

WELCOME TO OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

we're so glad you're here!

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Hearts for the Invisible Charlotte Coalition's (HFTICC) quarterly newsletter! I am Jessica Lefkowitz, Executive Director of HFTICC, and it is my pleasure to share with you the exciting progress we've made over the past few months, as well as some important updates on our work in the community.

At HFTICC, we are deeply committed to addressing homelessness with "Ethical Urgency" (KP). Our mission is rooted in compassion and a determination to ensure that every individual we serve has access to safe, stable housing and the resources they need to thrive.



This newsletter is a way for us to stay connected with you, our community of supporters, and keep you informed about the work you make possible. In each edition, you'll find updates on our programs, staff and/or client highlights, upcoming events, and ways you can continue to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

As we continue our efforts, we are more grateful than ever for your unwavering support. Whether you've donated, volunteered, or simply shared our mission with others, you are helping create a brighter future for Charlotte's most vulnerable residents.

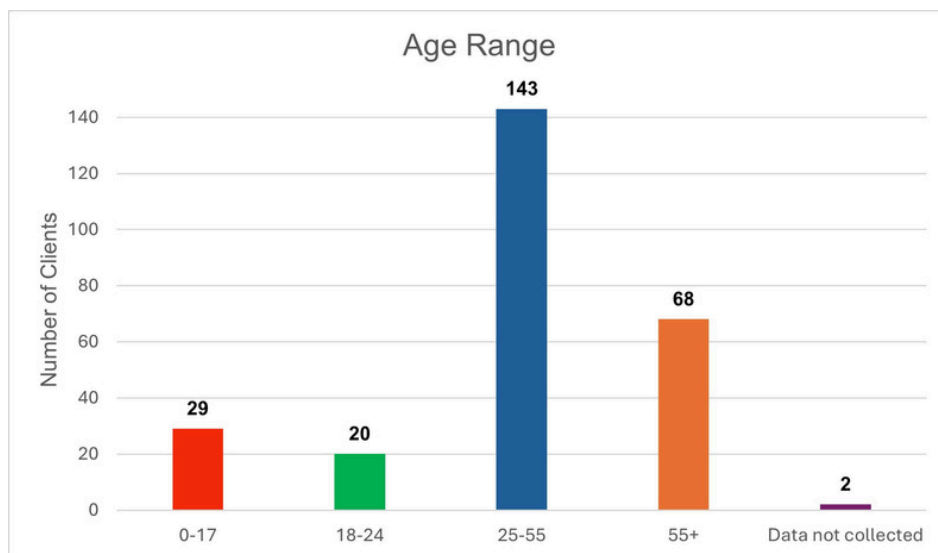
Thank you for being part of this important work. We look forward to keeping you informed and inspired as we move forward together.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Jessica Lefkowitz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Executive Director
Hearts for the Invisible Charlotte Coalition

QUARTERLY METRICS



262

NUMBER OF NEIGHBORS

Between January 1 and March 31st, 2025, HFTICC served 262 individuals. Most were adults, with 29 children under the age of 18, and 20 youth between 18 and 24. 59% identified as male and 67% as Black/African American. Nearly 82% reported a disability and 41% reported a chronic health condition. 59% reported a mental health condition, and 43% reported a substance use disorder.



92

POSITIVE EXITS

Between January 1st and March 31st, 2025, our team had 92 positive exits. This means 92 neighbors are no longer living in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., street, car, abandoned building), and have moved into permanent, temporary, or emergency shelter living situations.



51

IN PERMANENT HOUSING

Between January 1st and March 31st, 2025, our team moved 51 neighbors to permanent housing situations! We are so excited to welcome these neighbors home!

NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT

UPDATE ON MISS CAROL

In August of 2024, we had the privilege of meeting Miss Carol, a sweet 81-year-old woman who had been living outside for two years. Her story is one that is all too common—she was renting a home when the homeowner decided to sell the property. With her limited income and rental prices out of reach, Miss Carol found herself without a place to live, forced to survive in a local park in North Charlotte.

Like many individuals living unsheltered, Miss Carol faced significant vulnerabilities. In addition to being a senior, she struggles with congestive heart failure, asthma, and COPD, which made her situation even more dangerous, especially in the heat of summer.

But with determination and the support of our team, we were able to help Miss Carol find stable housing. It's been six months now, and Miss Carol, now 82, is thriving in her new home. She's doing great and says she, "just loves it here!"



"She's so sweet, everyone goes to knock on her door so she can love on them. She's like everybody's grandma" said her program manager, Shawnte Harvey of Roof Above's Forest Point Place. Shawnte adds that Miss Carol has "really made it a home" and is "a joy to work with."

We couldn't be happier to see Miss Carol's smiling face and know she's found a place where she can feel safe, loved, and at peace.

Thank you to our supporters and donors—stories like Miss Carol's wouldn't be possible without you. Let's continue to make a difference, together.

How Can You Help?

DONATION DRIVE

Interested in hosting a donation drive for us?

This can make a huge difference for our organization and our neighbors who need supplies! Reach out to info@hfticc.org to start the conversation!

DONATE TODAY

Your monetary donations make a world of difference! We couldn't continue this important work without the support of our amazing community. Thank you for helping us make a real impact!

[DONATE](#) ❤️

MEET JONELLE



Jonelle is our addiction specialist—and a client favorite! What makes her so exceptional? For starters, Jonelle loves the trust and autonomy she's given in her role. She's empowered by leadership to connect with each client in the most effective way for them. That trust allows her to get creative and find the best solutions for those she serves. Jonelle's other favorite part of the job? The fact that no day is ever the same. She's learned to expect the unexpected and finds that every day brings something new and interesting. It's never boring!

When asked why she does this work, Jonelle shared that it's deeply personal to her. "Helping people has been a passion of mine since I was a child. There's something incredibly fulfilling about knowing my presence made a difference," she said. "This work is meaningful because, at one point, it saved me. Over the past 10 years, I've had many roles in helping professions, and there were times in my life when I was really struggling. When I stepped into this role, I wasn't really in the best place, but the work grounded me. It gave me a reason to believe in people again."

"Working at Hearts changed me." Jonelle shared how Hearts provided her with something she didn't always have growing up—a chance to be seen. "I do this work so no one feels invisible," she said.

Fun fact: As a kid, Jonelle would watch Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy with her grandma every night. She was obsessed with Kids Jeopardy and often applied to compete—confident that she'd crush the competition!

Second fun fact: Despite her love for Nutter Butter, Reese's Cups and Peanut Butter Captain Crunch, Jonelle cannot stand peanuts or peanut butter!

We're so grateful to have Jonelle on our team, and we know our neighbors feel the same way. Thank you for all you do, Jonelle!



JOIN OUR BOARD!

We are looking for mission-aligned individuals with strong business ties and expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Finance/Accounting
- Legal
- Fundraising!

APPLY TODAY!

Application open until 4/30

Interviews now through May 15th

Board Training in June

704.296.8060 | info@hfticc.org | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [TikTok](#)

WWW.HEARTSFORTHEINVISIBLECLT.ORG

