



HALO

December 2021

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

It's a wonderful work

We've been investing in people for more than a decade!

An acquaintance stopped me one day recently to ask about HALO and said, "When are you going to get started?"

I was stunned. Get started? We got started over a decade ago when God began stirring our hearts to create a place for adults with disabilities!

We borrowed our first space from First Baptist of Perry in April 2018. We had just two teammates in those days.

Now we enjoy seeing 15 teammates every week in our own building. Our office space includes a newly renovated kitchen, a new front sidewalk, and a new greenhouse. We have seen so much generosity from so many people!

And yet, I understand the question. Ever since we acquired the New Perry Hotel, people have been asking, "When will the hotel renovation begin?"

We make plans and set goals, but we realize God is in control and we trust His perfect timing. And as soon



HALO teammates spent time outside the Ball Street office working on bamboo Christmas ornaments. From left to right, they are Aden Floyd, Zaria Wainwright, Austin Hays and Jimmy Swope. The Christmas ornaments, the most popular item our teammates create and sell, are available now!



Melanie Murphy
HALO President

as we receive a building permit from the City of Perry, we will start the motor court renovation.

So, while we wait with great anticipation for renovations to begin, we continue with the good work to which we are called, providing opportunities for young adults with disabilities to be a part of the community where they live work and play.

HALO is *so* much more than a hotel renovation; it's about the people we serve. As you look through the pictures in this newsletter, you will see that we have *certainly* gotten started. To God be the glory!

HALO Christmas ornaments available now!

The HALO Christmas ornaments, hand-made by our HALO teammates from Middle Georgia bamboo, are ready for purchase!

Each of these nativity-themed ornaments is unique. And from harvesting to design, from production to tagging, our teammates and volunteers produced them all.

Priced at \$10 each, ornaments are available at our Ball Street office. We'll also have them available at the Mistletoe Market, November 18-21, at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Ag Center.



By purchasing these items for your own home or as a gift for others, you're supporting our work, providing a beautiful addition to any Christmas tree, and spreading the word about HALO at the same time!



Snapshots from the farm

Andrew Shue loves working with animals on Ángela Cuti's farm. In these photos, Ángela helps Andrew feed a hungry, six-week-old calf named Bella. While Andrew doesn't say much in most settings, he talks constantly on the farm!



“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 2021 income to date, including tuition, fundraising events and donations:

\$209,004

Total 2021 donations to date:

\$136,098

Total 2021 expenses to date:

\$138,016

Number of monthly financial teammates in 2020: 11

Current number of financial teammates: 16

Our immediate goals:

We want to continue to glorify God through this ministry.

We’re building a multi-purpose room at our Ball Street location.

Building fund goal: **\$70,000**

Building fund balance: **\$42,000**

We’re growing a scholarship fund for teammates needing help with tuition. **Goal: \$25,000**

We are also in need of a gas-powered golf cart for the farm and a handicapped accessible van.

HALO’s newest board members:

Lisa Coody, Britt Sutton and Grant Nicholson



Zach Mullis is a part of the team at Schultze’s Old Fashioned Soda Shop; here he’s with Mandie Smythe, Alexis Cone and Macayia Griffore (left to right).

Finding his place to shine

Zach Mullis isn’t the only person delighted to have a job at a local restaurant.

Eric Schultz, the owner of Schultze’s Old Fashioned Soda Shop loves having the 26-year-old HALO teammate on his staff, too.

“He’s a great kid and he knows almost everyone in town,” Schultz said. “Everyone brings a different skill set, and he has such a positive attitude. We love having him.”

“Zach is so well-loved in our community that many people plan to eat at Schultze’s when they know he is working,” said April Tew, one of HALO’s directors. “We are so proud of him.”

Mullis has been working at the soda shop since the beginning of the year. He washes dishes, buses tables and greets every customer.



HALO Notes of thanks:

Our Ball-Street office was given a new, wide sidewalk thanks to Parrish Construction and the youth of Second Baptist Church in Warner Robins.

New appliances were provided by the children’s ministry of Shirley Hills Baptist Church. New kitchen cabinets and countertops were provided by the “For the 478” ministry at Southside Baptist Church, with special thanks to Bobby and Kathy Wright.

Architectural drawings for our multi-purpose room addition were provided by Parrish Construction, a new water heater and plumbing work by Buzzell Plumbing, a greenhouse by Perry Leadership, and landscaping at the farm by Perry Presbyterian and youth workers from Houston Lake Presbyterian Church.