

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Helen Ross McNabb
FOUNDATION

DEDICATION



GAIL AND DAVID WEDEKIND

When asked by his friend Andy Black to serve as a member on the Helen Ross McNabb Foundation Board of Directors, David Wedekind agreed. Shortly thereafter, he took a tour of the Centerpointe facility, which houses a program to help clients overcome substance use disorders, and found it to be an eye opening experience.

“Gail and I got involved because of the drug and alcohol center initially,” David explained. “Centerpointe was a big part of my interest in the McNabb Center ... it was recognizing that all the people who are

served by the McNabb Center, not only for the drug and alcohol addiction rehabilitation, but for all the other services they provide, are really just a microcosm of all of us, of just all humanity as a whole. Everybody knows somebody who has suffered from alcoholism, drug addiction or who has been abused physically or mentally, or lived in a bad environment at home.”

That tour was eighteen years ago, and David and Gail’s interest and involvement with the Center has grown since then. They have seen how McNabb has filled the gap in providing critical services to the community by visiting its programs and seeing firsthand

how clients receive the help and care they need. “Once Gail and I saw all that they were doing, we knew what we needed to do,” David reflected referring to how they decided to share their time, talent and treasure with McNabb.

David’s connection became deeper as he chose to serve on the Foundation Board for two terms, which spanned from 2016 to 2022, and performed as Foundation Board Chairman during his second term. With his benevolent spirit, he became part of the McNabb Center Board in 2022 and is currently helping raise funds for the Elevate Recovery High School Capital Campaign.

As Knoxville natives, their concern for individuals in our community who don’t have resources for mental health is genuine. Besides being instrumental in the expansion of Centerpointe, the couple has witnessed the McNabb Center grow exponentially. “It’s amazing how many people they serve and how many services they provide. The staff, boards and administration are all passionate about what they are doing, and are dedicated professionals that make it a great organization from top to bottom,” said David. The pair saw Military Services grow with the addition of a counseling center next to its residential building. They both take a personal interest in helping veterans, as well, since David’s father served in World War II, and Gail’s father was a veteran of the Korean War. David and Gail can recall how their fathers struggled with PTSD because no mental health services were available like those the McNabb Center provides today.

After receiving his law degree from the University of Memphis Law School and working as a trial lawyer for approximately 35 years at Hodges, Doughty & Carson law firm, David retired from active practice ten years ago. Close to his retirement, David and his son Blaine, who started a small, craft beer business in his garage, chose to go into business together. They bought the old BP

PHOTO BY CHARLIE BROOKS.



LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

gas station at the corner of Broadway and Jackson and repurposed it into Balter Beerworks, a brewery and restaurant, in 2016. Seven years later, David opened Stir, a restaurant with upscale food and drink offerings, in the Old City. The establishments have become highly successful and their impact has made a difference in the community because they are both used to giving back. Throughout the year, donated meals and beverages are provided to McNabb Foundation fundraising events.

The Wedekinds exemplify the true nature of giving to others and investing in community. Their charity continues beyond the McNabb Foundation and McNabb Center as they support The Interfaith Health Center, University of Tennessee Foundation, University of Tennessee Hospital, Grace Church, Sacred Heart Cathedral, the Cherokee Foundation and remain a Charter Member of SquareUp Foundation.

“She is the one who is selfless,” commented David, smiling at his wife of 46 years. Gail’s full time efforts and attention are with their three children and nine grandchildren. She has also been involved for years with the Blount Mansion and Knoxville Garden Club.

The Helen Ross McNabb Foundation is proud to dedicate the 2024-2025 Annual Report to Gail and David Wedekind, a selfless couple who has made a tremendous difference in supporting the mission of the McNabb Center.

As you will see in the following pages, the Helen Ross McNabb Foundation provided impressive support this year for McNabb Center programs and facility expansions. What we hope you take away is the impact that this will have on individuals in East Tennessee. Through your gifts, you are helping us make our community the best place to live, work and play—and those efforts will improve lives for generations to come.

With strong continued support from the community, the Foundation continues to exceed goals in our fundraising efforts. We also added a one-time only art auction called Exclusively Scripps thanks to a generous donation from our friends at Warner Brothers Discovery. A truckload of donated toys from Global Empowerment Mission allowed the Center to distribute 12,000 gifts through its Dear Santa program in addition to the wishlists, parties and holiday activities that occur annually.

In 2025, we look forward to providing substance use treatment to more individuals at our newly renovated and expanded Centerpointe facility with upgrades that include more client rooms, expanded kitchen and dining spaces, office spaces and a large group activity space. Additionally, the Knox Women’s Campus is almost complete. With 13 2-bedroom units and six 1-bedroom units, the women’s campus will provide a safe and healthy living environment for families in need.

With so much good happening at the McNabb Center and supported by the Helen Ross McNabb Foundation, it’s easy for us to be excited about what next year will bring. As always, thank you for your continued support.



Mona Blanton-Kitts

Mona Blanton-Kitts
MCNABB CENTER
PRESIDENT/CEO



Houston Smelcer

Houston Smelcer
SR. VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT &
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



OUR TEAM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024

Helen Ross McNabb Foundation

The Foundation is governed by a volunteer board of directors. Board members have the responsibility to create and evaluate policy and organizational goals regarding the Foundation’s finances and services. Board members are elected to serve a three-year term and may serve two terms consecutively.

TOP ROW (LEFT-RIGHT): Dr. Rebecca Ashford, Ms. Mona Blanton-Kitts, Mrs. Lauren Sampson Bowman, Mrs. Lindsey Boyd, Mr. Chris Castleberry (Treasurer), Mr. Joe Costner, Mr. Chris Devaney, Mr. Wade Ewers (Immediate Past Chair), Mr. Mike Fishman, Mr. Ted Flickinger, Mrs. Carter Griffin, Mrs. Debbie Jones, Ms. Anne Lantry.

BOTTOM ROW (LEFT-RIGHT): Mr. Jason Lay, Mr. John Luttrell, Mr. Richard Maples, Mrs. Micki Martin (Secretary), Mr. Jay Moneyhun, Mr. Randy Overbey (Chair Elect), Mr. Davis Overton, Mr. William Probasco, Mrs. Lisa Rottmann, Mrs. Claire Speight (Chair), Mrs. Laura Benton, Mr. Larry Bodie, Mrs. Ashley McManus.

OUR MISSION

Since its founding in 1972, the Helen Ross McNabb Foundation has worked diligently to support the McNabb Center. The Foundation’s staff and volunteer board actively raises, holds and invests funds on behalf of the Center. Funds raised by the Foundation over the years have contributed greatly toward the stability and growth of the Center.

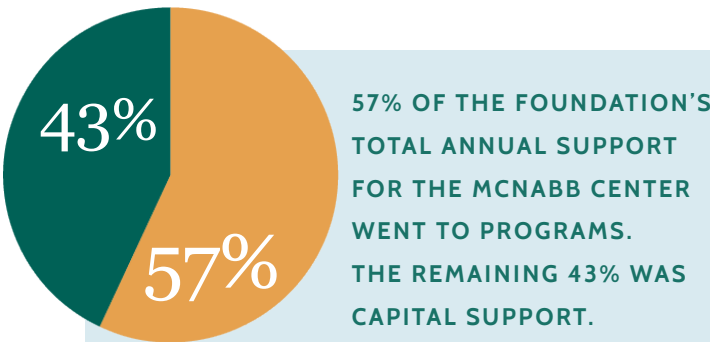
DEVELOPMENT TEAM

- MONA BLANTON-KITTS**
MSSW, LCSW
McNabb Center President/CEO
- HOUSTON SMELCER**
MBA, CFP
Senior Vice President of Development & Government Relations
- HOWARD BLUM**
Sponsorship Specialist
- AMY BOX-FELHOLTER**
Community Relations Coordinator
- PAMELA COLEMAN** MA
Special Events Coordinator
- HEATHER DAVIS** MS
Director of Community Relations
- KERRIE HUNTER**
Assistant Director of Development & Events, Hamilton County
- KRISTA KENNEDY**
Assistant Director of Development & Events
- MISSY MARLAIRE**
Executive Assistant
- ABIGAIL MARTIN**
Community Relations Coordinator, Hamilton County
- JESSIE SCHROEDER**
Volunteer & Outreach Specialist
- AMANDA WARD**
Marketing Specialist
- MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**
- ROBBIE ARRINGTON**
- DAVID RODDY**
- CINDY SEXTON**
- LAURA SHAMIYEH, CHAIR**
- CLAIRE SPEIGHT**
- TRACI TOPHAM**

FINANCIAL REPORT

HELEN ROSS MCNABB FOUNDATION

In 2024, the Foundation's total assets exceeded \$63 million.



Program Support

Includes Hamblen Recovery Home, Military Services, Blount Jail to Work, Sexual Assault Center of East Tennessee, Domestic Violence Services, Centerpointe, Medical Staff Support, Knox Therapeutic Preschool, EmPATH and Hamilton Therapeutic Preschool.

Capital Support

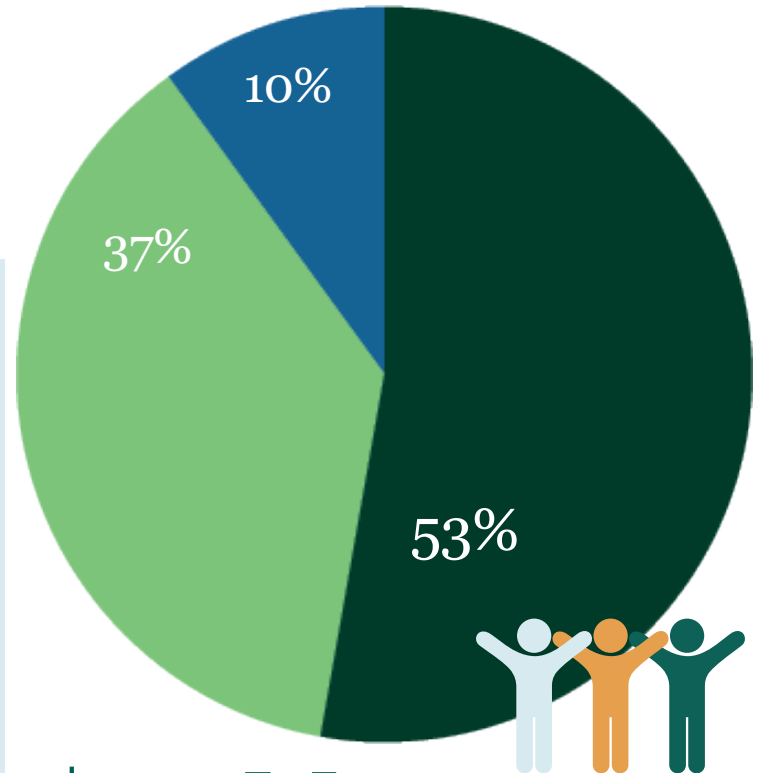
Blount County Women's Recovery Home
Adult Residential (Centerpointe)

HOW TO GIVE

There are many ways to make a gift to the Helen Ross McNabb Foundation. You can participate in special events, contribute to an ongoing campaign, make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one or make a bequest in your will. To learn more about the range of charitable giving options, please contact us at 865-541-6684 or info@mcnabbfoundation.org.

SOURCES OF REVENUE

- Investment Income: 53%
- Contribution & Gifts: 37%
- Special Events: 10%



\$2.3M

Annual support from the Foundation to the McNabb Center in 2024 was more than \$2 million.

51,000

Because of the support of the Foundation, the McNabb Center was able to serve more than 51,000 individuals in 2024.



CURRENT CAMPAIGN

ELEVATE RECOVERY HIGH SCHOOL

Campaign Goal: \$9,200,000

The Elevate Recovery High School is a recovery program for high school students and is designed to support students struggling with co-occurring mental health and substance use issues in a structured learning environment. The Elevate Program was launched in August 2021 with the capacity to serve 10 youth. The program is now operating for its fourth year and serving at a capacity of 20 youth.

The program's evidence-based practices have led to improved mental health outcomes, continued education, reduced substance abuse rates, increased community integration and enhanced overall quality of life for participants and their families.

The program offers a wide range of support services, including individual counseling, group therapy sessions, educational programs, life skills training and access to recovery support

resources. By addressing the physical, emotional, and academic aspects of their lives, the program equips youth with the necessary tools and support network to navigate their recovery journey successfully. Recognizing the importance of academic success in the recovery process, Elevate High School provides a personalized education program tailored to the specific needs of each student.

The Helen Ross McNabb Foundation has reached 85% of its campaign goal of \$9.2 million for Elevate Recovery High School. Funds will be used for construction of the school building, which will be a standalone, 13,000-square-foot high school consisting of three traditional classrooms with a 20-student capacity each (total capacity of 60 students). Additional features of the building expansion include an outdoor classroom, a virtual classroom, cafeteria, group and individual treatment rooms and office spaces.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Spirit Award DINNER

benefiting McNabb Center

MAY

*Funds raised in 2024:
more than \$530,000*

Each year the Spirit Award Dinner recognizes individuals who have supported the efforts of the McNabb Center and Helen Ross McNabb Foundation and have worked selflessly to improve lives in their community. In 2024, Jenny and Randy Boyd were honored and more than \$530,000 was raised at the event. With a generous match from the Stowers and Brock families, this was a record-breaking year. Festivities included a special recognition at the event of the late Dr. Joe Johnson, the first recipient of the Spirit Award.



Top Left: Jenny Boyd, Randy Boyd, Mona Blanton-Kitts, Mayor Indya Kincannon, Mayor Glenn Jacobs Top Middle: Randy and Jenny Boyd
Bottom Left: George Kershaw, Wade Ewers Bottom Middle: Mona Blanton-Kitts Right: Jenny and Randy Boyd



HAMILTON COUNTY EVENT

Funds raised in 2024: more than \$35,000

MAY

In its first year at the beautiful Council Fire Golf Club, the McNabb Center Golf Tournament presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee raised more than \$46,000 for services in Hamilton County. Twenty teams joined the fun to support the McNabb Center.



Condor Construction: Heather Denis, Bill Fine, Brian Denis and Mark Wesson



Teams lineup for shotgun start



PNC Bank: Grayson Pickett, Nick Arnold, Colton Smith and John Merritt



Funds raised in 2024: nearly \$159,000

JUNE

The tenth annual Bob Kesling and Bert Bertelkamp Golf Tournament broke records this year with approximately 44 teams joining in the competition and raising nearly \$159,000 for the McNabb Center. Axle Logistics, Regal and BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee were presenting sponsors for this popular event.



Regions Bank: Dasan Dix, Bert Bertelkamp, Zach Farrar, Bob Kesling, Sara McCord, Rob Stivers



John Luttrell and his grandson



AlcoPro: Jesse Smithey, Bert Bertelkamp, Sam Smithey, Levi Smithey, Jack Singleton, Bob Kesling



BIG OBBQ BASH

benefiting McNabb Center

BLOUNT COUNTY EVENT

Funds raised in 2024: more than \$65,000

JUNE

In 2024, more than 30 teams competed for the grand prize in the Big BBQ Bash, a Kansas City Barbecue Society sanctioned competition. The \$65,000 raised at this event directly benefits the McNabb Center's Military Services program.



Cool Hand Que



Barger-Que



Rooters-N-Tooters

RUSSELL BIVEN CLAYFEST

benefiting McNabb Center

Funds raised in 2024: more than \$94,000

AUGUST

Eighty-one teams participated in the two-day Russell Biven Clayfest, which raised more than \$94,000. Russell Biven hosts the tournament to benefit mental health, substance use, social and victim services provided by the McNabb Center in East Tennessee.



The Christman Company: Jose Gutierrez, Shannon Looney, Mark Estes and Justin Addington



Clayfest Committee Co-Chair: Andy Hampson



Washing Equipment of Tennessee: Vince Keller, Aaron Jordan, Will Stiles and Tillman Keller



Evening of Hope

benefiting
McNabb Center

HAMBLEN COUNTY EVENT

AUGUST

Funds raised in 2024: more than \$43,000

Rosemary and Jody Wigington were recognized as the 2024 Evening of Hope honorees in Morristown for their longstanding commitment to the McNabb Center. The event benefits the McNabb Center's Jail to Work pre-arrest diversion programming in Hamblen County. This year, Jail to Work alumna Christa Keirseay shared her story with attendees.



Honorees Jody & Rosemary Wigington



HAMILTON COUNTY EVENT

Funds raised in 2024: more than \$28,000

SEPTEMBER

In 2024, Scenic City Sporting Clays had 25 teams and new sponsors. The event successfully raised more than \$28,000 for the McNabb Center.

(left) John Jeffries, Charles Miller,
Clay Kessler & Brian Wilson

(middle) Matt Kreis, Glenn Baird,
Bob Marshall, Bruce Zeiser

(right) Volunteers Matthew
Southern & Alyssa Flowers





Funds raised in 2024: Nearly \$62,000

OCTOBER

In 2024, Sunset Shenanigans raised nearly \$62,000 to support programs and services across East Tennessee. Teams of four had an entirely new golf experience once the sun went down, participating in a cosmic target golf challenge and cosmic putting contest.



Eleesa and Dr. Jerry Epps

EXCLUSIVELY SCRIPPS ART AUCTION

Funds raised in 2024: more than \$150,000



OCTOBER

This one-time-only, exclusive auction of over 60 pieces of art brought in more than \$150,000 for the McNabb Center's Dear Santa program. Thank you to Warner Bros. Discovery, Clayton Homes and Ritway for making this event possible.



Event co-creator and co-chair Wade Ewers and family



Beth Haynes & Kelly Shipe



Gary and Julia Bentley, Tommie Rush, Karen Mann and Richard Jolley



KNOXVILLE CHALLENGER

benefiting McNabb Center

Funds raised in 2024: nearly \$207,000

NOVEMBER

The Knoxville Challenger is the largest professional men's tennis tournament in the region and brings professional tennis stars to Knoxville to compete for \$80,000 in prize money. The 2024 Challenger brought in nearly \$207,000 for the McNabb Center. This year, the ATP and USTA recognized the 20-year history of Knoxville Challenger and dedicated the award in honor of Howard Blum.



Top left: Flynt and Carter Griffin Top middle: Doubles winners Johannus Monday and Patrick Harper
 Top right: Krista Kennedy, Abigail Jumper, Christopher Eubanks, Mona Blanton-Kitts, Tyke Hillmer and Scott Patrick
 Bottom left: Christopher Eubanks and the 2024 ball kids
 Bottom right: Jenny Brock, Krista Kennedy, Mona Blanton-Kitts, Howard Blum and Scott Patrick





Funds raised in 2024: more than \$108,000

DECEMBER


More than 1,200 bidders participated in the Beth Haynes 12 Days of Christmas Auction, raising \$108,649 to support families in need during the holiday season. The funds raised by the auction support the McNabb Center's Dear Santa program and help bring Christmas joy to more than 3,500 children and families served by the Center.




Top left: Demetra Ware
Top right: Hank Bertelkamp, Brownie Bertelkamp and Bert Bertelkamp
Bottom left: Larsen Jay and Heather Davis
Bottom middle: First Utility District staff
Bottom right: Sharon Reid

ONGOING SUPPORT


Some of the Helen Ross McNabb Foundation initiatives are one-time allocations, and some are ongoing. The Foundation provides ongoing support to ensure the McNabb Center can continue its mission of improving lives and serving those with the greatest need and fewest resources.

East Tennessee Prescriber Fund  The East Tennessee Prescriber Fund helps the Center support salaries for Psychiatrists and Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners working for the Center, keeping them closer to market value.


East Tennessee Military Services  The Foundation's fundraising campaign for military services, which raised \$2 million, continues to support the program at \$150,000 annually.

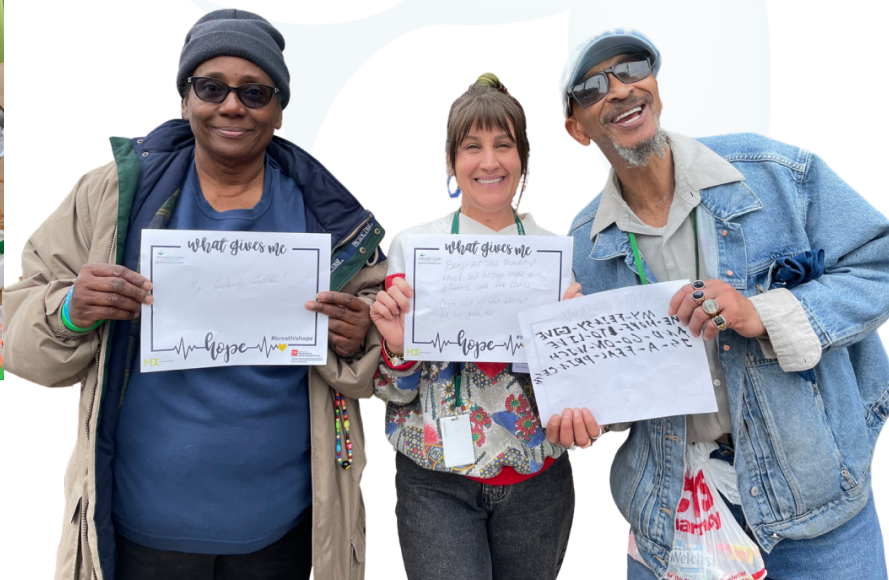
Ben Goodson Gratitude Fund  The Ben Goodson Gratitude Fund supports the financial cost associated with serving the needs of adolescents and adults struggling with substance abuse disorders.



Therapeutic Preschool  Because of the Foundation's support totaling \$225,000 each year, the Knoxville preschool has sufficient funds to operate for 20 years at \$75,000 per year.

Helen Ross McNabb Foundation Grant  \$500,000 annually from the Foundation's investment portfolio supports McNabb Center programs such as the EmPATH Unit, which fills in operating gaps and provides startup assistance for new programs.

Victim Services  The Sexual Assault Center of East Tennessee (SACET) ensures that the basic, daily needs of survivors of sexual assault are being met. The Foundation has committed annual funding of \$50,000 to SACET for a minimum of 20 years to support the needs of survivors during their time of healing.



LETTER FROM BOARD CHAIR

I was in a Center Board meeting recently, and I heard Leann Human-Hilliard state that McNabb's new EmPATH Unit has saved over 1,800 lives as of mid-March. This is yet another incredible number reported by McNabb staff illustrating the vital and life-changing work the Center is doing. It seems nearly every McNabb meeting I'm in, I hear more impactful numbers and statistics.

For example, the Knoxville Challenger celebrated 20 years this past November. This local, professional tennis tournament benefitting McNabb has not only become a staple for rising tennis stars but has grown to be one of the most successful Challenger tournaments in the country. How's that for a stat?

In addition, we have major donors and their unique donations to be thankful for. Warner Bros. Discovery donated over 60 fine art pieces from the old Scripps office building for McNabb's use and benefit. This led to the "Exclusively Scripps Art Auction" in October which raised over \$150,000.

Another beneficiary of a thoughtful donor was McNabb's Dear Santa program. Global Empowerment Mission donated a massive truck full of \$300,000 worth of Hasbro toys. This wonderful gift allowed the Dear Santa program to further support children and families in need this past holiday season.



As you can see, these stories and numbers are frequent. And maybe one could get used to hearing positive numbers. However, the expectations and the mission of the Foundation supporting the Center remain steadfast. So let us continue to support the Center so they can do what they do best — improve and save lives in our community.

— Claire Speight, BOARD CHAIR
HELEN ROSS MCNABB FOUNDATION



*We acknowledge the
passing of the following
longstanding, active
supporters of the Helen
Ross McNabb Foundation
and the McNabb Center:*

Mitch Taylor

Rick Turner





www.mcnabbfoundation.org

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