



New Drivers are on the Road



Acquiring a driver's license is a major milestone in the life of a teenager. The ability to drive is a crucial aspect of learning to navigate the world with confidence. As doors open for teenagers, more opportunities and responsibilities become available. For teens in foster care a driver's license can be a difficult privilege to earn.

Federal regulations, often referred to as "normalcy laws," allow foster parents and group homes to act in the best interest of the child to ensure that his or her experience while in care is full of typical experiences similar to other kids their age. South Carolina DSS has embraced these laws, which is why Pendleton Place can more directly empower the teens in our care to take this next step in independent living. The South Carolina state legislature has also shown unanimous support within the past year through fundamental legislative improvements that have made it easier for teenagers living in foster care to obtain a driver's license.

Thanks to the partnership with **911 Driving School**, **DSS's Independent Living Program**, and the **Chafee Independent Living Funds**, four of our Smith House residents recently received their driver's licenses! These mutually beneficial relationships have been a steadfast source of hope in perpetuating our girls' growth with self-confidence.

Our **Smith House Youth Mentors** are working with the girls to prepare them for both the written and driving tests. We also want to recognize the **South Carolina Camaro Club**, who donated a Chevy Cobalt to the Smith House residential program and gave our girls what they needed to get behind the wheel and practice.

Our goal is to ensure each Smith House girl is experiencing every aspect of life necessary to grow into a successful, independent, capable young woman."Obtaining a driver's license is critical for self-sufficiency, and we are very proud of our youth who have achieved this milestone. For our residents,

navigating the DMV is event more complicated than it is for the average person! For a teen living in foster care, this accomplishment requires a great deal of patience and determination. Most of us take for granted things like access to vital records, a vehicle to practice driving in, and guardians who care enough to teach and guide." - **Jed Dews**, Pendleton Place Associate Executive Director

With your support, Smith House residents are able to continue to pursue their aspirations just like any other teenager. These important accomplishments are worth sharing and celebrating. Thanks to the Greenville community, our girls can experience this life changing moment. Please consider making a gift to Smith House today.

Support our Smith House Residents



New Development Director

Join us in welcoming **Lynn Pilgrim** as the new Pendleton Place **Development Director**! Lynn has a bachelor's degree in marketing and a master's degree in electronic commerce, both from Clemson University. For the past 17 years she has worked in higher education fundraising at Clemson University and Furman University with annual, major, and planned giving donors. Lynn and her husband have lived in Greenville for almost 8 years and her family is from the Upstate area. In addition to creating a comprehensive development plan to take Pendleton Place's fundraising efforts to the next level, Lynn is also looking forward to working with the Greenville community. In her spare time she loves to read, travel, and of course watch Clemson football!

If you would like to welcome Lynn to Pendleton Place or schedule a meeting to get to know her, she can be reached at (864) 516-1228 or through [email](#). Welcome Lynn!

Upcoming Events

Pendleton Place is benefiting from many upcoming events and we want to make sure you mark them on your calendars! Without your help and support, these events would not be possible. Stay tuned for details on these upcoming events:

- **Dance Party for Pendleton Place**
 - Thursday, April 12th 6:00 PM- 9 PM at Swamp Rabbit Café and Grocery

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

- Details to come
- **Spinx Charity Classic Golf Tournament**
 - Tuesday, May 8th
 - Volunteers needed- details to come
- **SYNNEX Share the Magic Golf Tournament**
 - Saturday, June 9th
 - Teams of four needed
 - Contact [Elizabeth Stoffelen](#) about sponsorship and team information
- **SYNNEX Share the Magic Day at the Drive**
 - Sunday, June 10th, Greenville Drive Fluor Field
 - Details to come

Want to host your own fundraiser for Pendleton Place? Please check out our [Special Events Proposal Form](#) for more details and learn how you can use your skills to make a difference in the life of a child, teen, young adult, and family at Pendleton Place.



Volunteer Building and Groundskeeper

Pendleton Place is in need of a volunteer building and groundskeeper to help with the odd jobs here and there. Please contact Jonathan Pettis at 864-516-1242 or [email](#) for more details.

Storage Containers for Smith House

As you can imagine, space can be very tight and scarce when living in a house with nine other teenage girls. **Our girls are in need of large plastic storage containers with secure lids.** Storage containers can be new or gently used.



Donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-5:00 PM. Please indicate your donation is for our Smith House girls. For any questions please call (864) 467-3650.

Our Mission is to keep children safe and support families in crisis through prevention, assessment, and intervention.

Our Vision is a community where children are safe, families are strong, and victims become whole again.

STAY CONNECTED:



864.467.3650

www.pendletonplace.org