



HALO

December 2020

News from the HALO Group/P.O. Box 1078, Perry, GA 31069/halogroupga.org



“HALO” is “Helping Achieve Life Outcomes” by “Having Agape Love for Others.”

We are a non-profit organization which aims to meet the vocational, social and residential needs of adults with developmental disabilities and autism. “Teammates” are typically young adults facing some kind of disability or social skills challenge. HALO is working to give these adults skills for the workforce, and social skills for community engagement.

HALO by the Numbers

Total income to date, including tuition, fundraising events and donations:
\$152,519

Total expenses to date: **\$150,197**

Number of monthly financial teammates in 2020: **11**

Donations to date: **\$73,000**

Our immediate goals:

We want to continue to glorify God through this ministry. A strong financial finish to 2020 and doubling our number of monthly financial teammates will help us accomplish more ministry and expand our office on Ball Street.

We'd love to have you as one of our teammates!



This 1,160-square foot house at 900 Ball Street is the center of HALO's activity. Increasing this work space will be a top priority in 2021.

Expanding the HALO office will expand this ministry

Even now, during the 2020 pandemic, teammates and volunteers are happy to crowd around tables and to use every bit of space for work, storage and supplies. It's impossible to hide the smiles, even with every face covered by masks.

But if there was more space, there could be more teammates ... and more smiles!

As a tough 2020 comes to a close, the HALO Group has an ambitious goal. We want to raise an additional \$75,000 in 2021 to expand the Ball Street hub of operations.

“We’re still in the earliest stages of this ministry,” said Melanie Murphy, one of the founders of HALO. “We have teammates working in our farm experience on some days, and in the PAES Lab for training on other days.”

No matter where teammates work, every day of operation includes activity at the office.

“With COVID-19,” said April Tew, another HALO founder, “having more space is even more important. We need to spread out more. We’d like to have a large, multi-purpose room and a second bathroom. That would *really* help!”

Loving her time at HALO

As Ashley Loving has found an outlet for her artistic spirit. In the process, she might be on her way to finding her place in the Middle Georgia workforce.

Thanks to her time at HALO, this 23-year-old Perry woman has helped create a number of hand-crafted items. Chief among them is a unique Christmas ornament made of Middle Georgia bamboo, straw, burlap, rope and acorns.

The final product is a “cradle” manger scene the HALO group is selling this Christmas.

“I want to get a job and help people,” Loving said. “A lot of people need help.”

Ashley struggled in school and floundered after her graduation from Perry High in 2016. After two years with the HALO Group, she’s reveling in the joy of her latest creation. “HALO saved my life,” she said. “Here I can do whatever. I feel comfortable here.”



Ashley Loving displays this year’s HALO Christmas ornament.

The Christmas ornaments have been a project for HALO teammates for three years. Bamboo stalks were harvested for the project last year, but this year, the stalks split. Loving helped turn the “broken” stalks into the best design yet. Now she hopes the ornaments will create income for the HALO Group.

“It made a ‘C’ shape,” she said. “That can stand for ‘Christmas,’ or ‘Christ.’ It feels good to know they’ll be on so many Christmas trees.”



Bamboo
Christmas
Ornaments
\$10 each

Find them at the
“Vintage Market” at the
Agricenter/Fairgrounds
Dec. 4-5-6
or call 478-822-0162