



**May 19, 2022**

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**MEDIA ADVISORY: The Relatives Celebrate the Grand Opening of New On Ramp Location**

***Expansion will double the number of homeless youth served***

**CHARLOTTE** – Charlotte-based nonprofit organization, [The Relatives](https://therelatives.org), which provides resources to children and youth to find shelter and support, will celebrate the grand opening of their new On Ramp Resource Center on [2219 Freedom Drive](#). The event is open to the public but [registration is required](#).

The On Ramp Resource Center is the only resource of its kind in the Mecklenburg County area that addresses the needs of youth and young adults through housing, case management, education, job placement, and mental and physical health. The new space will feature expanded intake spaces with confidential counseling spaces, dedicated classrooms for GED, tutoring and college prep, a working and teaching kitchen for healthy meals and life skills, art and music rooms, showers, and more.

With the new facility, The Relatives anticipates doubling the number of youth they will serve in the first two years.

Young people in need can “drop-in” the center to get support with employment services, independent living skills workshops, GED tutoring, and have access to intensive case management support for a successful transition to adulthood and independence. The new location is minutes from uptown Charlotte and accessible by local transit services.

The new On Ramp Resource Center is possible through transformational gifts from many donors and partners, in addition to investments from both Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte. The Relatives also received a gift from the Howard R. Levine Foundation, which will help name the facility.

The grand opening will be attended by the executive team and staff from The Relatives, young adults who have received services at The Relatives, donors and volunteers, and local and county government officials.

**WHAT:** The Relatives will celebrate the opening of their new On Ramp Resource Center to serve more youth

**WHO:** The Relatives, community partners, and media are encouraged to attend

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 25 at 5:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** [2219 Freedom Drive, Charlotte NC 28208](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2219+Freedom+Drive,+Charlotte,+NC+28208)

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:** Trish Hobson, Executive Director of The Relatives, local and county government officials, current and former youth who have been impacted by The Relatives.

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