



VOLUME 6 - WINTER 2025



New Ascend Supported Organizations

We are very excited to share several new organizations that are being supported by Ascend in a variety of ways. In November, we welcomed **Freedom School Partners** and earlier this month, **Center for Community Transitions**, both receiving finance and HR services. We are excited to support their teams and their important missions! In the building, we welcomed **BirthRight** as our newest HopeWorks tenant in the fall. **Charlotte Center for Literary Arts**, better known as Charlotte Lit, has found their new home on the first floor. Construction has begun to upfit the space and will be completed in the coming months. In the meantime, they can be found on the third floor in HopeWorks. Welcome to all of these new supported organizations!









Space Available for Leasing

There is currently space available for leasing in the Ascend Nonprofit Center. Suite 140 includes 4,156 rentable square feet; Suite 150 includes 3,596 rentable square feet; and Suite 500 includes 4,965 rentable square feet. Spaces can be repurposed, and a tenant improvement allowance is provided with a signed 10-year lease. Ascend offers below market rent for nonprofits, parking for visitors and the opportunity to participate in our Shared Services suite of finance, HR and IT services. If you know a nonprofit in need of space, please contact Becca Dolan at bdolan@ascendnps.org. Click for more information on these spaces and building features.







Suite 140 Suite 150 Suite 500



Recently, an area adjacent to the main lobby was repurposed from an open, underutilized space, to two new conference rooms with video conferencing capabilities. Our Board of Directors was instrumental in bringing this space to life as they donated the funds needed for this capital improvement. Demand for meeting spaces continues to be high and repurposing this space with two additional conference rooms is already making a difference!





Former Library Space







New Conference Rooms and Hallway



• The <u>Ada Jenkins Center</u> invites you to join us "fore" a great time at <u>Golfing for Good</u>, our annual golf event, happening at the Mooresville Golf Club on Monday, May 19th at 9am. Don't miss this chance to *swing* into action and help area families in need. Support our mission to help people create lasting solutions for economic stability by registering to play or be a sponsor.

• After 20 years of providing services at the Ascend Nonprofit Center, <u>Care Ring</u> has moved to its fourth home in our 70-year history. As of February 10th, our new location is 1514 N. Graham Street. You can see photos and learn more about our new space <u>here</u>. We want to thank all our partner agencies and other businesses at Ascend for their support as we enter this new chapter, and we hope you will schedule a tour to come see us soon!





Ada Jenkins

Care Ring

- On February 20, hundreds of legal professionals attended the <u>Access to Justice Breakfast</u>, hosted by <u>Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy</u> and Legal Aid of North Carolina Charlotte. Held on World Day of Social Justice, the event underscored our community's collective commitment to ensuring that legal support remains accessible to those who need it most. The morning featured inspiring stories of impact, highlighting the work made possible by our legal advocates and pro bono partners. The event raised over \$550,000 to sustain legal services and make access to justice a reality for more North Carolinians.
- We invite you to watch and share this PSA from Communities In Schools which raises awareness about chronic absenteeism and the challenges that prevent students from attending school. Last year, 24% of students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg were chronically absent. With a laser focus on attendance, CIS is present in schools to find solutions to absenteeism and support students by connecting them to the resources they need to thrive. When CIS is present in schools, 99% of our students are present and ready to learn.
- Free Tax Prep CLT has begun at <u>Community Link</u>! We train volunteers to prepare free tax returns
 for low-to-moderate income households across Charlotte/Mecklenburg. <u>Learn more</u> about this
 important service and how to volunteer.
- <u>Council for Children's Rights</u> invites you to <u>check out our 2024 Impact Report</u>, which highlights the ways we are protecting children's access to equitable opportunities. Read more about the impact of our work and how Council is creating pathways for our community's children to achieve upward mobility!





Communities In Schools

Freedom School Partners

- <u>Freedom Communities</u> is creating lasting change in Charlotte by empowering families and
 providing opportunities for a brighter future through a holistic approach that includes housing,
 employment, education, and health. With over 510 mothers and children impacted and 800+
 affordable homes preserved, built, and in development, we are expanding access in underserved
 areas— <u>learn more and get involved</u>.
- <u>Freedom School Partners</u> keeps children reading during the summer months by inspiring them to love learning, believe in themselves and create extraordinary futures. Join us for our official kick-off for the summer on April 24th at <u>Spring into Summer!</u> We'll celebrate last summer's success and look ahead to all that summer 2025 will hold for scholars.
- The Quack is back! Join <u>KinderMourn</u> for the <u>Hope Floats Duck Race</u> on Sunday, May 4th, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Whitewater Center. For 21 years, KinderMourn has brought bereaved families and our community together for a festival of hope and healing to honor their loved ones. Click on the link to learn more ways to get involved and support bereaved families in our community.



KinderMourn



RAIN



MedAssist

- Join <u>NC MedAssist</u> on Tuesday, April 8 to celebrate 10 years of bridging gaps, igniting hope, and inspiring action at the 2025 <u>NC MedAssist Executive Luncheon!</u> Its signature event, the NCMA Executive Luncheon brings together leaders in healthcare, business, and philanthropy to raise critical funds supporting programs that benefit uninsured, low-income NC residents with access to vital, life-saving medication. Tickets, tables and sponsorships available!
- <u>RAIN</u> provided free and confidential HIV/STI testing to 1,550 individuals in 2024 and processed over 750 online inquiries. It is important to know your status and be tested regularly so <u>schedule</u> <u>yours today!</u>
- Renaissance West Community Initiative is hosting a Health & Wellness Resource Fair on April 26th from 12–3 p.m. at Renaissance West STEAM Academy, sponsored by the Charlotte Hornets Foundation. We invite you to support our neighbors by providing access to essential resources in health and wellness, education, and workforce development. To learn how you can get involved, please reach out to Jen Neitzel at jneitzel@rwci.org!
- Join <u>Safe Alliance</u> on Saturday, May 17 at 9 AM at Truist Field for our annual <u>Walk A Mile</u>, as our community walks together in support of survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.
 Whether you walk in heels, sneakers, costumes, with a leashed pup, carrying a sign, or simply come as you are, Walk A Mile is a family-friendly celebration of everyone's unique journey. Support this important event by walking with us!



Safe Alliance

- <u>Supportive Housing Communities</u> is gearing up for our spring community events to support neighbors in Charlotte - Chefs of Charlotte and Brewers Ball. <u>Learn how you can get involved in</u> <u>these celebrations!</u>
- Mark your calendars and volunteer with <u>United Way of Greater Charlotte</u> at a Live United Day event this year.

Nonprofit Careers



Ada Jenkins Center is seeking an <u>Assistant Director of Economic Mobility</u> to support the Director of Economic Mobility in the implementation and oversight of programs aimed at promoting financial stability and economic self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

Care Ring is looking for a <u>Clinic Supervisor</u> to lead the strategic and operational management of their clinic, ensuring the efficient and high-quality delivery of medical services to patients in alignment with the organization's mission and strategic objectives.

Safe Alliance is seeking a <u>Shelter Cook</u> to use a trauma-informed, client-centered approach to maintaining a safe and sanitary kitchen, preparing nutritional meals, and providing safe and sanitary volunteer experiences for groups wanting to volunteer in the shelter kitchen.



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