



SUMMER 2012



The Hope Center at Pullen provides Holistic Support & Life Enrichment to Homeless & At-Risk Youth, Adults & Families

LEARN EARN GROW

## 2012 "Raising Hope Dinner" is a Success



On April, 29th, 111 people came together in Finlator Hall at PULLEN MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH for an inspiring evening filled with wonderful food, silent auction items, live music. Most importantly, we listened to the inspiring stories from our courageous *Program Participants* of THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN. We are so grateful for the generous support from our "Title Sponsor", *Tru-Pak Moving Systems*, and "Table Sponsors" *Fuquay Solutions, Harold K. Jordan & Co., Gerda Stein, Jim & Jane Hutchby, and Ned Yellig & Sylvia White*. Their financial support combined with our dedicated volunteers and generous community helped us raise a total of \$34,000. Thank you!

Chef Nathan began the festivities with a spread of appetizers allowing patrons to eat while perusing over 40 items generously donated for the silent auction. From a Jamaican Getaway to a Trek 820 Sport Bike, the auction items tempted all interests. Board member Peg Connell was a wonderful MC and kept the event progressing smoothly through a delicious dinner, delectable desserts, and a rousing Hope Singers' Concert. The highlight of the event was hearing the inspiring stories from the *Program Participants* of THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN. Please read the following success stories to understand the many challenges facing our *Program Participants* and how your generous donations are working toward their success. Thank you all!

## Your Contributions Continue the Success of our Programs

### LEARN

- 40% of former *Foster Care Youths* are **incarcerated** (Wake County Human Services)
- 64% of 18-year-olds leaving *Foster Care* have **NOT** completed **High School** (Child Welfare League of America)
- Only 2 % of former *Foster Care Youths* will graduate from **College** (Casey Family Programs)

### EARN

- Compared to Local & National Statistics, our "*Foster Youth Program*" *Participants*:
- 0% are **incarcerated**
  - 99% have a **High School Degree** or **GED**
  - 84% are enrolled in **College** and on schedule to **Graduate**

### GROW

"Being in the Foster Care System was really difficult...I've always had the drive to succeed but The Hope Center gives me the support to make it happen."



- Monica is in our "*Foster Youth Program*", has a Job & attends Wake Tech College.

## Volunteers Needed!

### Mentors, Tutors & Job Development Partners

Our "*Job Readiness Program*" (Adults) and our new "*Foster Youth Program*" (ages 17-22) work with the individual to customize a plan addressing targeted areas (Job / Education / Mentoring) to maximize the potential for success and end homelessness one soul at a time. This approach requires the Community to lend their *Time, Talent & Heart*. While commitment time is flexible, training and support of our Volunteers is detailed and on-going. Please consider becoming involved—be a source of Hope! **Contact Diane Daily for details.**

## Meet Ashley Williams

After four years in the *Foster Care System*, Ashley Williams, age 22, struggled transitioning into adulthood. Maintaining stable housing, completing her High School education and securing employment seemed like insurmountable goals. Last October she came to THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN full of worries about her past and difficulties in stabilizing her present.



Four months in the new “*Foster Youth Program*” at THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN provided her with the tools and support to find housing, secure a job and work toward earning her GED. “They made me believe in myself again. I can call them any time—even in the middle of the night—and I know they’ll be there for me,” said Williams. To read more about Ashley and others in her situation, go to [www.newsobserver.com/2012/03/07/1912049/former-foster-youths-get-a-helping.html](http://www.newsobserver.com/2012/03/07/1912049/former-foster-youths-get-a-helping.html)

### LEARN

- 3 in 10 of our Nation’s **Homeless Adults** have a history in the *Foster Care System* (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2011)
- 50% of the Nation’s 500,000 *Foster Kids* will NOT graduate from **High School** (Child Welfare League of America)
- 43% of Former Foster Youth in Wake County are unable to maintain a **Job** for 6 months or longer (Wake County Human Services)

### EARN

**Ashley Williams**, a Hope Center “*Foster Youth Program*” Participant has:

- Maintained a **Home** for over 1.5 years
- Been working toward her **GED**
- Maintained a **Job** for over 1.5 years.

### GROW

*“They made me believe in myself again. I can call them any time—even in the middle of the night—and I know they’ll be there for me.”*

- Ashley Williams

# Success Spotlight...*Job Readiness Program*

## Meet Sharon Hipps



Sharon is a former U.S. Marine and single mother of three grown children. She opened her own business in 2009 and in 2010 her body shut down under the stress of a failing business. Homelessness and depression often go together. She subsequently lost everything.

In 2011, Sharon became involved with the THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN and mentor Anne Kann. “It is so important to have someone to listen to...they listen to me,” says Sharon. Utilizing the “*Mental Health Services*”, “*Mentoring*” and “*Job Development Services*”, Sharon has now maintained a home, a job, a company car, and a strong support network at THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN.

### LEARN

The 3 most significant reasons for *Chronic Homelessness* in Individuals are:

- Lack of Affordable **Housing**
- **Unemployment**
- **Poverty**

[National Policy & Advocacy Council on Homelessness (NPACH)]

### EARN

**Sharon Hipps**, a Hope Center “*Job Readiness Program*” Participant has:

- Sustained stable and affordable **Housing** for 1.5 years
- Maintained a **Job** for 1.5 years
- Maintained a **Living-Wage Job** that includes a company car

### GROW

*“It is so important to have someone to listen to...they listen to me.”*

- Sharon Hipps

**New Award**



We gratefully announce the recent award of \$1000 to THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN from the RTI Community Partnerships Program. This annual employee-nominated award benefits one local non-profit organization that provides services to those most in need. RTI is an independent nonprofit research organization dedicated to improving the human condition through research, scientific discovery & technical services. Visit [www.rti.org](http://www.rti.org).



Our dedicated and long-time supporter, **Kathy Murchison**, *President/CEO of DocuSource of NC*, nominated our Center for this award. Please thank her when you see her!

**Safe & Secure Online Donations**



Feel confident donating to support our unique programs for *Ending & Preventing Homelessness* in Wake County. Visit our website [www.HopeCenterAtPullen.com](http://www.HopeCenterAtPullen.com) and just click on the "Donate Now" Button (above) for safe and secure donations. Your support means everything...Thank you!

**Subscribe to our Newsletter**

Make sure you don't miss any **News** or **Events** by signing up to receive our newsletter, *Sending Hope*. Visit our website and click "Subscribe to Newsletter" Button—it's that easy! [www.HopeCenterAtPullen.org](http://www.HopeCenterAtPullen.org)

**BOYLAN STREET "GARAGE PARTY"**  
**September 15, 2012 @ 1-5pm**  
 Bring your appetites, dirty cars & generous spirit to our upcoming "Garage Party" Fundraiser at **VILLAGE MOTOR WERKS**, 234 Boylan Avenue, to benefit our new **Foster Youth Program**. Owner Pam Wood will throw a festive & kid-friendly party with Fun Food, Games, Live Music by the **YARD DAWGS** & a *Carolina Roller Girls* Car Wash. Donations will be accepted at the event.  
 \* Fun Food \* Door Prizes \* Live Music \* Car Wash \*

**Register Now!**  
**October 6, 2012**  
 Put your pedal to the medal to **End & Prevent Homelessness** in Wake County at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Cycle For Hope" to benefit THE HOPE CENTER AT PULLEN. Cyclists of all levels can choose between 3 beautiful rides:  
 ♦ 12 Mile Greenway Tour  
 ♦ Half-metric (35 miles)  
 ♦ Metric Century (62 miles)  
 For \$35, cyclists will receive great food from **Bruegger's Bagels & Moe's Southwest Grill**. T-Shirts are guaranteed for registrations before Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>.  
**To Register:** Go to [www.HopeCenterAtPullen.org](http://www.HopeCenterAtPullen.org). Select the 'Events Page' for 'Cycle of Hope'; Or go directly to [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com).  
 \*Tax Deductible Sponsorship Options are Available\*

**Welcome our New Board of Director Members!**

- Karen Stanley, Langdon & Company Certified Public Accountants**
- ♦ A CPA and "Raising Hope Dinner" supporter, Karen has considerable non-profit experience and enthusiasm to provide to the Center.
- Ophelia Johnson, Martin Street Baptist Church**
- ♦ A Journalist by trade, Ophelia also brings the wonderful connection of Martin Street Baptist Church to the Center via her husband and its Minister, Earl Johnson.
- Mack Paul, Morningstar Law Group**
- ♦ An Attorney and former Board Member, we welcome his return following his successful term as chairman of the Wake County Democratic Party.
- Thomas Young, Retired from the Communication & Non-Profit Sector**
- ♦ A former consultant for the communication industry and non-profit sector, Thomas brings a wealth of knowledge to the Center.
- Jamie Hahn, Sky Blue Strategies**
- ♦ A professional fundraising consultant and founder of *Sky Blue Strategies*, Jamie brings her experience in political campaigns and community service to the Center.

Board members play a vital role in ensuring the fruition of our Mission, Vision and Programs. Your time, energy, passion and commitment will help guide us through the next year and we greatly appreciate your service. Please welcome these new Board of Director Members to our Family!

To receive our Newsletter electronically,  
 visit our website OR just click below.  
 "Subscribe to our Newsletter"  
**GO GREEN**



www.HopeCenterAtPullen.org  
 (919) 828-0897 ext. 229  
 Raleigh, NC 27605  
 1801 Hillsborough St.



## Thank you "Raising Hope Dinner" 2012 Sponsors:

### Title Sponsor:



### Table Sponsors:

**Gerda Stein**



*Jim & Jane Hutchby*

**Ned Yellig &  
 Sylvia White**



**HAROLD K. JORDAN & CO.**  
 GENERAL CONTRACTOR

**...AND all the Volunteers, Patrons & Donations that made it a Success!**

### The Hope Center at Pullen Staff

- ◆ Diane Daily, *Executive Director*
- ◆ Pat Hielscher, *Office Manager*
- ◆ Caitlin Taylor, M.Ed., *Education Specialist*
- ◆ Allyson Siegel, MA, LPCA, NCC, *Licensed Mental Health Counselor*

Contact us today: 919-828-0987, ext. 229

### Do you want to be a Hero?

The Hope Center urgently needs volunteers to develop employment opportunities in the community for our program participants.

If you are interested in being a job development volunteer, please call Diane Daily 919-828-0897 ext. 231