



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Contact:

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## **Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity Presented Groundbreaking Partnership Award to the Town of Mint Hill During their Building Hope Breakfast**

**Matthews, NC (November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022)** – Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity (GMHFH) presented the Town of Mint Hill with their Groundbreaking Partnership Award at their Building Hope Breakfast on Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. The award was accepted by Mint Hill Mayor, Brad Simmons, and recognizes their new partnership that will provide access to critical home repair services to eligible Mint Hill residents.

In addition to the Town of Mint Hill several key volunteers and stakeholders were also presented with awards to recognize their dedication to GMHFH's mission and the critical role that the honorees play in moving that mission forward. Of particular note was Angela Charles (Director of Charlotte Water), Matthews United Methodist Church, and the Canopy Housing Foundation. The final award, the Walter Donham Excellence in Service Award, was presented to long-time GMHFH volunteer, Richard Puryear to recognize his many years of service and leadership within the organization. Notable attendees include the Matthews Town Manager, Becky Hawke and Assistant Town Manager, Melia Gordon, Mecklenburg County Manager, Dena Diorio, and Commissioner Susan Rodriguez-McDowell.

The event also featured keynote speaker, LaShonda M. Hart, Affordable Housing Manager for the County Manager's Office, who spoke on Mecklenburg County's efforts to increase access to affordable housing. GMHFH President and CEO, Natisha Rivera-Patrick, gave an introspection on the current and immediate housing needs of the Matthews, Mint Hill, and Stallings communities. The programming concluded with a moving presentation by future GMHFH homeowner, Lissa, and how the work that Habitat does has the potential to change the trajectory of her and her children's lives.

Greater Matthews Habitat offers their congratulations to all the honorees and plans to make the event a yearly program.

### **About Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity**

Since 1989, Greater Matthews Habitat for Humanity has addressed the lack of affordable housing in our area by providing decent homes with an affordable mortgage to help limited-income families obtain self-sufficiency and break the cycle of poverty. Habitat partner families help build their home alongside volunteers and make regular mortgage payments. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, you can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance that they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, please visit [www.greatermatthewshabitat.org](http://www.greatermatthewshabitat.org).

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