



2026 WINTER NEWSLETTER

BARREN HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN RETREAT CENTER



Welcome, Ace Hubbard!
New Executive Director of Barren Heights



A Letter From Our New Director

Several years ago, I found myself starting over. I had moved away from everything familiar to a city where I didn't know a single person. Each day felt like learning how to rebuild life from scratch—new job, new surroundings, and a quiet longing for connection. Then, on a crisp October day, everything changed. I stepped onto a beautiful piece of property that instantly felt like home, even though I had never been there before. I was surrounded by strangers whose kindness, joy, and servant hearts felt deeply familiar. That weekend, I had the opportunity to serve children and families who understood love, resilience, and faith on a level that I had personally come to know and need. In that moment, I realized something that so many others have experienced—**there truly is no place like Barren Heights.**

Serving others has been part of my story for as long as I can remember. I grew up in Paducah, KY, where my faith, family, and community shaped my desire to walk alongside people during both joyful and difficult seasons of life. That calling eventually led me to earn my Master's in Education with a focus in counseling and pursue

opportunities in ministry, counseling, and leadership. Some of the most meaningful parts of my journey have come through my own family's experience with special needs, which gave me a deep understanding of the beauty, challenges, and strength found within families navigating that path. Those experiences continue to shape my heart and guide how I care for and serve others.

Over the next ten years, Barren Heights became increasingly important in my life through volunteering and relationships that shaped my faith and calling in ways I never expected. Only God could have known that one day He would lead me to have the incredible honor of following in the footsteps of Abbi and Toni Rose as Executive Director of Barren Heights. I step into this role with deep gratitude, humility, and excitement for what God continues to do through this ministry. I am truly honored to serve alongside the Barren Heights team as we continue creating a place where families who have children with physical and developmental disabilities can find rest, encouragement, belonging, and community. ■

Getting to Know You

Getting to Know All About Our Newest Team Members



Adrienne "Ace" Hubbard, Executive Director

Ace is originally from Paducah, KY. Ace has her Master's in Education with a focus in counseling and has spent much of her life serving others through ministry, counseling, and leadership. Her heart for serving families—especially those with special needs children—comes from her own family's experience, which has shaped her compassion and deep respect for the unique joys and challenges these families walk through each day. Her faith is the foundation of her desire to walk alongside others with care, encouragement, and authenticity. Whether serving through counseling, outreach efforts, or mission work, Ace is known for her genuine heart for people and her desire to live with purpose and intentionality.



Stephanie Trennaman, Programming Coordinator

Stephanie earned a degree from Indiana University in Psychology, with an emphasis in Child Development and Disorders. From the start of her career in Social Work, Stephanie was drawn to helping children and families thrive in their communities. Stephanie believes wholeheartedly that when people feel loved, accepted, welcomed, and safe, they can thrive! She hopes to continue being an encouraging model of Barren Heights' mission of families serving families!

Stephanie enjoys gardening, cooking, crafting, being outside, spending time with her family and traveling.



Megan Smith, Family Retreat Intern

Megan will graduate from Lindsey Wilson University in 2027 with a degree in Elementary Education. She will then continue on to get her master's in special education. Megan loves connecting with kids! She is currently the 21st Century Site Coordinator at Adair County Primary Center. She loves to create a safe place for children. She has grown up attending Barren Heights retreat weekends with her family. Barren Heights has been such a blessing to Megan, and she hopes to give back to this awesome ministry.

Megan enjoys spending time with friends and family, baking, playing the piano, traveling, and watching football.

Read More at barrenheights.org/about-us/#team



Volunteer This Year!

A new year at Barren Heights means an abundant amount of volunteer opportunities! We are a volunteer-driven organization that relies heavily on the amazing volunteer support we receive from individuals and families. Want to serve on a week night for a couple hours? We have an opportunity for that! Want to take a weekend mission trip with the whole family? We have soooooo many opportunities for you to check out. So grab your calendars, pull up your browser, and complete the volunteer application so we can get you plugged in! *If you are interested in serving at our Community Center or at one of our Community Events, please reach out directly to our Programming Coordinator Stephanie at stephanie@barrenheights.org.*

Opportunities

New Volunteer Training
Thursday, April 21st

Retreat Center Work Day
Saturday, April 25th

Summer Retreat
Volunteer Applications





In 2025, our older buildings received paint, siding, and flooring!



There's a ramp!

At the end of retreat season, our new custom wagon arrived.



Volunteers installed our Prayer Patio and memorial bricks in spring.

2025 Annual Report

Celebrate a year well spent!

Each January we celebrate the previous year's accomplishments and look forward to the year ahead in our [Annual Report](#). In 2025, we hosted 20 weekend retreats, 21 community events, and served 445 families of children with disabilities! Those numbers represent tangible experiences and real families that we were able to impact simply through hosting opportunities for connection where families could feel loved, accepted, welcomed, and safe. This year's Annual Report—which is loaded with statistics, financials, photos, and goals—is now available on our website. We invite you to take a look, and celebrate with us!



[Click to Read Our](#)
2025
[Annual](#)
[Report](#)

Snapshots!

2025 Green & Gold Gala Photos

What a Dazzling Time with Our BH Fam!
Our 2025 Green & Gold Gala was an absolute success! We were overwhelmed and so thankful for our community's support, prayers, and participation. Take a look at these photos and reminisce with us.

Overall Goal: \$120,000

Final Total: \$124,236!!!



2025 Abigail's Impact Award Winner

Heidi Pym



2025 Daniel's Dream Award Winner

Megan Smith

THANK YOU!

Three cheers!
Let's hear it for these generous organizations!

In 2025, we received a total of **\$209,767** from foundations and charitable organizations! These funds were given to Barren Heights to help fund weekend retreats, build a new accessible playground, purchase a custom wagon with a wheelchair ramp, perform major Retreat Center maintenance, and much more. We are grateful to all of the organizations that believe in what we do at Barren Heights and support us through financial grants. In each quarterly newsletter, we like to give shout outs and huge THANK YOUS to the organizations that have given. The following list is just the most recent grants we have received, but you can find a [complete listing of our 2025 grant supporters on our website.](#)

Grant Supporters

September 2025–February 2026

Order of St. Lazarus

Carson-Myre Foundation

Forwith Family Foundation

Frey Family Foundation

Jamie Parsley Family Foundation

Kentucky Colonels

Snowy Owl Foundation

Voss Clark

Could you give us a **Boost?**

While we can do so much through the generous grants we receive, we can do **EVEN MORE** when monthly donors partner with Barren Heights and provide sustained support throughout the year. Would you consider coming alongside Barren Heights and becoming what we call a "Barren Heights Booster"? Not only will you help us serve special needs families, you'll get to join our Booster community which includes periodic gatherings, exclusive monthly communications, and perks just for our Boosters. [Will you join us?](#)

Barren Heights qualifies for tax exempt status under section 501-c-3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible under section 170. EIN:32-0121355

Save the Date!

Upcoming Opportunities to Support Barren Heights

Winsday

Wednesday, April 29th
 at Churchill Downs

Spring Campaign

May 4th–18th
 (info coming soon)

Special Thanks

2025 Barren Heights Gala Corporate Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



