

Miracle Hill Ministries

Miraclehill.org

Shepherd's Gate Transitional House



**Dedication Ceremony
Press Kit**



**Miracle Hill
MINISTRIES**

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First Transition House For Women Experiencing Homelessness Opens Its Doors

GREENVILLE, SC (July 27, 2021) –Miracle Hill’s first transitional home for women exiting emergency shelter is officially open. Miracle Hill Ministries partnered with the Greenville Chamber’s Leadership Greenville Class 47 to raise funds and manage this project. The efforts of both organizations, along with generous community support and numerous in-kind donations, made possible the successful completion of this facility.

This newly renovated house serves as a puzzle piece in the overall solution to providing affordable housing, as stated by MHM’s CEO, Ryan Duerk. This facility will be able to house up to six women and, in some instances, their children. Miracle Hill transitional houses provide healthy, affordable community. They are meant to promote a stable and safe environment where residents find peace and recovery as they focus on their future. According to the Greenville Homeless Alliance 2020 Report, around 3,000 people experienced sheltered homelessness in the Upstate. Women and their families are the fastest growing sector of the homeless population.

Miracle Hill believes its success rates in recovery and shelter are due largely to the provision of transitional housing, as well as healthy mentoring relationships. Greenville is fortunate to have multiple organizations dedicated to combatting homelessness, but there is a desperate need for an exit strategy for homeless individuals exiting shelters. As stated by Carlos Phillips, CEO of the Greenville Chamber, “the Chamber recognizes the importance of stable, supportive housing for those leaving homelessness and is eager to see this first home for women be available for Greenville citizens in need.”

The transformation of this entire home would not have been possible without the extensive community support. Premier partners include REWA, Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, BMW, Brasfield & Gorrie, Brown & Brown Insurance, Carolina Power, Clayton Construction, Duke Energy, Earth Design, Greenville Drive, Greer Flooring, Hajoca, Hubbell Lighting, LS3P, Morrison Millwork, Piedmont Natural Gas, Stephen and Amber Moss, SH Carter, Southern Disaster Recovery, Southern Pressed Juicery, Schneider Tree Care,

Spectrum Interiors, the Swamp Rabbit Café, Tile & Marble Gallery, Upstate Granite Solutions, and Waldrop, Inc.

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MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT

This home will provide continuation of care, a proven method for individuals who have moved from emergency shelter to a transitional home, where each resident must participate in counseling, obtain employment, stay engaged and accountable to their case manager, and pay reduced rent and utility fees. To create that secure environment, this 1960s home required significant upgrades, including a fully renovated kitchen, updated bathrooms, new flooring throughout, new windows, additional lighting, and an outdoor living area.

ABOUT MIRACLE HILL MINISTRIES

Miracle Hill Ministries is the Upstate's largest, most comprehensive provider of services to homeless children and adults. Serving the Upstate since 1937, Miracle Hill's programs include rescue shelters for the homeless, residential addiction recovery, transitional housing, and foster care. Miracle Hill's eight thrift stores provide employment opportunities for the community as well as former Miracle Hill guests. Miracle Hill has been awarded the Certificate of Excellence as a Certified Mission by City Gate Network, a distinction given to fewer than 30 missions nationwide. Additionally, Miracle Hill's children's program has been accredited by CARF International. For more information about Miracle Hill, please visit www.MiracleHill.org or call 864.268.4357. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

ABOUT THE GREENVILLE CHAMBER

The Greenville Chamber, now in its 133rd year of operation, is the largest business organization in Upstate South Carolina with over 1900 Investors supporting the vision of a globally competitive Upstate economy where businesses succeed, and people prosper. For information, visit greenvillechamber.org.

1. **What will this transitional facility offer and how will it operate?**

It will provide a Christian place for continued spiritual growth while encouraging each woman to seek a life of stability and independence. It operates on a modified Oxford Model with house leaders/facilitators with all house members working together. The primary purpose of Oxford House is to establish enough self-run, self-supported recovery houses to provide an opportunity for every recovering individual to learn a clean and sober way of life

2. **What are the requirements to be eligible to enter this transitional community?**

Most of the women will come from our women shelter, Shepherd's Gate, having followed the guidance of their counselor and taken responsibility while in the shelter. Women should also be willing to adhere to the transition policies:

- Keeping current with their fees
- Upholding cleanliness standards
- Attending required activities
- Turning in all required paperwork on time

3. **Will there be a cost for residents?**

The program fee is \$100 per week, plus a \$200 maintenance fee due within the first 30 days. If criteria have been met, this fee will be refunded when the guests move out.

4. **How long can the women and children stay here?**

Women can stay between six months and one year, depending on their needs. The goal is to have them create their outside community, have a stable job, financial savings, transportation, and other needed things to ensure their continued stability.

5. **Who will oversee the facility and provide leadership?**

Minda Shelton, director of Shepherd's Gate, will be responsible for this facility. With the help of two other counselors, they will make sure the women feel supported and cared for.

Photos



Photos

