

*Celebrating 45 years of safety,
stability, and independence with*

The Relatives 
2018 Family Report





*"Where did you stay last night?"
"I was staying with Relatives."*

From this conversation, stemmed a support system and family that would be transforming the community for the next 45 years. It is hard to believe that The Relatives has grown from a charming home on East Boulevard helping youth in immediate crisis to now a **nationally recognized community leader** offering expansive programs and services to ensure the **safety, stability, and independence** to more than **5,000 youth in Charlotte**.

Our name was born out of a quick exchange with volunteers, but the idea of family has become the stronghold of our mission. A family **supports you, loves you, and never gives up on you**. Together we are all Relatives to the youth and young adults, ages 7 to 24, who seek refuge through our doors.

We provide them a home when they need a safe place to sleep. We are their comfort when they need a cooked meal. We are their support, providing little nuggets of advice like how to dress for an interview and making sure they are on time.

You are a part of this family. And you have been able to help us create a long-lasting effect in the lives of the most vulnerable youth and young adults, many of whom are

homeless, runaway, have aged out of foster care, or struggle with mental health issues. Together, we are the family that never gives up and tells them, "You got this," even when they may not be so sure.

Over 4,500 students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools are homeless and 1 in 5 youth aging out of foster care will end up homeless.

This means as a community, we have a lot more we can do to help the youth of Charlotte. But we can only do it with you. The Relatives is complete only with the support of every donor, volunteer, and partner who has joined our family over the years.

As a Relative, we hope you stay tuned for the next few years because with your help we plan to empower even more youth in our community and we need our entire family involved.

We sincerely thank you,

Trish Hobson

TRISH HOBSON
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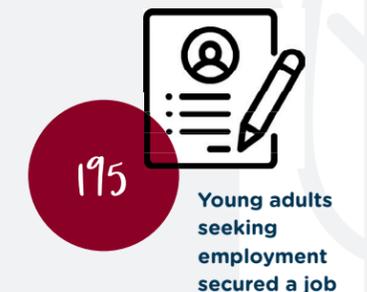
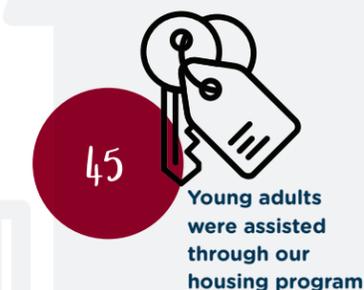
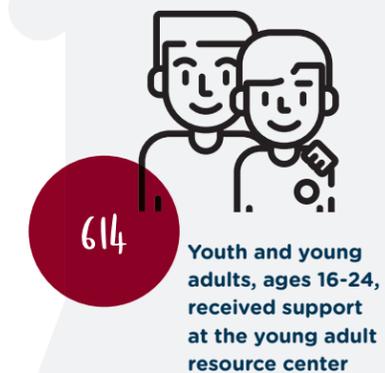
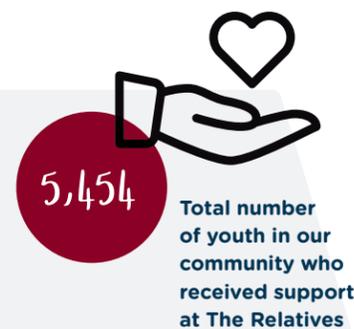
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"It takes all of us to lift youth out of crisis."

-Genine Donovan, Transition Coordinator



The Relatives: 45 years of providing safety, stability, and independence

SAFETY

“The Relatives feels like the family I never had.”

Brenden came to The Relatives in hopes of a second chance. After years of struggling with mental health challenges and lacking a natural support system, he was searching for a place where he could feel safe and find a sense of family.

Each day, Brenden arrives at the young adult resource center two hours before it opens and waits on the steps. Our Transition Coordinator, Genine Donovan, greets him with a warm hello and asks how he is doing.

You give Brenden a safe place to go each morning where he feels welcomed into our family.

Brenden



STABILITY

“I am grateful they gave me the opportunity to do what I needed to do for my kids.”

The Relatives gave Nikita her first stable and healthy home in almost 8 years, but more importantly, The Relatives made it possible for her family to be reunited.

The Salvation Army brought Nikita to The Relatives, last Spring, to enroll in our young adult housing program. She started a job at Bojangles' and moved into her apartment by the middle of the summer. Just in time for Christmas, Nikita was able to regain custody of her boys and bring them home for the holiday.

Your support of the young adult resource center and housing program gave Nikita stability... **Stability in her job, stability in housing, and most importantly, stability for her three boys.**

Nikita



Keiston

INDEPENDENCE

“The Relatives had my back and always told me I could do better.”

By age 19, Keiston had been living on and off the streets for two years. This was his normal - until he was shot while sleeping in his car in a grocery store parking lot. In that moment, Keiston's perspective on life changed.

The Relatives' young adult resource center worked with Keiston to secure a full-time job as a commercial painter and enroll him in our subsidized housing program. Keiston now travels all over the country with work and has experienced memorable moments like seeing the Seattle Space Needle and ocean for the very first time.

As a Relative, you helped Keiston celebrate two years of maintaining his very own apartment and the ability to dream of bigger accomplishments.



91% of youth staying at our crisis center transition to a safe and stable environment



114 young adults were paired with a staff counselor to get more intensive help

- 96% of young adults paired with a counselor increased their personal network of family, friends, mentors, etc.
- 76% of young adults who identified housing as a personal goal received housing assistance
- 78% of young adults who sought educational assistance were enrolled in an educational program

22 young children have been placed in safe homes because their parents received rental assistance through our housing program



80% of young adults enrolled in our housing program report having incomes at least 10% higher within 12 months



1,844 volunteers provided approximately \$90,000 of in-kind work and 641 hot meals to our youth and young adults



"The Relatives means my kids are safe!"

-Ms. Johnson, speaks to the warmth, understanding, and reliability of The Relatives' staff.

For 45 years, The Relatives has been a beacon of hope and a source of new beginnings by providing youth and families with a safe place to come for solace, assistance, and a lasting sense of family.

The Relatives' youth crisis center is more than an emergency shelter. It is a place to plant roots and connect in a family-like atmosphere. It is a place where youth and families can find comfort and safety while planning their next steps towards stability.

Last year, Tamika Johnson was heartbroken when she had to drop off her son Mark, on his 7th birthday, and his four siblings at the youth crisis center. The Johnson family, originally from New York, had spent years on and off the streets before coming to Charlotte. They moved to be closer to family but found more security living in their car than with their actual relatives. Once again, they were homeless.

Although Ms. Johnson wanted to spend time with her son for his birthday, she knew it was more important to give her children a safe and warm place to stay. After spending hours with staff, she kissed her kids goodbye and promised to return the next day. That night, Mark spent his 7th birthday and first night away from his mother at The Relatives.

Mark and his siblings went to school the next day and returned to the house on East Boulevard only to be greeted with a surprise - the staff had spent all day planning a birthday party that included dinner, cake, games, and presents. **The best gift was having his family all together to celebrate. This small act of kindness gave Mark a new sense of family that he will never forget.**

The celebrations only continued for this family. Within two weeks the siblings were reunited with their mom when The Relatives' staff was able to help her find an apartment that she could afford. Ms. Johnson is forever grateful to The Relatives for helping her find a safe place for her kids and providing her son with a memorable birthday that he will carry with him forever.

The Relatives' family surrounds kids with the compassion and love they need in a time of uncertainty. Through your support, you give children at our youth crisis center a reliable and loving support system, and families the hope of reuniting safely.

Thank you!

Ways To Be A Relative



Meet the Relatives

Learn how your support is making a difference and join us for one of our monthly mission tours on the first Wednesday of the month. Register at Support.TheRelatives.org/TRTour

Become an Ambassador

Join us as a champion for youth and young adults in crisis. Help us grow our presence by introducing The Relatives' mission and programs to your own community. Host a tour at one of our facilities, your church, or local business.



Volunteer

The Relatives has a variety of opportunities to volunteer as an individual, business, or group. Volunteers are able to work directly with youth or "help out around the house".

Give

Your unrestricted gift or corporate sponsorship towards general operating funds contribute to the programs and services we provide to help support the youth and young adults in our community and ensure a sustainable future for The Relatives.



Where Your Dollars Go

A gift of:



\$1,700 provides shelter, food, counseling, and safety for a child staying at our Crisis Center for 14 days.



\$12,000 helps more young adults to obtain their vital records, transportation and work clothes ultimately eliminating barriers to independence.



\$5,000 moves a young adult out of homelessness and into a home, creating stability in their life.



\$50,000 for 5 years funds a Transition Specialist to offer intensive one-on-one counseling to our young adults to ensure that they reach their goals in housing, employment, education, and health and safety to reach independence.

2017-2018 Financial Overview

Revenue, Gains, Losses, and Other Support

Fees for Service	\$ 281,781
Government Grants	\$ 979,394
Private Contributions	\$ 1,427,258
Investment Income	\$ 30,288
Other Income	\$ 70,463

\$ 2,789,184

Expenses

Program Services	\$ 1,773,250
General & Administrative	\$ 166,564
Advancement	\$ 481,909

\$ 2,421,723

Net Revenue/Expense \$ 367,461

We are so grateful to our donors, both individual and corporate, volunteers, and community partners whose generosity allows The Relatives to provide safety, stability, and independence to the youth of Charlotte.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Shelley McLean

“I’ve always considered myself blessed, but you are not blessed until you give back.”

Shelley has been a part of the family at The Relatives for almost ten years. As a former teacher, Shelley has witnessed first-hand how the stress of being homeless leads to struggles in school, work, or in a young person’s social life. She was able to use her previous experience to develop character building workshops that engage and motivate the youth at The Relatives.

Many of her sessions focus on helping youth identify their positive traits to build self-esteem and a sense of empowerment. Shelley’s visits also give her a chance to reflect on her own life and how she can continue to make a difference for youth at The Relatives.

“Anyone can give their time. Take that step back to invest in learning about the crisis we have in our very own city. After giving your time, you realize that although we are more fortunate than they are, they are the real blessing.”

FAMILY OF GIVING

Thank you to the donors who have joined our Family of Giving. They have ensured the sustainable future for the Relatives by committing to a five-year pledge of at least \$1,000 each year.

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Our Annual Breakfast with The Relatives was a huge success. We are deeply grateful to our generous sponsors and those donors who joined our Family of Giving. Thank you for Being a Relative and growing the organization’s sustainability.

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DONOR FEATURE

Bill Oliver

“We are proud to support The Relatives and be a part of their family. Together we are changing young lives.”

Bill Oliver and his wife Emily made a commitment to support the Annual Breakfast With The Relatives. They are dedicated to bridging the gap for an at-risk population and believe that everyone deserves a chance to be successful.

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Thank you to all of our Corporate, Foundation, and Organization supporters. Through employee matches, grants, and sponsorships you have helped us grow our family stronger.

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The Relatives keeps kids safe, families together, and prepares youth and young adults to be healthy, productive, engaged members of our community.