



POWERING THE
FUTURE
OF FORMER
FOSTER YOUTH

www.hopecenteratpullen.org



We are building a community
where a person's history in foster
care does not limit their future.

We are guided by the following core values to fulfill our mission and vision:

- **Steadfast:**
We are passionately dedicated to both the immediate and long-term well-being of our youth (teens and emerging adults).
- **Trustworthy:**
We conduct ourselves and our work with transparency, integrity, and mutual accountability, being dependable and taking initiative.
- **Inclusion:**
We cultivate belonging by celebrating diverse cultures, backgrounds and life experiences, creating an environment where shared responsibility leads to meaningful contributions.
- **Collaboration:**
We nurture partnerships through strong relationships, shared commitment to our youth, and respectful communication at all levels, internally and externally.
- **Listening, Learning and Growing:**
We are committed to listening to our youth and lifelong learning and growth, promoting innovation to meet the challenges of our dynamic community.



“ The Hope Center gives me a chance to see what life is really about and try new things. People are there for you and you can be honest around them. It’s a place where I can be around people who love me and I love them. ”

Nevaeh
Teen Programs Participant



Teen Programs

Our Teen Programs connect foster teens to supportive relationships and opportunities for growth through internships, tutoring, mentoring, and life skills groups.

- 19 youth completed our Summer Internship program, cumulatively working more than 2,000 hours and earning over \$20,000. This was our youth's highest earning summer yet! Your support makes it possible for HCP to fund the \$10 per hour stipend each intern earns.
- 93% of interns gained a better understanding of what is expected of them in the workplace.
- Tutors volunteered for over 180 hours to ensure that 90% of tutored youth passed or graduated at the end of the school year.
- Weekly attendance at our life skills group tripled when we returned to in-person programming during the 2021-22 year.





“ You have to have order in your life like stable housing in order to have a stable job. Having a stable place to live makes me feel like I can really make it, I can become someone. It opens my mind to the possibility of someday owning my own home. ”

Kunthea Dickson
HCP Participant

Transition Program

Our Transition Program is wired to help former foster teens achieve and maintain safe, stable housing, grounding our youth so we can then spark progress towards their self-sufficiency goals.

For the first time in their lives our clients are moving to stable, independent housing, often by utilizing our voucher programs. The voucher program ensures clients pay the recommended 30% of their income towards their rent. **At the completion of their voucher, 100% of our clients transitioned seamlessly into safe, stable permanent housing. Better yet, 50% of those clients didn't even have to move.** They began to pay rent for their apartment completely on their own.



Stable housing is the boost former foster youth need. 91% of our clients living in stable housing were employed at the end of the program year, compared to 77% of our clients who were experiencing housing instability.





“ No one should have to leave foster care and wonder where they will live or who will be there to guide and encourage them. I’m proud to support the Hope Center because they are ensuring that foster teens and former foster youth always have the support they need to find stable housing and reach their goals in life. ”

Kristin Cooper
First Lady of North Carolina

We strengthened our education and employment supports, adding FastTrack scholarships to connect youth with the education needed to pursue high-demand careers and adding an Employment Navigator to deepen partnerships with local employers.



EDUCATION

Our clients are now pursuing post-secondary education at a rate triple the national average – a significant bump year-over-year.

At the end of our 2020-21 program year, 44% of our youth were pursuing post-secondary education. Now, 64% of our youth are pursuing post-secondary education.



EMPLOYMENT

More young adults are connecting with jobs and mastering the skills needed to maintain employment long-term.

The number of youth who successfully maintained employment for 1 year with the same employer increased by over 60% year-over-year from 2020-21 to 2021-22.



“ *Serving as Chair of the Board at The Hope Center has given me a first-hand look at the strength and resourcefulness of the former foster youth we serve. However, strength and resourcefulness aren't enough when you leave foster care with no support system. All youth need support to transition to adulthood and I'm proud to be a part of the Hope Center's work.* ”



Jeffery Billingsley
HCP Board Chair

From 2021 to 2022, our budget increased by 58%. We're finishing our first full year in our new office space which is three times the size of our previous space. We hired more staff to meet the needs of more youth and help us increase our employment and housing connections.

We're growing again in 2023 to make more room for more youth, launch transformative housing partnerships, and deepen our impact with the youth who are already working with us.



- Contributions- 29%
- Foundations- 38%
- Government - 24%
- Special Events - 9%



- Transition Program - 55%
- Teen Programs - 27%
- Management & General - 12%
- Development/Fundraising- 6%

DEMOGRAPHICS OF OUR CLIENTS

Teen Programs: 79 people, 70% of our Transition Program clients were once Teen Program Participants.

Transition Program: 64

- Clients without kids: 32
- Clients who are parenting: 15
- Children of clients: 17

143 People Served in 2021-22

Female: 71%
Male: 29%

13% of Transition Program clients have disclosed that they identify as LGBTQ+



Black: 55% Latinx: 8%
White: 16% Multi-Racial: 21%

“ *The Hope Center at Pullen is an incredible asset in the Wake County community. Graduating from foster care can be a scary experience for young people but thanks to The Hope Center, these young people are getting the support they need to transition into adulthood as happy and self-sufficient individuals. United Way of the Greater Triangle has been proud to support The Hope Center’s mission for more than 8 years. Together, we are building a community where former foster youth can access the resources, like affordable housing and career training, that we all need to achieve social mobility.* ”



Eric Guckian,
President & CEO,
United Way of the
Greater Triangle





MISSION:

The Hope Center at Pullen empowers emerging adults who are transitioning out of foster care in Wake County with the support and connections needed for a safe and stable adulthood.

HOUSING



Nationally 43% of former foster care youth report experiencing homelessness by age 21, often multiple times.

92% of HCP clients who received housing assistance were successfully maintaining their housing at the end of the program year.

EDUCATION



Nationally 56% of former foster youth report having a high school diploma or GED by age 19.

100% of HCP clients have their HS Diploma or GED!

EMPLOYMENT



Nationally only 50% of former foster youth will be employed at age 24.

83% of our clients were employed at the end of the program year.

POWERING the Future of Former Foster Youth

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