



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

AN EVENING TO IGNITE

Friday, March 20, 2026

Benefitting



MERRIMON-WYNNE

LA FÊTE
PLANNING & DESIGN

GATHERING FOR GOOD

An Evening To Ignite is anything but a traditional gala. It's Triangle event professionals uniting to turn their craft into community impact.

This event was born from a desire to rethink what fundraising could look like. We saw how much time and money nonprofits were spending to host traditional galas; often investing more than they raised. Jodi Strenkowski, owner of The Merrimon-Wynne House, gathered some of the Triangle's leading event professionals and imagined a different kind of model. What began as a small idea has grown into one of the region's most inspiring annual events. In partnership with La Fete Planning & Design, ***An Evening To Ignite* blends creativity and community through a new immersive theme each year**, redefining the gala experience and ensuring 100% of proceeds raised go directly to a local grassroots nonprofit.

This isn't another black-tie affair. It's a night designed to engage the senses and spark connection. Casino games, delicious bites, live entertainment and exciting auctions, all unfold against the backdrop of The Merrimon-Wynne House.

Each year, after an extensive interview and application process, **one grassroots nonprofit is selected as the beneficiary**. Beyond raising critical funds, *An Evening To Ignite* is designed to shine a spotlight on their mission, bringing lasting awareness and support.

Over the past seven years, the event has raised over \$800,000 for six nonprofits, including Neighbor to Neighbor, No Woman No Girl, Families Together, Ripe for Revival, and Project CATCH.

We're honored to have **Haven House Services' Crisis and Homelessness programs** as the 2026 partner, with a goal to raise \$250,000+ in support of their transformative work.



HAVEN HOUSE SERVICES

OUR 2026 BENEFICIARY

Our goal is to raise \$250,000 for Haven House's Crisis and Homelessness programs in Raleigh. These three programs provide safety, housing, counseling and support to youth experiencing homelessness, crisis or other significant challenges.

We all know a young person who has stumbled, struggled or felt alone. **For more than 50 years, Haven House Services has been the place where youth in crisis find support.** They walk alongside them, providing shelter, food, guidance, and a path forward.

But the challenges are mounting—affordable housing is out of reach, essentials cost more and youth mental health needs continue to rise. Today, more young people than ever are experiencing homelessness.

At Haven House, they meet these challenges head-on with unwavering commitment—helping youth find safety, stability, and the brighter future they deserve.

HAVEN HOUSE PROGRAMS IN OUR COMMUNITY



Wrenn House

Wrenn House is the only youth homeless and crisis shelter for ages 10–17 within 1.5 hours of Raleigh. Open 24/7 year-round near downtown, it offers safe shelter, counseling, caring staff, and support to help youth secure long-term stable housing, while also operating a 24/7 crisis line.



Street Outreach

The Street Outreach program supports homeless youth ages 16–24 by providing food, hygiene kits, counseling, case management, and referrals. Using a mobile van, staff meet youth where they are, build trust, and help with shelter, documentation, education, and employment.



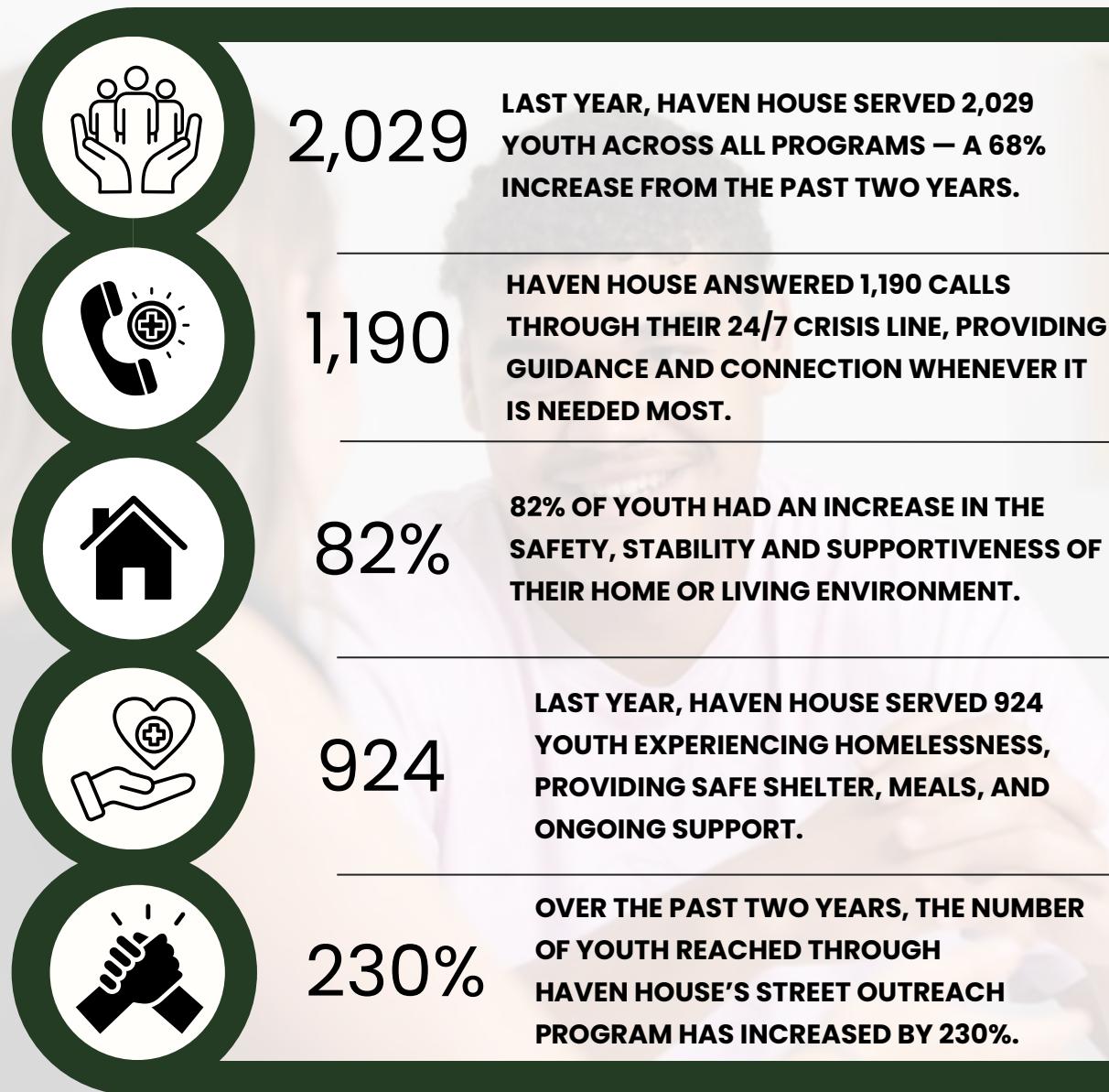
Transition In Place

Transition in Place helps homeless youth ages 18–23, including those who are pregnant or parenting, secure housing. The program offers rent assistance, counseling, life skills classes, and individualized support to help youth navigate systems, build skills, and maintain stable housing long-term.

THE DIFFERENCE HAVEN HOUSE MAKES

Haven House Services believes every young person deserves to be safe, supported and successful. They work with **youth ages 6-24 in Wake County**, especially those dealing with **crisis, homelessness or unstable situations at home, school or in the community**. Many of the young people they serve have faced trauma, abuse or neglect and Haven House takes a “whatever-it-takes” approach helping each youth figure out their goals, overcome obstacles and get the skills and resources they need to thrive.

HAVEN HOUSE'S IMPACT



FY25 Data

Supporting Haven House means giving young people in our community a safe place to turn, someone who believes in them, and the resources to build a brighter future.

Will you consider joining forces with us to help end youth homelessness?



SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

EXCLUSIVE TITLE EVENT SPONSOR

an event experience for 10 guests

\$30,000

one available

- 4 VIP Chef's Dinner Tickets**
VIP tickets include Chef's Dinner, full open bar with signature cocktails, live musical performance, as well as access to The Main Event and the after-party
- 6 General Admission Tickets** to *An Evening to Ignite 2026*, as well as access to the after party
- Large logo banner at the main event
- Logo featured throughout the event in multiple placements
- Main event title sponsor recognition in all marketing and promotions

LEVEL TWO SPONSOR

an event experience for 8 guests

\$10,000

two available

- ✓ **6 General Admission Tickets** to An Evening to Ignite 2026, as well as access to the after-party
- ✓ **2 VIP Chef's Dinner Tickets**
VIP tickets include Chef's Dinner, full open bar with signature cocktails, live musical performance, as well as access to the main event and the after-party
- ✓ 24"x36" sign at main event featuring your company logo
- ✓ Logo and company information on event website and social media stories

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

LEVEL THREE SPONSOR

an event experience for 4 guests

\$7,500

two available

4 VIP Chef's Dinner Tickets

VIP tickets include Chef's Dinner, full open bar with signature cocktails, live musical performance, as well as access to the main event and the after-party

Large logo banner at the VIP Chef Dinner

Logo and company information on event website and social media stories

LEVEL FOUR SPONSOR

an event experience for 4 guests

\$5,000

six available

4 General Admission Tickets to An Evening to Ignite 2026

*ability to purchase after party access

8"x10" sign at main event featuring your company logo

Logo and company information on event website and social media stories

LEVEL FIVE SPONSOR

an event experience for 2 guests

\$2,500

unlimited available

2 General Admission Tickets to An Evening to Ignite 2026

*ability to purchase after party access

5"x7" sign at main event featuring your company logo

Logo and company information on event website and social media stories



BECOME A SPONSOR TODAY

For sponsorship questions, please contact Abby Kinlaw at
abby@merrimonwynne.com

Sponsorship payments will be directed through the Haven House Services. Haven House is a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (Tax ID: 56-1073632). Additional financial and tax related information is available upon request.

AN EVENING TO IGNITE

Benefitting



Scan for more event information

