



HAPPENINGS AT THE HALO GROUP

Nov/Dec 2025

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

Leah's Story

When Leah Grace Shelton was born, her parents sent out a birth announcement that included Psalm 139:14 - reminding everyone that she was fearfully and wonderfully made, and that they trusted God with her future. Still, like every parent of a child with special needs, they carried the quiet, constant worry: *What happens when she finishes school?*

Leah was blessed during her school years - surrounded by friends, involved in activities, and supported by family. After graduation, she was accepted into the ClemsonLIFE program at Clemson University, an opportunity that brought joy, growth, and independence. But when the program ended, she returned home to find that life had moved forward for her siblings and high school friends. At 22, her parents feared she might spend the rest of her life at home with them - three people growing older together - when Leah deserved so much more. She needed purpose, connection, responsibility, friendships, and a place to truly belong.

She found all of this - and more - at **The HALO Group**.

Each morning, Leah walks through the doors (usually wearing something cheetah print - she *is* the founder of the Cheetah Girls, complete with her own business card!) and is greeted with enthusiasm. She heads straight to the girls' table to catch up and start her day. No two days look the same. Leah chooses from a variety of meaningful activities: creating items sold by HALO teammates, caring for animals at the hobby farm, helping in the garden, volunteering in the community, or jumping into culinary and hospitality projects - where she truly shines.

Leah was the first teammate to master the basket-weave crust for HALO's famous chicken pot pies, and now she teaches others how to perfect it. She



Leah displaying her intricate culinary skills.

loves serving at catering events and is the one you can always count on when it's time to clean up and close out a party. Her love for people and celebrations even inspired HALO's first "Double Dip Party" - a dip in the pool followed by chips and dip snacks. And wherever Leah is, music isn't far behind; she and her friends love to sing, dance, and start a party with nothing more than a playlist and a little space.

Leah doesn't have time to sit at home with her parents anymore - she has her place at HALO. She has a purpose, a community, friendships, and meaningful work. She belongs. And she makes a difference every day, because she truly is...

fearfully and wonderfully made.



We have a new location!

We are excited to share that we are growing and moving into a larger building! Larry Wood and the Perry Volunteer Outreach Board of Directors have generously offered us the use of the training center at Grace Village. This spacious facility will provide the room we need to continue our growth.

In the coming weeks, our base of operations will transition to the Grace Village location on Hwy 41 S. However, we will continue to use the cottage on Macon Road for our culinary operations and our store.

With every growing pain and the challenges that come with them, we have continually seen God's provision and faithfulness. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to utilize the Grace Village facility and look forward to all that lies ahead.



The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

-- Psalms 126:3

Our teammates in action!



Store Front Operations



Product Development



Culinary



Gardening



Hobby Farm

Our Mission

HALO Group is a Christ-centered organization elevating adults with disabilities through community relationships to maximize independence and lifelong growth.

Our Vision

Inspiring the re-imagination of community!



Mark your calendars for April 18, 2026 for our inaugural HALO Garden Party 2026. It will be a fun night to celebrate and support The HALO Group of Middle Georgia. Use the QR code for more information.



HALO by the Numbers

Number of teammates who have utilized our scholarship program: **13**

Projected 2025 scholarship awards: **\$32,617**

Total number of teammates served in 2025: **47**

Budget for 2026: **\$464,000**

We are raising \$50,000 by the end of 2025!

If you would like to partner with us in making a difference in the lives of adults with developmental disabilities and autism, please mail your donation to PO Box 1078, Perry, GA 31069 or through Venmo or PayPal using these QR codes.

VENMO



PAYPAL

