

## Safe Harbor Rescue Mission “Building a Strong Foundation” Case for Support

Safe Harbor Rescue Mission seeks to provide a Christ-centered community where women can work to rebuild their lives through immediate and long-term programs. A non-denominational Christian nonprofit and human service ministry, Safe Harbor’s outreach serves as a safety net to women and children who are hurting, homeless or at risk of homelessness and suffering from addiction. While operating within an evangelical framework, the ministry serves everyone regardless of spiritual decisions.

### A Historical Perspective

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In the year 2000, Debbie Haynes began to minister through her church, Hickory Community Chapel, to women incarcerated at the Catawba County Jail.

Seeing the brokenness and despondency of these women, heightened her desire to pray for a ministry that would be there for them once they were released from jail. In 2004, after two years of research and prayer, the Articles of Incorporation of Safe Harbor Rescue Mission was filed with the Secretary of the State of North Carolina.

“Safe Harbor Rescue Mission is truly a blessing to our city and surrounding community. I have personally witnessed the results from the lives that have been changed due to the unconditional love and compassion from the staff and volunteers of Safe Harbor. The City of Hickory is fortunate to have a safe place where women can find shelter and at the same time regain their hope, dignity, respect and self-confidence. Safe Harbor is making a difference that will last a life time and help to grow families of future generations.”

-Hank Guess, City Council Member

2006 The New Day Program began operation in Old St. Paul’s parsonage serving women and children experiencing homelessness.

2008 Pat Anderson purchased and donated the original Ada Geitner home at 210 2nd St SE

2009 The Whole Woman year-long residential recovery program welcomed the first participants at 201 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE

2009 Pat Anderson donated funds to finish the basement at 210 2nd St. SE

2010 The New Day Day Program moved into the basement of the Whole Woman facility at 210 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE

2010 A group of investors donated the 16-unit apartment complex, later called Greenleaf

2011 Greenleaf 1 became transitional housing for the Whole Woman graduates and single women with children that were at risk of homelessness

2011 SHRM's first social enterprise, ReSource Warehouse & Gallery opened it's doors

2012 Founder, Debbie Haynes, transitioned to Program Director

2013 Vicki Murray was hired as Executive Director

2014 Greenleaf expands to Greenleaf II to include NDP participants

2015 SHRM's 2nd social enterprise, Scents of Hope began operation

2016 An anonymous donor donated the money to purchase 5 tracts of land adjacent to our existing ministry center.

2017 Robin Hinson donated \$300,000 to build a building in memory of her mother, Chloe Waldrop Taylor. The same anonymous donor matched her gift and before the capital campaign even began, the land and the architects fees were paid and \$510,000 was promised by two people.

## Safe Harbor Today

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### New Day Program

Since 2010, Safe Harbor has doubled its outreach to women and children in Catawba County and neighboring communities. The number of visits to the **New Day Program** increased from 1805 visits in 2010, to 3886 visits in 2016, for a 115% increase!

While highly successful in assisting women with finding employment, Safe Harbor's small computer lab only allows serving two women at a time, slowing down progress. The tiny classroom has terrible acoustics and is not conducive to a learning environment, making it difficult to attract competent teachers.

### Whole Woman Recovery Program

Because of the holistic treatment approach; physical, emotional and spiritual, the **Whole Woman** recovery program has experienced exceptional success with graduates: 70% of Whole Woman graduates remain in recovery one year after graduation, compared to the national average of 30%.

Presently, our residential house at 210 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE houses our **Whole Woman Program**, the **New Day Program**, the computer lab and job search center, children's facilities, classes and counseling areas. With limited space we are bursting at the seams

### Greenleaf Transitional Apartments

This program continues to thrive giving women a chance to start over with the help of trusted friends. To date, we have housed 50+ women and 38 children. 45% of these women have exited to permanent housing; 31 % moved in with friends and relatives and only 24 % returned to the shelter or an unknown location. **Greenleaf** residents are securing jobs, building healthy relationships and learning to budget their income.

### Administrative Offices

The building housing our Administrative offices and donation storage belongs to the City of Hickory, and is on loan 1 year at a time. The City has been extremely kind in letting us use that facility, but at any time they may decide to reuse, tear down, or vacate that building and we would have nowhere else to go.

## Need

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More space is needed to serve existing participants in **the New Day Program**. While we are making do with our facilities for the current programs, we have a desire to grow and expand the services and programs to help more women in need, which will require even more space. Many partnering agencies have voiced the desire to send their participants to the classes, however, the growing need

"Safe Harbor has the best model for success helping women gain self-sufficiency, through long term personal investment into individuals than any other nonprofit in our area!" "HSK is grateful to partner with them and their pursuit to change people's lives."  
-Austin Pierce, Executive Director  
Hickory Soup Kitchen

cannot be met without additional space.

There is a need for space to facilitate excellent children's programs. Studies have proven that children must be reached at a young age to end generational poverty. With this new space, we can plan faith-based programs for the children of our participants.

There is also an overwhelming need for a faith-based, non-residential, recovery program in Hickory. Hickory was ranked the 5th highest city in the nation for opioid abuse. Opioid abuse is rising at an alarming rate. According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, heroin and prescription opioid medication deaths have skyrocketed over the past couple of years. There were 364 heroin related deaths in North Carolina in 2015. Catawba County reported an 89% increase of opioid related deaths in 2015 over 2005. Astonishingly, the number of deaths caused by prescription drug overdoses, like oxycodone, hydrocodone and methadone, in North Carolina, is more than double compared to the deaths for heroin in 2015. At this rate, the department projects drug related overdoses will pass vehicle accidents as the leading cause of injury death in North Carolina in 2017. Something must be done!

Not every woman that applies for our **Whole Woman** residential program is a good fit. Individuals with borderline personality disorders do not thrive in a residential setting, excluding them from the successful program offered at Safe Harbor. A faith-based, non-residential recovery program is needed to fill the gap. There is no other program like Safe Harbor in our community.

## Solution

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Safe Harbor proposes to erect a new 10,000 sf ministry center at the corner of 2nd Ave SE and 1st Street SE, behind the existing residential facility.

This new center will increase the capacity to help others on the fringes of poverty through the New Day Program, by offering help with GED training, job searches, teaching English as a second language, money management, parenting skills and a plethora of other skills that are needed to advance them to a better and more secure future. With the new building, services can be offered to the Department of Social Services, school counselors, women living in government housing, churches and other partnering agencies. While there are two other day centers serving the homeless population in Hickory, only Safe

Harbor provides the structure and added services of transportation, classes, mentoring and counseling. Safe Harbor is the only day center exclusively serving women in Hickory, and we believe women have a greater opportunity to thrive when in an environment intentionally structured for their needs.

The new ministry center will also provide the space for a “non-residential” recovery program. While there are a few out-patient treatment centers in Hickory, there is no faith-based, non-residential recovery program. Safe Harbor has proven results of approaching addiction from a holistic approach of emotional, physical and spiritual well being.

The new non-residential program would provide a short-term foundational recovery program for individuals who:

- Are waiting to receive recovery-related services or who do not meet criteria for inpatient programs.
- Are wanting to deepen their understanding of codependency.
- Are undergoing medicated assisted treatment with a desire to move toward phasing out of that programming.

With this new building, a “recovery community” will be created, with the space used during the day and evening. Safe Harbor will offer a place for support groups to meet, classes to educate our community and families on recognizing the signs of addiction; how to help family members without enabling them; and peer support/mentoring programs. Currently, a Genesis support group meets in the lower level of the residential facility and approximately 25 persons in recovery attend this group once per month. The extra space of the new free-standing building will be very attractive to grow this recovery group.

“Safe Harbor Rescue Mission is a blessing to our community. They not only provide much needed items to women experiencing homelessness, they also work with them to provide the necessary skills for them to break the cycle of homelessness and reach their full potential of success.” -Chief, Thurman Whisnant, Hickory PD

The administrative offices and all ministry programs, except for the Whole Woman recovery program, will move to the new facility. The freed up lower space, at the current building, will be used to assist women most in need, i.e. seniors experiencing homelessness.

Here's a picture of how the increased capacity will support enhanced ministry:

Program Area	Current Capacity	New Capacity
Recovery beds	6	6
Non-residential recovery programming	1 Genesis Group	9 types of programs: Peer support groups Fun "themed" evenings Co-dependency classes Genesis Group Addiction Education 3 Month "Pathways to Freedom" Parent/Family recovery education Recovery Art shows Recovery rallies
Community Classes for women	0	Unlimited!
Short-term transition beds for women most in need	0	6

Classes will also be available to women desiring to grow spiritually, single moms and broken women from all walks of life. All women need to learn the truths that have been taught at Safe Harbor for years.

Children and teenagers of our participants will also be served, thus helping break the cycle of generational poverty and addiction. It starts with the children! This building will make it possible to care for infants, toddlers, adolescents and teenagers.

With 23 employees, over 200 passionate volunteers and a new spacious building, Safe Harbor is poised to make a huge impact on the entire community.

In addition to the building, new computers for our GED Lab, desks for our classrooms, furniture and other items to fully equip this space for ministry will be needed.

Safe Harbor meets the unrelenting needs of the marginalized who are always among us. In the case of Safe Harbor, the least of these are the addicted, the mentally ill, the poverty-stricken, the homeless, and others. They need to experience structure over chaos, accountability over irresponsibility, hope over despair and the knowledge of God's love. Will you join Safe Harbor by investing time, energy, and/or financial resources to make this facility a reality? Your support will embody these compelling words from Matthew 25, "as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

## Costs to the Community

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A visionary project requires realistic attention to financial needs to turn this dream into a reality. The Board's desire is to start the public phase of the campaign when we have 70% of the cost pledged/received.

Estimated project costs:	
Land & Architect Cost	\$ 140,000 (paid in full)
Construction	\$ 1,560,000
Furnishings	\$ 158,000
Operating budget supplements	
1 <sup>st</sup> year	\$ 100,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> year	\$ 75,000
3 <sup>rd</sup> year	\$ 50,000
<b>Total Capital Project Costs:</b>	<b>\$1,943,000</b>

I can't express my gratitude to your ministry for helping my daughter. Thank you for seeing that she is very sweet, gifted and worth rescuing. -Mom of Graduate

Staff salaries will be the largest portion of the increased budget as Safe Harbor recruits and retains capable leadership and case-workers to serve those in the expanded programs. Staff will not be highly paid—they must be mission minded, but they should be adequately compensated. Secondly, there will always be utility costs-- warmth for the buildings, phones, and other vital utilities. The cost of operations must come from a broad cross-section of the community as individuals and churches of all income levels and denominations realize their responsibility to provide temporary relief and a hand up to the most desperate of the poor.

## Sustainability

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There are three important costs: the cost to build the building, the cost of furnishings and the cost for successful long-term operations. The capital campaign will cover the first two costs and ensure a good start for the third. Most capital contributions will come from a select small group of individuals, churches and foundations in the community. Gifts are needed now and pledges may be payable over three years.

Thinking forward, Safe Harbor hired Jackie McKool as Director of Development in January of 2017. As the need for more programming presented itself, the need for

Through Safe Harbor I have been able to live out God's plan for my life. I am now involved in my daughter's life. I have a place of my own, I work full time and I'm college graduate. My life is a miracle!

-EW Whole Woman Graduate

this position became obvious. Jackie's leadership will open doors to new churches, new businesses and new donors. Safe Harbor is working to expand the donor base now in anticipation of increasing operating cost with the new building.

Built into the capital campaign is a supplement for operations that should cover 44% of the increased cost of the first year, 34% of the incremental cost in year two, and 22% of the additional cost in year three. Following the initial supplements for operations derived from the capital campaign, ongoing operations will be funded by the continued growth of regular donations from the community—churches, businesses and hundreds of its individual citizens.

Safe Harbor has 100% giving from the Board of Directors and a growing database of individuals, businesses and churches, who believe in the mission. The Board's efforts, grants from supporting foundations and the generosity of members in the community have sustained this ministry, thus far, with no debt! We're committed to putting every dollar raised to good use. If we raise more than our goal, or if there are cost savings during construction, any surplus will go toward an endowment to help fund future operating expenses of Safe Harbor.

A completed campus and stable support base will allow Safe Harbor to continue to assist women and children from homelessness to housed and from addiction to recovery! Safe Harbor's leadership has the experience and expertise to move the ministry forward, but your help is critical to establish Safe Harbor as the faith-based solution in Hickory, North Carolina.

Are you concerned about the suffering caused by the huge opioid epidemic in our city? Would you like to help broken and homeless women become productive members in your community? You can

do something right here at home to make a difference for those who are hurting. Your support for Safe Harbor Ministries can help change lives. Together, we can fulfill the promise of showing compassion---making a difference.

Over the years we have had the privilege of seeing the incredible commitment, love and determination embodied by the staff of Safe Harbor Rescue Mission. The gospel goes forward through laughter and tears, victories and successes. The work is nothing short of miraculous. Relationships are restored, hearts are healed, families find their way home and God is glorified. It is our privilege and honor to be associated with Safe Harbor.

-Pastor Smith Sharpe, Discovery Church