



City of Winston-Salem City Council
Council Agenda Item Summary

Title	Presentation regarding Oak City Cares Multi-Service Center in Raleigh, NC
City Council Committee	General Government Committee
Staff Lead (Presenter)	Mr. Rick Miller-Haraway, MSW, LCSW, Oak City Cares Board of Directors
Department Head	NA
City Manager/ACM	Angel Wright-Lanier, ACM

Agenda Item Summary

Recommended Council Action No Action Needed
Suggested Motion Options N/A

Strategic Focus Area Livable Community
Strategic Plan Objective EP1: Addressing Housing Affordability and Homelessness
Anticipated Fiscal Impact No Estimate Available

Summary of Information

Homelessness continues to be a pressing issue in our community, with growing demand for shelter, affordable housing, and supportive services. This report will provide City Council with an update on a collaborative partnership between the City of Raleigh and Wake County, North Carolina. The focus is on Oak City Cares, a multi-service center designed to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Mr. Rick Miller-Haraway will present an overview of the partnerships in Raleigh that led to the successful opening of Oak City Cares in April 2019.

Rick Haraway is a seasoned leader and advocate with over three decades of experience in social work and community development. He holds a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of North Carolina and currently serves as an Assistant Clinical Professor at the UNC School of Social Work.

From 1996 until his retirement in 2019, Rick served as the Director of Catholic Charities' Raleigh Regional Office, where he played a pivotal role in developing and directing programs for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. His leadership extended to serving on the Leadership Council to End and Prevent

Homelessness for the City of Raleigh in the early to mid-2000s, and as a founding board member of the Raleigh Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness, the former Continuum of Care (CoC) lead agency for Wake County.

Rick was instrumental in the planning and development of Oak City Cares, a nonprofit multi-services center that opened in April 2019. Oak City Cares operates as a collaborative “one-stop-shop” for individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness, housing more than 30 nonprofit and government partners onsite. These services include primary and behavioral health care, housing assistance, benefit application support, veterans’ services, domestic violence services, street outreach, showers, laundry, technology access, and weekend meals. In the past fiscal year alone, Oak City Cares served more than 6,000 individuals in need.

Rick recently completed his tenure as Board Chair and now serves as Immediate Past Chair of the Oak City Cares Board of Directors. His career and ongoing service reflect a lifelong commitment to building partnerships among nonprofits, government, business, and the faith community to end and prevent homelessness.

Additional information about Oak City Cares:

Oak City Cares’ website: <https://oakcitycares.org>

YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M8-Au5hzRJc>

YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiEQD2bN7kU>

Attachments

- Presentation