

March 21 - June 21



FORWARD QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF OKLAHOMA OXFORD HOUSE

2024 SUMMER EDITION

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12th Annual OK

State Convention

Serving With Responsibility

01

FEATURE STORY

By: Ashley Manges

This year, the 12th Annual Oklahoma Oxford House State Convention was hosted in Norman, Oklahoma.

This is the first year that Oklahoma has hosted a four-day convention. We are proud that the event was wildly successful, with just over 400 attendees.

At this monumental event, Oklahoma, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas, and Kansas members laughed, learned, and made memories.

We started with Men's & Women's Conferences on Thursday evening.

Friday, the Oklahoma State Association welcomed everyone to the event and discussed their goals for our state for the next year.

On Saturday, we heard from the Honorable Judge Stoner on his "Next Level Recovery." We also participated in panels on Diversity, Four Stages, five Core Principles, and Rural Expansion. The evening ended with an Awards Banquet.

Sunday, we got an update from the World Council, Technology & Reporting and ended with reading the 9 Oxford House Traditions.

Overall, the event was transformative and uplifting. We can't wait to start planning the 2025 Convention in Tulsa, OK.



12th Annual OK State Convention

Serving With Responsibility

01

FEATURE STORY

PAUL MOLLOY SERVICE AWARD

William Timmons is this year's Paul Molloy Service Award recipient. Will resides at Oxford House Grove in Oklahoma City, OK.



JAMES MCCLAIN SERVICE AWARD

Sam Garrett is this year's James McClain Service Award recipient. Sam resides at Oxford House Tulsa in Tulsa, OK.



KATHLEEN GIBSON SERVICE AWARD

Gretchen GeeAcosta is this year's Kathleen Gibson Service Award recipient. Gretchen resides at Oxford House Thrive in Oklahoma City, OK.



TRADITION 9 SERVICE AWARD

Jenny Weinstein is this year's Tradition 9 Service Award recipient. Jenny is an alumnus of Oxford House Frontier in Enid, OK.



OKLAHOMA OXFORD STRONG

01

FEATURE STORY



CLEANUP IN CLAREMORE

On May 26th, 2024, in the early morning hours, Claremore, OK, was devastated by an EF-3 Tornado. All 11 of the Claremore Oxford Houses sustained damage. Whole trees were uprooted, and the entire community lost electricity.

The next day, members from all over Oklahoma sprung into action to provide support and assist with cleaning Claremore.

We live in a reality in Oklahoma of not if but when the sky will darken and decimate one of our communities.

We stay prepared and ready to assist in any capacity to get our communities healthy and thriving again. We are Oklahoma Oxford Strong.



02 Committees in Action



SWING BATTER BATTER.....SWING!

NEOK's Fundraising Committee hosted their annual Tulsa Drillers Baseball Unity Night.

Members fellowship and cheer on Tulsa's Minor League team. Events like this are important because members learn to have fun at sporting events with the sober support of their brothers and sisters in Oxford House. With recovery and support, all things are possible.



Statewide Trainings 03

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA QUARTERLY TRAINING

Central Oklahoma Oxford Houses gathered on a Tuesday evening at OSU—OKC Allied Health Building to attend their quarterly house officers training. The training focused on the new house forms distributed at the beginning of the year. (Photo Bottom Left Corner)



OXFORD HOUSE MANUAL STUDY NEOK & CENTRAL HOUSES

Northeast and Central Oklahoma host monthly Oxford House Manual Studies in their respective areas. In May, the leadership from both regions joined forces to present a collaborative Manual Study. Oxford House Bil-Mar, located in Bethany, OK, hosted the event. During this hour-long meeting, members eat, fellowship, and pick one of the 9 Traditions from the Oxford House Manual to read and discuss in detail. They share lived experiences and apply particular traditions to day-to-day life inside Oxford House.

This monthly meeting is vital to our network of Oxford Houses because it ensures vital information transfer. It helps leadership guide and train new members to live successfully in Oxford House. The Oxford House Manual is the blueprint for all Oxford Houses to be structured and lead all houses to become prosperous, stable, and safe.

(Photos Upper Right Corner)

UNITY AND

04



3RD ANNUAL SOBER FLOAT

Southern Oklahoma hosted its 3rd Annual Sober Float on the Talequeah River. Members met early in the morning and embarked on a 9-mile journey by raft. Outreach Worker Whitney Anderson created this event so members could have safe, sober fun on the water!



OKC PRIDE ON 39TH FESTIVAL

Central Oklahoma Fundraising Committee members set up an informational booth at the 2024 Oklahoma City Pride on the 39th Festival. The 3-day event kicked off on May 31st and was completed on June 2nd. Members from all over Oklahoma came to show love and support. We aim for all community members to find an Oxford House if needed. Being represented at this event is a big step in that direction. We are grateful to be able to participate fully with one another and to provide information about our life-saving organization to all!



TCN



MEMBER

05

CENTRAL

**MATT HOUSE
OH HEISMAN
CHAPTER 4 CHAIR
NORMAN, OK**

What was life like before Oxford House?

My life was full of despair, guilt, and shame. I thought there was no way out of addiction.

What is your sobriety date, and when did you move into Oxford House?

My sobriety date is July 14th, 2022, and I moved into Oxford House Claremont on August 27th, 2022. I opened Oxford House Rumble on July 1st, 2023.

How has Oxford House benefited your life?

Oxford House has given me a safe, sober place to lay my head. It surrounded me with like-minded people who wanted to achieve the same things I had done. It guided me to the 12-step rooms, where I built a principles-based foundation. Today, I live a fulfilling life of service that I never thought possible.

What do you think about the newcomer?

Get involved. Raise your hand when help is needed. Surround yourself with people who care about you. Show up, be honest, and TRY!



What was your life like before Oxford House?

My life was chaotic. I was living aimlessly and running away from problems.

What is your sobriety date, and when did you move into Oxford House?

My sobriety date is January 7, 2022, and I moved into Oxford House Achaka April 4, 2022. Opened Oxford House McAlester October 1, 2023.

How has Oxford House benefited your life?

How has it not? I have gained so much since moving into Oxford House. I got my driver's license, a credit score, and fines paid. The accountability held on me has pushed me to grow and help others. I can genuinely have fun today.

What do you think about the newcomer?

You have a voice. Learn to use it. Raise your hand and get involved.

SOUTHERN

**JERRY LUNA
OH MCALESTER
CHAPTER 9 HSC CHAIR
MCALESTER, OK**

SPOTLIGHTS





MEMBER

05

NORTHWEST

**MELISSA ANNIS
OH PIONEER LANE
CHAPTER 10
STILLWATER, OK**

What was your life like before Oxford House?

I was lost and unhappy. I would work two jobs to support my habit but was so broke that my house and car were repossessed. I was mad at God for everything.

What is your sobriety date, and when did you move into Oxford House?

My Sobriety date is 01/29/2023, and I moved into Oxford House Pioneer Lane on 03/07/2023.

How has Oxford House been beneficial in my life?

Oxford House has given me a new outlook on life and many friends and family. It has certainly kept me away from jails, institutions, and death. It has helped me find recovery and get involved with service work.

What do you think about the newcomer?

I encourage them to get there and do some service work.



What was your life like before Oxford?

Before Oxford, I had never taken responsibility for myself. I thought my disease was all I was ever going to be.

What is your sobriety date, and when did you move into Oxford House?

My sobriety date is October 4th, 2021. I moved into Oxford house on December 4th, 2021.

How has Oxford House benefited your life?

By the example of those around me, I see that I can achieve my goals. I am going to college today. Building relationships with my children and creating a life I am proud of. So many friends in recovery surround me.

What do you think about the newcomer?

My advice for the newcomer is that you can do hard things today. We don't have to sit in fear, and we can accomplish everything we thought we lost.

NORTHEAST

**SAMUEL GARRETT
OH TULSA
CHAPTER 1 CHAIR
TULSA, OK**

SPOTLIGHTS





WELCOME TO

05

ZACH HORTON

Northeastern
Outreach
RURAL

Hello, I'm Zach Horton, 33, a person in recovery since August 6, 2021.

I was hired on February 1, 2024, as the Outreach Worker for the NEOK Rural area. My journey with Oxford House began on September 16, 2021, at Oxford House Mingo Valley.

Under Ryan Miller's guidance at Oxford House Rockwood Hills in May of 2022, my leadership journey truly began.

Moving into various houses to provide support. I have strived to serve and offer guidance and experience to new and existing members through Replication, Recovery, and Responsibility.

I have served in various roles, including Ch. 8 Men's HSC, Ch. 8 Secretary, Ch. 8 Treasurer, and Ch. 11 Chairman. Oxford House gave me the structure, responsibility, and renewed desire to live a fulfilling life.



Service Highlights

**Chapter 11
Chairman**

**Chapter 8
Men's HSC
Treasurer
Secretary**

**Opened
Oxford
House
Capitulation
October
2023**

THE TEAM ZACH



EXPANSION

06

OF OUR NETWORK



GLENOAKS



CENTRAL

MIDWEST CITY

Oxford House Glenoaks is a 7 bedroom, 3 bathroom house located in Midwest City, Oklahoma. It is a home for 10 men seeking a safe place to stay and recover from substance use disorder.

Phone:(405) 931-2335

Email: glenoaks@oxfordhouse.us

ELMHURST II



CENTRAL

NORMAN

Oxford House Elmhurst II is a 5 bedroom, 2 bathroom house located in Norman, Oklahoma. It is a home for 7 men seeking a safe place to stay and recover from substance use disorder.

Phone:(405) 857-2030

Email: elmhurstII@oxfordhouse.us

ALLURE



NORTHEASTERN

CLAREMORE

Oxford House Allure is a 5 bedroom, 2 bathroom house located in Claremore, Oklahoma. It is a home for 9 women plus 1 woman & child seeking a safe place to stay to recover from substance use disorder.

Phone:(918) 965-1841

Email: allure@oxfordhouse.us

SHADOW MOUNTAIN II



NORTHEASTERN

TULSA

Oxford House Shadow Mountain II is a 5 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom house located in Tulsa, Oklahoma. It is a home for 11 women seeking a safe place to stay to recover from substance use disorder.

Phone:(918) 576-6302

Email: shadowmountainII@oxfordhouse.us

**For a list of all vacancies please visit
www.oxfordvacancies.com**

07

UPCOMING EVENTS



08

RESOURCES



[OKIMREADY.ORG](https://www.okimready.org)



Thank you to our partners



OKLAHOMA
**Mental Health &
Substance Abuse**