

YOUNG LADY OWLS TEAM PREPARE FOR A NEW SEASON



Coach Travis Smith has been practicing and preparing his 2025-26 Owsley County Lady Owls team for the upcoming season since October. Through evenings of conditioning and practice, and recently two scrimmages, it's time for actual games. The season opens December 5 at Middlesboro and December 6 in the PRTC Classic at Jackson County.

Coach Smith will have one of his youngest teams in many years. His roster has no seniors, one junior, three sophomores, one freshman, one eighth grader, and seven seventh graders.

"We are going to be very young and inexperienced this year, no doubt about that. But our goal is to steadily improve as the season moves forward and by tournament time have a competitive team," stated Smith.

One player returning with starting experience is junior Kamilla Marcum. The 6-foot center/forward had surgery in the spring to repair a knee that had been causing her pain for the last couple of years. The surgery was successful, and she spent the summer rehabbing and recovering. She was given the go-ahead to resume practice about a month ago and is now back in action. That's good news to Coach Smith because he will be counting on her heavily this year to provide scoring and rebounding strength. She averaged over 20 points in the two scrimmages and appears to be well on her way back to

full mobility.

Kamilla gives the Lady Owls a scoring presence inside the paint, but she is also a deep threat from 3-point range. Last year, she averaged a double-double for Owsley, and that was playing on a painful knee. Now that she is healthy, Coach Smith says he anticipates her numbers to grow.

Also returning as a starter from last year is sophomore Delaney Smith, the coach's daughter. She is the primary ball handler and a very good 3-point shooter, which she exhibited during summer play. Delaney is also a crafty passer and good on-ball defender.

The spark plug of the team is sophomore forward Kiley Taylor. She is a high-energy player who plays with toughness and is one of the team's best defenders and rebounders.

Sophomore guard Harley Dooley is a two-year starter. She has game experience, important on this very youthful squad. Harley is one of the better shooters on the team, especially from behind the arc. She had a good summer of basketball and has gotten stronger. She won't be available for a few more weeks while she is in a boot for an ankle injury and may possibly return in late December or early January.

Freshman guard Lauren Gay saw action last season as a reserve and will move into a starting role this season. Lauren is a very good 3-point shooter, and her ball handling and

passing skills have greatly improved.

The rest of the team is composed of middle school players, all seventh graders except one. Of the middle schoolers, the one that will see quite a bit of play, possibly as a starter, is 6-foot seventh-grade post player Nala Pittman. Although a very young player, Nala brings length and size to the team and is a good rebounder and shot blocker. She also has a good touch around the rim. She had a great middle school season and is ready to bring her game to the varsity level.

Other seventh graders who will see plenty of varsity playing time are lefty guards Madi Cornett and Kierah Shouse. These two had a very good middle school season and are looking forward to helping quite a lot of playing time as reserves. They can both score the ball in a variety of ways, such as quick drives to the basket. And they play with a maturity much older than their actual ages.

The rest of the middle schoolers rounding out the roster are eighth grader Ginger Marshall and seventh graders Sophia Havicus, Alaina McIntosh, Serinity Callahan, and Emaleigh Herald.

By:
Deron Mays

Partnership Housing, Inc. is seeking applications for a highly organized and personable Housing Based Case Management Worker (CMW) to join our growing team and lead our rental operations to success. As the face of our organization, you'll be responsible for case managing all aspects of our supportive rental units, from acquiring new tenants to maintaining existing relationships and ensuring satisfaction.

Housing Based Case Management Worker (CMW) Responsibilities & Duties

- Assess individual client needs through comprehensive evaluations and coordinate with healthcare professionals to develop personalized care plans. Perform a housing needs assessment to identify preferences and barriers. Facilitate access to healthcare services by scheduling appointments, arranging transportation, and ensuring clients understand their treatment options.
- Help clients make informed decisions by acting as their advocate regarding their clinical status and treatment options.
- Monitor client progress by regularly reviewing case notes, communicating with service providers, and adjusting care plans as necessary to meet changing needs.
- Advocate for clients by liaising with insurance companies, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders to ensure access to necessary services and support.
- Document all case management activities, including client interactions, service coordination efforts, and outcomes in a secure and confidential manner.
- Coordinate and lead multidisciplinary team meetings to discuss complex cases, share insights, and develop holistic strategies for client care.
- Develop and maintain professional relationships with community resources, service providers, and other organizations to enhance service coordination and referral options.
- Implement and evaluate new case management tools and technologies to improve efficiency and effectiveness in managing client cases.
- Promote quality and cost-effective interventions and outcomes.
- Adhere to professional standards as outlined by protocols, rules and regulations.
- Coordinate and meet regularly with client and service team to ensure housing retention.
- Conducting an initial client orientation and ensuring that each new client receives an assessment to determine their interest in and need for services.
- Coordinating recreational, social and community-building activities; support groups and educational opportunities.
- Conducting assertive client engagement to encourage participation in services.
- Work exceptionally well in a team environment with the Executive Director, Rental Director, Housing Coordinator and Counselor, the AmeriCorps and VISTA Members, Goodwill Participant and future Chief Operating Officer and Case Management staff.
- Stay current on all local and federal laws and regulations affecting rental properties and make recommendations for changes as necessary.
- Provide transportation for clients to appointments in the event that public transportation is not available.
- Provide regular financial and performance reports to Executive Director and funders.

Housing Based Case Management Worker (CMW) Qualifications & Skills

- Bachelor's degree in Social Work or related field or equivalent experience.
- Strong organizational and multitasking abilities.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Knowledge of local, state, and federal housing laws.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Strong organizational and time management skills.
- Ability to think creatively and solve problems quickly.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office and Excel.

Valid driver's license, background check, and MVR clearance are required. Must also have the ability to travel out of state and stay overnight as needed for trainings, conferences and meetings.

For more information, contact Executive Director, Cassie Hudson at cassie.hudson@gmail.com or visit the office at 67 Lone Oak Industrial Park Road Booneville, KY, 41314. All interested candidates must submit a cover letter and resume to Partnership Housing, Inc. by January 8th, 2026 at 5:30p.m.



Light Up Booneville

2025 Parade of Lights
Saturday, December 13th 6pm
Downtown Booneville

Come share the magic of Christmas in our hometown!
Floats, music, and holiday lights will fill the streets with Christmas cheer.
Whether your are from Booneville or visiting from near or far, you are invited to be part of the glow that brings families, friends, and neighbors together.