Message from the CEO

Dear Friends:

This has been a challenging few months for Supportive Housing Communities (SHC)—just as it has been for our city, nation, and world. At the time of our last update in April, our staff members were all working from home in compliance with Governor Cooper’s Stay-at-Home Order. At that time, we were just beginning to adjust to the reality of the pandemic. The staff and I were wondering how long this "new normal" would last, whether our loved ones would remain healthy and safe and when it would be possible to resume onsite work. Knowing that we are all in this together, the team continues to work to efficiently operate our supportive housing programs and effectively serve our residents and program participants remotely.

SHC continues to forge into its “new normal” in lockstep with the State and other government and community partners. On May 18th, we implemented a partial reopening of the offices and staff now works onsite on a half-capacity rotational schedule. The Board and I are extremely thankful that to date there has not been a confirmed case of COVID-19 among our residents, staff, or program participants. SHC will continue to follow CDC guidelines and take all necessary precautions to protect our clients and staff. We are all facing these uncertain times together and expect that this “new normal” will become our regular routine.

Regardless of working from home or onsite, SHC staff continues to work tirelessly to move the homeless to housing and provide the important supportive services to ensure that these newly housed individuals and families maintain their stable housing. Since my last message
to you, there has been one person moved into St. Johns Place, one into the Scattered Site Program, two into Rapid Rehousing, four into McCreesh Place, and nine families into the Keeping Families Together Initiative. While these are different programs each with a different focus, they all have the common element of providing affordable housing solutions and supportive services.

These accomplishments are possible because of SHC’s outstanding Board and staff. This month, we celebrate the professional development of SHC’s PATH Team Lead, Angela Dreher who graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a 4.0 GPA and a Master’s in Social Work. We also celebrate Cheryl Carrothers, COO, and Evelyn Murrell, Director of Supportive Services, who both completed their licensure requirements and are now Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW). Congratulations Cheryl, Evelyn, and Angela—it is an honor to accompany you along your professional journey.

To celebrate the accomplishments of staff members who consistently exemplify passion, excellence, and dedication in their work, I instituted an Employee of the Month (EOM) and Employee of the Year (EOY) Program. Nominations for the EOM award are made by staff members and the EOM is selected by a seven-member committee of their fellow colleagues. The EOM receives a $50 gift card and is automatically included in the slate to be considered for the Employee of the Year award and a $250 gift card. It is an honor to announce that Toronto Mcleod of the Maintenance Team is SHC’s first Employee of the Month. As the Selection Committee noted, Toronto always strives to go the extra mile in all that he does at SHC.

We wish all our valued staff and Board members would stay with SHC forever. However, it is understood that sometimes life takes a different direction. For Board members Sally Okoniewski and Matthew Gardner, this direction is unfortunately away from SHC and toward other exciting opportunities. Sally has resigned from the Board due to a job relocation and Matt is moving on to make space in his already busy schedule for the newest addition to his family born in April. Thanks also to Richard Harrison who has completed his Board term and I know that he will keep SHC and its residents close to his heart. Sally, Matt, and Richard, SHC is truly grateful for your service and wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Finally, I know that SHC could not do all the good work that we do without the strong support of all our donors and volunteers. During this challenging time, we have been amazed by all the support SHC has received. Read on for a few snapshots of the many blessings SHC has received during these past months.

Remember that safe, quality, and affordable housing is a basic human right. Until next time, please stay safe and healthy.

Sherrill Hampton

Chief Executive Officer
There are so many ways to give to support SHC:
Elena From Caldwell Presbyterian Church donated cleaning supplies (top left), Horace Bryan of Bryan Realtors donated 500 masks (middle right). Mike Watson donated and delivered “Magic Mike’s BBQ” to McCreesh Place (top right). Manola Bakery, in partnership with Myers Park United Methodist Church, has been providing bagged lunches every Monday and Friday since early April (middle row, left picture), St. Peter’s Catholic Church continues to donate bagged lunches through their Lunch Mission (middle right) and Elevation Church provided a large donation of cleaning supplies (bottom).

Thank you to all community partners, donors, and supporters!

Thank you to our newest partner, Sewa International Charlotte Chapter!
Sewa International is a Hindu faith-based nonprofit whose vision is to increase civic engagement and promote volunteering. "Sewa" stands for Selfless Efforts for Welfare of All. With our residents' welfare in mind, Sewa donated cases of bottled juice, canned vegetables, canned fruit and other basic non-perishable food. We are so grateful for this partnership. Thank you for your support!

For all that you do...thank you to recent donors who have given during this time of crisis...

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Keith Young and Anna-Catherine Fowler

We are so grateful for your support!

Thank you for your support during the campaign #GivingTuesdayNow! SHC is proud to stand with people around the world in raising awareness and support for the most vulnerable in our communities during this pandemic.

New Grants Awarded
SHC is grateful to Crosland Foundation for donating $20,000 to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SHC is grateful to The Vanguard Group for donating $31,180 in support of the SHC mission and the people we serve.

SHC is grateful to Ally Financial for donating $50,000 through its COVID Response Fund. Thank you to Ally Financial and SHC Board Vice Chair Natalie Brown for supporting SHC!

SHC is grateful to Bank of America and Board Chair Tonya Bruce and Board member Cookie Williams for providing SHC with $30,000 to remove barriers to economic mobility for the men, women, and children we serve.

SHC is grateful to United Way of Central Carolinas and Foundation For The Carolinas for awarding SHC $75,000 in Round 3 of the COVID-19 Response Fund.

SHC is grateful to Cardinal Innovations for providing $20,000 to help keep SHC residents safe during the pandemic.
SHC is thankful for our major government partners, the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, who have provided major funding for our programs and services.

Christ Church Charlotte awarded SHC $10,000 in support of SHC residents. We are so grateful for this support.

Myers Park Presbyterian Church’s COVID-19 Response Fund Outreach Team awarded $25,000 to SHC to send children of our families to summer camps. We are so grateful.

Thank You Vendors

During COVID-19 businesses have been struggling. SHC is fortunate to have dedicated vendors who continue to provide services during this time. Thank you, Restoration One, Cramer Pest Control and Custom Security, Inc. For continuing to provide outstanding resources through the COVID-19 pandemic.
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