



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Supportive Housing Communities launches new housing program with Atrium Health

CHARLOTTE, N.C., February 1, 2023- Supportive Housing Communities (SHC), a local nonprofit organization dedicated to providing permanent housing and support services to individuals and families who find themselves unstably housed, has launched a new health and housing program in partnership with Atrium Health.

The Health and Housing Program will serve 20 households in Mecklenburg County. The pandemic highlighted the need to strengthen partnerships between health care and housing providers to ensure those who are unstably housed, receive the medical care that they need, while also being provided with a safe and affordable place to heal.

Through funding from the Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care (COC) Program Competition, SHC will provide rental assistance and housing-related supportive services to clients. Atrium Health will provide healthcare-specific supportive services to clients housed through SHC.

Referrals for clients who will be housed through this program are selected by Atrium Health. Selection is based on frequent usage of hospital services due to lack of housing and is only for individuals who are chronically homeless with at least two disabling conditions.

"At Atrium Health, we know when people don't have access to safe, stable housing, it's difficult for them to manage anything else," said Don Jonas, assistant vice president for social strategy and impact for Atrium Health. "Without stable housing, preexisting health issues often deteriorate. Treatment outcomes are less certain when people don't have a safe and secure place to recover after receiving care. We are excited to partner with Supportive Housing Communities on this initiative that will enhance the Atrium Health mission of improving health, elevating hope and advancing healing for all."

"We are so honored to serve side-by-side with our local health care system to serve some of our most vulnerable neighbors recover," said Laura Caldwell, president and CEO of Supportive Housing Communities. "Atrium Health was quick to respond to the request for its partnership to help serve a unique group of neighbors who suffer repeat emergency room visits or extended hospital stays due to their housing needs.

"We all know that there is no place like home – especially when you are ill or are recovering from a serious condition," she added. "Thanks to our local government partners and Atrium Health, these neighbors will now have supportive housing in which to heal."

The Health and Housing Program launches February 1, 2023.

For more Supportive Housing Communities news, including announcements and upcoming events, please visit www.supportivehousingcommunities.org.

About Supportive Housing Communities

Supportive Housing Communities has been providing permanent housing in the Charlotte Mecklenburg community for 30 years. What began as two churches working together to help the homeless community in the area by renting properties and renting out at affordable rates, has since then turned into one of the leading nonprofits providing not just permanent housing, but support services. SHC currently serves over 550+ individuals and families through two apartment complexes McCreesh Place and St. John's Place and their programs Rapid Rehousing, Scattered Sites, and Keeping Families together.

About Atrium Health

[Atrium Health](#) is a nationally recognized leader in shaping health outcomes through innovative research, education and compassionate patient care. Based in Charlotte, North Carolina, Atrium Health is an integrated, nonprofit health system with more than 70,000 teammates serving patients at 40 hospitals and more than 1,400 care locations. Atrium Health is part of [Advocate Health](#), the fifth-largest nonprofit health system in the United States, which was created from the combination with Advocate Aurora Health. It provides care under the [Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist](#) name in the Winston-Salem, North Carolina, region, as well as [Atrium](#)

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[Health Navicent](#) and [Atrium Health Floyd](#) in Georgia and Alabama. Atrium Health is renowned for its top-ranked pediatric, cancer and heart care, as well as organ transplants, burn treatments and specialized musculoskeletal programs. A recognized leader in experiential medical education and groundbreaking research, [Wake Forest University School of Medicine](#) is the academic core of the system, including [Wake Forest Innovations](#), which is advancing new medical technologies and biomedical discoveries. Atrium Health is also a leading-edge innovator in virtual care and mobile medicine, providing care close to home and in the home. Ranked nationally among U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospitals in eight pediatric specialties and for rehabilitation, Atrium Health has also received the American Hospital Association's Quest for Quality Prize and its 2021 Carolyn Boone Lewis Equity of Care Award, as well as the 2020 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Health Equity Award for its efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in care. With a commitment to every community it serves, Atrium Health seeks to improve health, elevate hope and advance healing – for all, providing \$2.46 billion last year in free and uncompensated care and other community benefits.

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