

Miss Alabama

P A G E A N T

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tag: Lee and Macon County – beneficiaries of Day of Service



**MADE
FOR
MORE**

BIRMINGHAM, AL – Friday and Saturday, April 6th and 7th will find hundreds of volunteers and titleholders of the Miss Alabama Organization, out in full force volunteering in communities all across Alabama to help serve the needs of those communities. From working on a Habitat Build to replacing a roof to building wheelchair ramps for the elderly, Miss America Serves Day will benefit citizens of this great state as they work together on Miss America Serves Day. This 4th annual day of service not only finds titleholders and volunteers working on projects in the state, but the funds raised by these volunteers will benefit the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals- which is the national platform of the pageant- right here in Alabama.

One of the 12 projects planned for the day is in the Lee / Macon County area working with Alabama Rural Ministries. "Developing servant leaders is at the heart of ARM's mission, which is why we're so excited for the opportunity to partner again with the Miss Alabama pageant", said Joe Davis, Director of Ministry Operation for ARM. "These outstanding young women are already leaders who know how to work hard and achieve big goals. We're honored to come alongside them with opportunities to practice their servant leadership hands-on to complete critical home repairs with families in Alabama's rural communities", he said. "Some will be roofing, others will complete siding and weatherization repairs, and others will be putting the finishing touches on a re-built kitchen. They will also have opportunities to practice compassion and share their joy as they build relationships with the homeowners. In all of these ways and more, these servant leaders will be helping us live into our vision to see communities transformed by sustainable housing, strong families, and community partnerships for the glory of God", concluded Davis. In 2017 ARM was blessed with 655 volunteers, which served 34 families and 58 children through home repair and day camp ministries. Founded in 1998 by Lisa Pierce, they are celebrating their 20th anniversary this year!

"Serving our community, state and National Platform – Children’s Miracle Network Hospital of Alabama- is very fulfilling", said Tina Jones, Team Captain and Director of the Miss and Outstanding Teen Lee Opelika Pageant, and the Miss Lee County Fair Outstanding Teen Pageant. "Miss Alabama Serves Lee County allows me and our many volunteers, contestants and friends, to serve the community we live in, go to school or work with labor equity to assist our neighbors to improve their lives and homes through our project sponsor Rural Ministries of Alabama", she said. "Our Lee County team knows how to roll up our sleeves and get to work and pay it forward with sweat equity. Donations will benefit Children’s Miracle Network Hospital of Alabama and best of all, donations from our project will remain in Alabama. Help us help our neighbors and Children’s Miracle Network Hospital by volunteering

to serve with us”, concluded Jones.

The second Team Captain for the Macon County area is Tasha McGhar Ray, director of the Miss and Outstanding Teen Lee Macon County Pageants.

“I had the opportunity to work with Alabama Rural Ministries (A.R.M) last year during Miss America Serves Day and it was such a rewarding and humbling experience”, said Sammy Rizzuto, Miss Trussville. “Not only were we able to assist someone in our area who needed help to maintain their home, but I was also able to bond with my Miss Alabama sisters in a non-competitive environment. I cannot wait to work with the girls and A.R.M again next month”, said Rizzuto.

About the Miss Alabama Pageant

Alabama is home to a remarkable and respected organization with a rich history that spans more than nine decades. This not-for-profit organization awards college scholarships to outstanding young women of our state, and its mission is more critical than ever in this time of inadequate funding for education in Alabama. The Miss Alabama Pageant stands as a shining example of what can be accomplished when college women are challenged and encouraged to achieve ambitious goals.

The community service aspect of the Miss Alabama program propels contestants into arenas of prominence where policy is made, laws are enacted or changed, crucial funding is realized, and lives are positively affected. Contestants work for causes represented by their personally chosen platforms which may include Cancer research and education, organ donation, child enrichment and mentoring programs, senior citizen advocacy, arts and cultural organizations, and many others.

About Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals

Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals raises funds and awareness for 170 children’s hospitals across North America. Every year, Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals treat more than 10 million kids – that’s 32 million hospital visits annually. Since 1983, Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals has raised more than \$5 billion, most of it \$1 at a time through corporate partners and fundraising programs. These donations support research and training, purchase equipment, and provide charitable care, all in support of its mission to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible. Learn why member hospitals rely on community support at CMN-Hospitals.org.

About The Miss America Organization

The Miss America Organization, a 501(c)4 non-profit organization, is the nation's leading advocate for women's education and the largest provider of scholarship assistance to young women in the United States, awarding millions of dollars annually. The Miss America Organization is comprised of 52 licensed organizations, including all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. Miss America contestants contribute tens of thousands of community service hours annually and have raised over \$13 million for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and Miss America scholarships since 2007.

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