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A Monthly Newsletter from Your Friends at Ozone House



January 2012



A New Year, New Challenges for Ozone House

Dear (Contact First Name),

As we move into the New Year, it is a good time to reflect on all that we at Ozone House are grateful for, and to look ahead to the new challenges confronting Ozone House in 2012.

We are especially grateful to all of the individual donors in the community who have been generous to Ozone House during this recent holiday season. Donor support is imperative to our on-going commitment to serving the growing number of homeless and at-risk youth in our community.

Historically, nearly 85% of our operating budget came from grant support. With federal and state grants becoming increasingly competitive and greater needs in the state of Michigan, we have lost \$600,000 in grant funding for the past 3 years. Obviously, this has had a significant effect on our bottom line.

We are prepared to tackle the challenges that lie ahead through targeted strategic planning; the dedication and talent of our staff; and, by utilizing the expertise of our outstanding board of directors. Most important to us, however, is the continued investment in Ozone House by individual donors like you.

On behalf of the Ozone House board, staff, volunteers, and

What's New This Month?

[Staff Spotlight: Jesse Morgan](#)

[Ozone House Awards](#)

[Special Thanks](#)

[Pumpkin's Corner](#)



Do you have a mobile phone? If so, we need your help!

IKEA is willing to give us \$10,000 to buy furnishings to improve the living facilities of Miller House, our transitional living home for young people ages 17-20.

Simply text **LIFE79** to **62345** once a day over the next 2 weeks so we can win **IKEA's Life Improvement Project**.

We are up against 2

the youth and families we serve, I thank you in advance as we enter an exciting new year!



Warmest regards,

Katie Doyle
Executive Director

Staff Spotlight: Jesse Morgan, Youth Employment Coordinator

Jesse Morgan is the newest addition to the [Ozone House staff](#). Having earned a BS in Secondary Education from Central Michigan University and a BS in Music from Eastern Michigan University, he is uniquely prepared to work with youth.



In his new role as Youth Employment Coordinator, Jesse will be working with Ozone House staff to develop a program focused on helping youth find and prepare for employment.

"I'm really excited to be working with such a great group of people focused on making a positive difference in young people's lives," he said.

Not only has Jesse taught high school music, but he is also an accomplished musician who has partnered with Community Records to produce a CD entitled, *My Story/Your Story/Our Story*. According to Morgan, "All this work has pointed toward working with this population of young, at-risk youth."

Jesse is excited about the upcoming **Community Showcase of Youth Talent** on March 10th. "I hope this show leads to more support for Ypsilanti youth," Morgan says. Given his unique background experience, it should prove to be a memorable night.

agencies in Detroit, so it's important we show IKEA that Washtenaw County deserves to win! [Texting is free](#) and ends Friday, Jan 20th. Thank you!



Special Thanks

Ozone House recognizes the following for all their support:

[Dr Kristin Johnson & the staff at Liberty Dental PLC](#) and [Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery of Ann Arbor](#) will provide free dental services to homeless and at-risk youth from Ozone House on MLK Day, January 17th.

[Fustini's Oil & Vinegars](#) donated a portion of the proceeds from their Cookbook Release Fundraising Event totalling \$210.

The employees of [The Ride-Ann Arbor Transportation Authority](#) donated \$500 to the efforts in our Ypsilanti office.

[University of Michigan Registrar's Office](#) employees made a generous holiday donation.

[Anneke's Hair and Co.](#) kindly donated hair products for our youth.

A complete list of all our partners is available [here](#).

Did You Know?

- Ozone House was awarded **Best Managed Nonprofit in Southeastern Michigan by Crain's Detroit Business**
- Ozone House was honored 3 times for **Non-profit Management Excellence by the NEW Center** for sound management practices, innovative use of resources, and Excellence in Community Education and Outreach
- Ozone House was recognized by the **National Resource Center for best practices** in Transitional and Independent Living Services
- Ozone House was named **an exemplary agency** for use of Best Practices by a Michigan State University study
- Ozone House was awarded grant funding as **lead agency for Communities Empowering Youth**

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Ozone House is a community-based, nonprofit agency that helps young people lead safe, healthy, and productive lives.

Since 1969, Ozone House has actively developed unique, high-quality programs, services, and housing that provide support, intervention, training, and assistance to runaway, homeless, and high-risk youth and their families. Through these support services, we help youth develop essential life skills, improve their relationships, and enhance their self-image so that they may realize their full potential for growth and happiness. All our services are completely free, voluntary & confidential.

To learn more about Ozone House, please visit www.ozonehouse.org

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Pumpkin's Corner

Many of you know that Pumpkin is the resident house cat here at Ozone House. She spends most of her time eating (a lot!) and sleeping, but every now and then she likes to "help" our staff with their work!



Administrative Coordinator, Allie Schachter, and her "assistant"



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Ozone House | 1705 Washtenaw | Ann Arbor | MI | 48104