



Protecting Children. Supporting Families.

P.O. Box 1731
Spartanburg SC 29304-1731
(864) 583-7688
FAX (864) 597-1287
www.hopecfc.org

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Chamlee Loscuito
Chamlee@hopecfc.org
864-583-7688 ext. 133

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hope Center for Children Adding More Space to Emergency Shelter for Children in Need

Spartanburg, S.C., June 8, 2015 – Hope Center for Children is responding to increased community need by adding additional bed space to their emergency shelter. According to the Department of Social Services, more than 400 children in Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties entered foster care last year. The emergency shelter at Hope Center for Children, which serves these two counties, provides temporary shelter when children are removed from situations of abuse or neglect. **Last year, 95 children were turned away when the shelter was at maximum capacity; to better serve these children, the organization has planned renovations to increase the maximum capacity.** The additional space is possible by transforming current office space into additional living area for children. Phase one of the renovations have started as staff offices are being relocated from the shelter to the Smith-Stahley Administrative Building. The second phase, slated to begin in September, will transform the existing office space into additional living and sleeping areas for children. Estimated cost for the project is \$95,000. This is a much needed update for Faucette House, which has not been significantly renovated since the building was acquired many years ago. “In addition to the extra bed space for children, much of our focus with this project is making sure the children in our care feel like they are in a home and not in an institutional setting,” said Chamlee Loscuito, HCFC’s Chief Executive Office.

Two separate donors are assisting Hope Center for Children by offering a \$30,000 match challenge toward the \$91,500 project. HCFC has already met the first \$15,000 challenge. The next \$15,000 challenge comes from Insite Electronics and HCFC has only raised \$2,500 of this to date. “This community is always so generous to children in need, and we believe they will respond again to help us with this project,” said Lisa Hemond, HCFC’s Director of Development. “These children need us.”

Currently, HCFC is licensed to provide shelter, care and teaching for up to 44 children at a time. The project will benefit the emergency shelter where children are brought for immediate safety. “When a child is removed from familiar surroundings due to abuse or neglect, it is essential that they have somewhere to go,” said Loscuito. “It is also important that the setting be as home-like as possible to ease the disruption in the child’s life.”

About Hope Center for Children:

Hope Center for Children served 1,679 children and adults last year across five programs that offer a continuum of care for children and families. These programs include: an emergency shelter for abused or neglected children from birth to the age of 18; a residential program for teen girls in foster care; a residential program for youths aged 16 to 22 who are aging out of foster care or are at risk of homelessness; and two community-based prevention programs for families with an increased risk of child abuse or neglect. Bilingual services and group education classes have been added to meet increased community needs. For more information on Hope Center for Children, visit www.hopecfc.org or call 864-583-7688.

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If you'd like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please call Chamlee Loscuito, Chief Executive Officer, at 864-583-7688 ext. 133 or email Chamlee@hopecfc.org.