



New Horizon Family Health Services and Miracle Hill Ministries Expands Medical Respite Care Program to Serve Women Experiencing Homelessness Dedication Ceremony to Be Held February 9

GREENVILLE, SC (January 31, 2022) – Women experiencing homelessness in the Upstate who are too sick to stay in a regular shelter but not sick enough to be in a hospital will now have a safe place to rest, recover and receive medical support.

In 2019, New Horizon Family Health Services (NHFHS) and Miracle Hill Ministries partnered to open South Carolina's first-ever in-shelter Medical Respite Care Program inside the Greenville Rescue Mission, an emergency shelter for men. Over 30 individuals have participated in the program which offers six medical respite beds.

NHFHS and Miracle Hill Ministries have expanded their partnership to launch a Medical Respite Care Program at Miracle Hill Ministries' Shepherd's Gate, a safe shelter for women and mothers with young children who are experiencing homelessness. The program offers four medical respite beds for women experiencing homelessness who are identified as needing transitional medical support. NHFHS will provide clinical and other professional staff and oversight.

"We are pleased to continue our partnership with Miracle Hill Ministries to further serve some of the most vulnerable in our community. Women experiencing homelessness deserve a safe place to receive medical attention and continue their recovery when they no longer require hospitalization," said Regina M. Mitchell, New Horizon Family Health Services President and Chief Executive Officer.

Ryan Duerk, Miracle Hill's CEO states: "We recognize the value of partnering with other organizations to better serve the needy and hurting people in our community. As a ministry we envision the Upstate of South Carolina to have sufficient resources and services that are Christ centered and accessible for all who are experiencing homelessness. Opening this new respite care unit brings us closer to this goal."

The media is invited to attend a dedication ceremony announcing the expansion of the program on February 9, 2022, at 9:30 am at Shepherd's Gate located at 11 Regency Hill Drive in Greenville. Tours of the Medical Respite Care Program area will be available following the brief ceremony.

In 2021, NHFHS was awarded \$255,400 by the CDC Foundation (CDCF), in partnership with the National Institute for Medical Respite Care (NIMRC), for expansion of NHFHS' Medical Respite Care Program. The funds are part of \$1.6 million in grants awarded to nine existing and emerging medical respite programs across the country.

(more)

NHFHS' Health Care for the Homeless Program works closely with Upstate homeless shelters and other health and human service organizations to serve over 2,600 patients in 13 counties using a 35-foot mobile medical unit at strategic collaborative partner agency locations. Services include primary care, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services and access to prescription medications. People experiencing homelessness may also receive services at NHFHS' medical office locations in Greenville, Greer or Travelers Rest, as well as their dental office in downtown Greenville.



NHFHS' Medical Respite Care Program at Miracle Hill Ministries' Shepherd's Gate offers four beds for women experiencing homelessness in need of medical support after hospital discharge.



NHFHS' Health Care for the Homeless Program Medical Mobile Unit travels throughout the Upstate to provide health care access to those experiencing homelessness.

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About New Horizon Family Health Services

Since 1992, NHFHS has been serving Greenville County and Upstate South Carolina and operates medical offices in Greenville, Greer and Travelers Rest, a dental office in Greenville, two mobile medical units and a mobile dental unit. NHFHS provides primary medical, dental and behavioral health care, pharmacy and laboratory services to nearly 25,000 patients annually. The mission of NHFHS is to provide quality, affordable, compassionate patient-centered health care to improve the health of the communities we serve. To learn more, visit www.newhorizonfhs.org or find us on Facebook or Twitter.

NHFHS is partially financially supported by the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the Public Health Service Act. Of total operating costs, 26% is funded by federal support. For this year's budget, the federal grant funding is \$6,612,646. Seventy – four percent (74%) of total costs will be financed by non-governmental sources.

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, foster care, and food box distribution. Miracle Hill's eight thrift stores provide employment opportunities for the community as well as Miracle Hill guests transitioning out of programs. Miracle Hill has been recognized as a Certified Mission and has been awarded the Certificate of Excellence by City Gate Network, a distinction given to fewer than 30 missions nationwide. Additionally, Miracle Hill's foster care 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.

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