



POWERING THE
FUTURE
OF FORMER
FOSTER YOUTH

www.hopecenteratpullen.org

Our Vision

Preparing Teens

Housing

Education and Employment

Growing Community





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 wellbeing 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.



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“ *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.

- 20 youth completed our Summer Internship program, cumulatively earning more than \$22,700. Your support makes it possible for HCP to fund the \$10 per hour stipend earned by each intern. Even better – 3 of our youth were offered employment at the end of their internships.
- 100% of interns feel better prepared to enter the working world after the internship program.
- 91% of interns reported gaining better money management skills.
- 100% of interns felt proud of themselves for the work they accomplished.
- Tutors volunteered to ensure that 100% of tutored youth passed or graduated at the end of the school year.



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“ 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. ”

Tay, HCP Participant



Transition Program

When youth leave foster care, they are often faced with the reality of becoming homeless; in fact, 65% of youth leaving foster care are in immediate need of housing.

Our Transition Program is designed 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, 80% of those clients did not have to move, up from 50% during the 2021-22 program year. They began to pay rent for their apartment completely on their own.



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“ 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 continue to strengthen our **education and employment** supports to connect youth with the education needed to pursue high-demand careers and career opportunities to help them reach self-sufficiency.



EDUCATION

We went from awarding \$8,000 in Fast Track Scholarships in 2021-22 to \$23,500 last year – a 194% increase!

Our clients are pursuing post-secondary education at a rate triple the national average – a significant bump year-over-year. 100% of our clients on track to finish a post-secondary program, completed school with a degree or certificate.



EMPLOYMENT

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

Our clients are making the commitment – 95% of our clients held employment last year, 83% of them advanced in the workplace, and 92% sustained the same employer for at least 9 months.



We're evolving our programs and improving our team's skills, all to serve more youth and deepen our impact with the youth



currently in our programs. We're grateful to you, our community of supporters, who make it possible for us to strengthen our services.

Through strong support and partnerships, we expect to continue growing and celebrating the outcomes we reach together.



- Contributions - 31%
- Foundations - 28%
- Government - 28%
- Special Events - 13%



- Transition Program - 58%
- Teen Programs - 24%
- Management & General - 11%
- Development/Fundraising - 7%

“ 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 4 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

DEMOGRAPHICS OF OUR CLIENTS

Total People Served in 2022-23: 167 – a 17% increase from 2021-22!

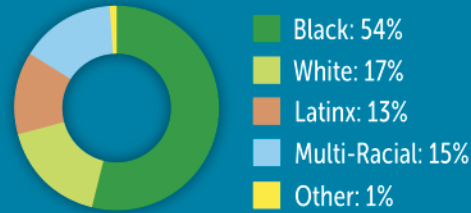
Teen Programs: 81 people, ages 13-18

Transition Program: 86 people, ages 18-24 (up to age 27 if parenting) and their children

- Clients without children: 32
- Clients who are parenting: 24
- Children of clients: 30

Female: 65% | Male: 34% | Non-Binary: 1%

12% of Transition Program clients have disclosed that they identify as LGBTQ+



Building the Bridge: 70% of our Transition Program clients were once Teen Program participants.

“ As chair of the Board of Directors at the Hope Center at Pullen, I have learned so much - incredible, amazing lessons. I have learned about the many obstacles facing youth who have experienced foster care. I have learned much about equity and diversity - and the lack thereof and the prejudice that this population can experience. I have learned how hard it can be for an individual trying to make their way in this world without the support of caring adults. Most importantly, I have learned how incredibly imaginative and resilient the human spirit can be - enough to overcome any obstacle. I'm so proud to stand alongside my incredible fellow Board members, and watch miracles unfold - brought about by our supporters, HCP's talented staff, our dedicated partners, and the youth who refuse to be defined and limited by their history. ”



Julie Carroll
HCP Board Chair





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.

95% of the youth who came to HCP in need of housing secured stable housing by the end of the program year.

EDUCATION



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

95% of HCP clients have or are actively pursuing their HS Diploma or GED.

EMPLOYMENT







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

92% of our 24-year-old clients were employed at the end of the program year.

POWERING the Future of Former Foster Youth

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