisha, Lavon and Kendra paid honor to veterans there by laying wreaths at their graves.

SHANNON SAYS: “I LOVE A GOOD IDEA!”

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHANNON POCIASK

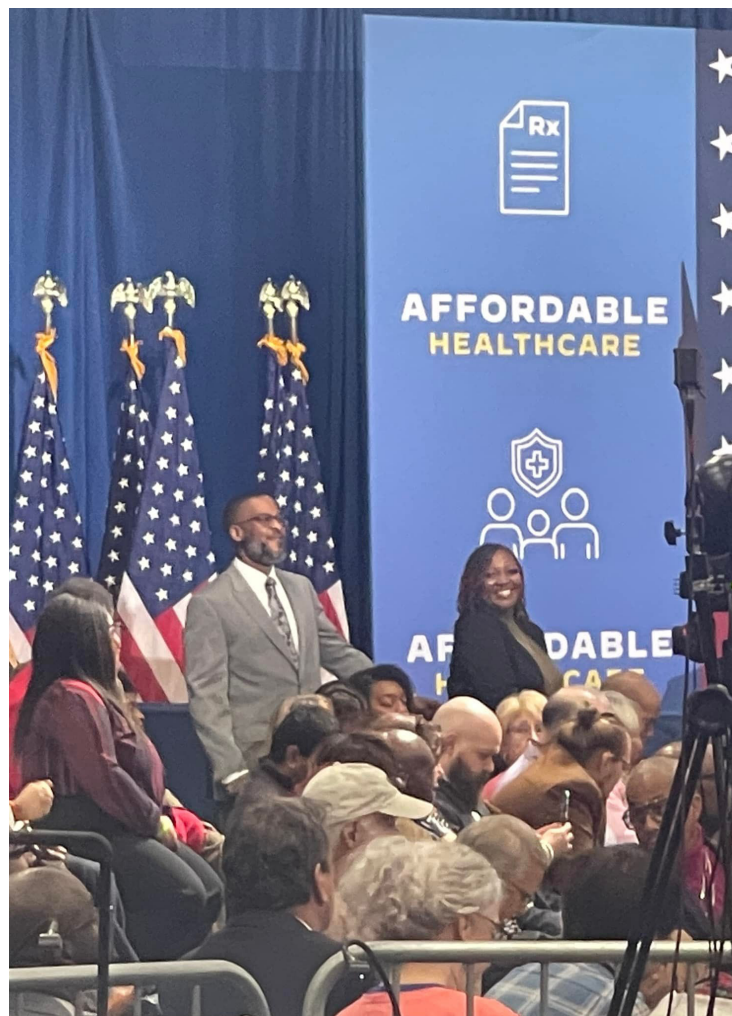


I'm new to the role of Executive Director, but not new to Hope House Foundation. I have been with the organization since 2003 leading teams of Direct Support Professionals. My intimate knowledge has

been formed by listening to people we support and our employees over the past 19+ years. It takes a tremendous amount of work to help people through every phase of their life. There are many factors to take into account to make both life and work meaningful. And, it matters. The only way people can make real choices is to ensure that they have real experiences to know what they like or don't and why. For our employees, it's their life enhancing experiences too.

I'm especially proud of our Community Support Program, examples of which are referenced on the cover. Whether you volunteer for PRIDE, run a marathon, go to a ballgame or walk through a museum, these invisible support activities inspire people to have a full life. Having fun, doing something exceptional and giving back to the community brings this idea full circle. It is our mission in action. And, around here, there are plenty of good ideas to make this happen.

I'm thrilled to work with our board of directors, donors and volunteers who do so much for us. We are entering into a new strategic planning process for the future. Our goal is to capture the best ideas and talent we have to improve the agency, the lives of people we support and the lives of the people who choose to work here. I'm lucky to work with this great organization, and it's my goal to make every employee feel the same.



HOPE HOUSE REPRESENTS DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS FOR PRESIDENT BIDEN'S VISIT

Nicole Jorwic from Caring Across Generations contacted Hope House to invite two Direct Support Professionals (DSP) to participate at President Biden's address in Virginia Beach. She assists with attendance for events, and President Biden has made people with disabilities a priority in his administration's policies. It was a small gathering of people who were invited to attend and learn more about the President's thoughts on healthcare-related issues. He promised to strengthen the Affordable Care Act and protect against cuts to Medicaid and Medicare.

Lakiesha Johnson, Ancor's 2022 DSP of the Year, and Inocencio Albrincoles (Peter), the 2016 NADD DSP Award of Excellence recipient, represented Hope House and the more than 1.5 million DSPs in the U.S. Both were interviewed by WVEC Channel 13.

Discussing what a Direct Support Professional does, Lakiesha said, "we make community connections, we take them to church, grocery shopping, they live a normal life." Peter shared one message that stuck out for him, "when President Biden talked about the quality of life, and the dignity and respect people with disabilities and the elderly across this country, how they may be affected if Medicaid is cut."

HOPE HOUSE FOUNDATION HOSTS THE STOCKLEY GARDENS SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL,

a free two-day community event featuring 130+ artists, musicians and food vendors. The Stockley Gardens Spring Arts Festival, presented by TowneBank, takes place in Stockley Gardens Park at the corner of Stockley Gardens and Olney Road in Norfolk on May 20 and 21. Festival hours are 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday and noon to 5 pm on Sunday.

Everyone is welcome to the free Art Party sponsored by Smartmouth Brewery on Saturday from 5 to 7 pm. This fun event recognizes artists' awards and features the band Suburban Key Party with a cash bar.

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE: SATURDAY, MAY 20

11:00 AM

Allegra DuChaine
Acoustic Folk Rock

12:15 PM

Jordan Cooper
Jam, Funk, Bluegrass

1:30 PM

MaryAnn and Cole
Delta Blues

2:30 PM

Karl Werne
Acoustic, Singer/Songwriter

3:30 PM

The Overnite Lows
Soulful Americana

5:00 PM

Suburban Key Party
Alternative Rock

SUNDAY, MAY 21

12:00 PM

Jasper and Dakota Smith
Americana & Contemporary
Bluegrass Folk Singer-Songwriters

1:00 PM

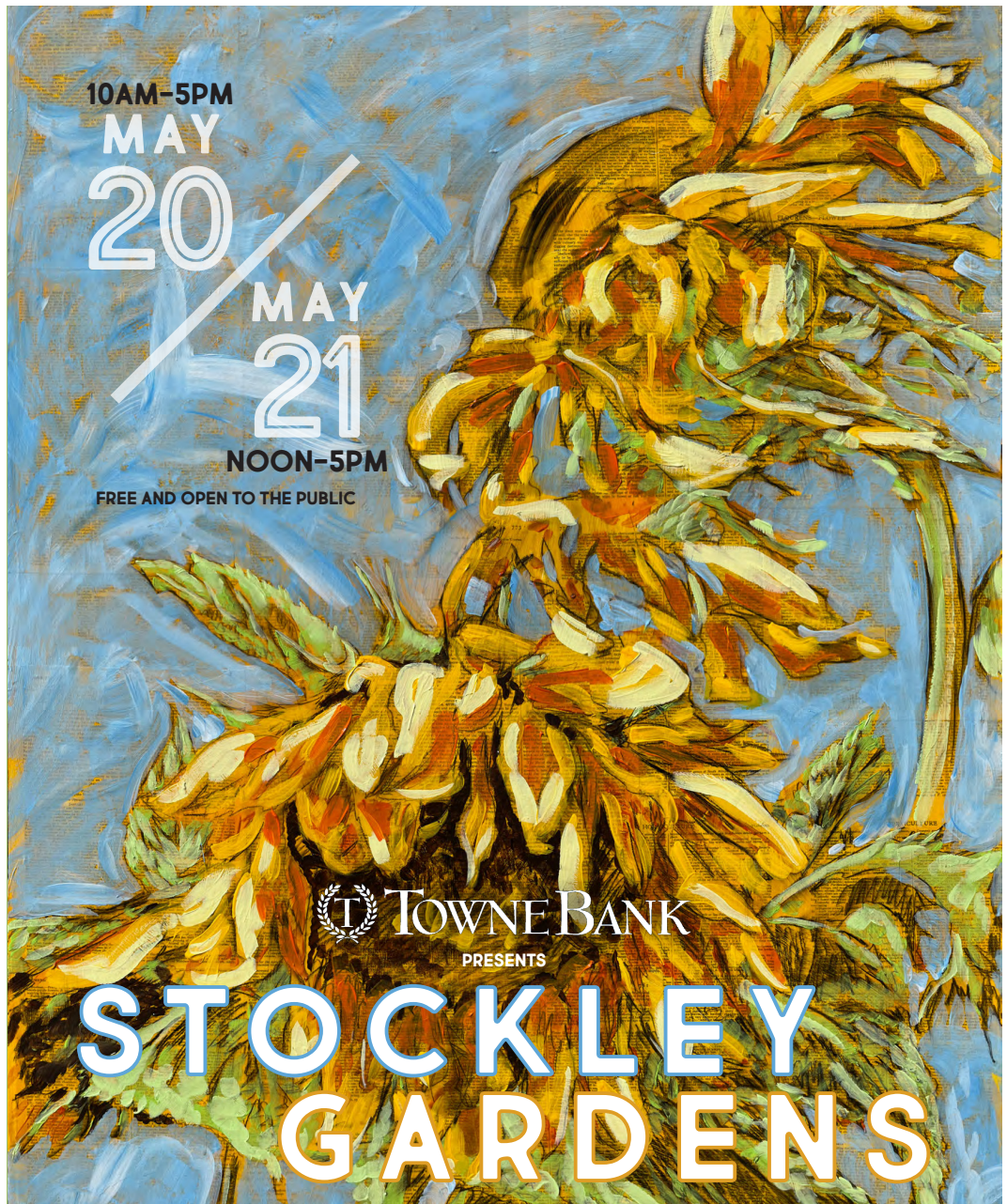
Ruth Wyand
Americana, Folk, Blues, Jazz

2:15 PM

Ron Fetner
Americana

3:30 PM

Tret Fure
Acoustic Singer/Songwriter



SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL 2023

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND FULL OF ART, MUSIC AND KIDS' ACTIVITIES!
STOCKLEY GARDENS PARK IN HISTORIC GHENT
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE HOPE HOUSE FOUNDATION.



STOCKLEYGARDENS.COM

There are also activities for children throughout the weekend with face painting, hands-on music and art activities.

Stockley Gardens Spring Arts Festival, presented by TowneBank, is also sponsored by Capital Group, Miller Oil, Southern Auto Group, Mancon, Ghent Business Association, The City of Norfolk, The Port of Virginia, Paycom, Holistic Family Practice, Leaf Filters and Dominion Energy. Media Sponsors include VEER Magazine, Coastal Virginia Magazine, WHRO and 92.3 FM The Tide.



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Hope House is a certified
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Designation #5070



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **May 20 & 21** Stockley Gardens Spring Arts Festival
- **June 10** 10th Annual Tidewater Blue'z and BBQ House Concert
tinyurl.com/TidewaterBluesTickets
- **June 22** 45th Hope House Foundation Annual Dinner

For more information please contact Laura DeVore
at ldevore@hope-house.org or 757-625-6161 X509.



Proud Member of the National Association of Direct Support Professionals

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