



Urban Ministries of Durham's HOPE DAY CENTER Offers People More than Cool Air



AWD got to visit the Urban Ministries of Durham's newest project, the Hope Day Center. It's a place to cool off, but also offers a plethora of connections and services to help people find employment, housing, financial resources and more.

AWD spoke with Dewayne Brown, Program Coordinator

for the Hope Day Center.

Mr. Brown, what's happening here in this colorful space?

I always tell people when they ask me that question: we want to present ourselves as a one stop shop. We have neighbors in the community that are tired of going to five or six different places. When we can offer them one place to get the majority of the resources that they need, that's what we're going to do. When they come in, we'll ask them what resources they're looking for and if we don't have it, by the next time they come back, we're going to see if we can have it in here for us.

AWD works with the aging population, with older adults, and that means for us 50+; How does the Center work for someone in that age range?

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Beyond Incarceration: Restoring Lives Through Safe Housing

Housing is one of the domains of Durham's Comprehensive Aging Plan. AWD works with a number of organizations whose mission is to create affordable, safe, community-oriented, inclusive and accessible housing options. AWD spoke with Bobby Harrington, Program Manager of Restorative Transitions-a non-profit organization "dedicated to working with people

coming out of incarceration by providing safe and stable housing located in Durham"--to hear how they ensure participants of their program have a stable present and future.

Hi Bobby, can you tell AWD about Restorative Transitions?

Restorative Transitions is a reentry housing program. We don't specifically serve the older population, but we've noticed--because a lot of guys come home after going 20, 30, even 40 years in prison-- that the need is there for housing. Not only is the need there for housing, there's a need for a caretaker, or healthcare support. They don't have that. It even gets worse depending upon what their charges are.

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Aging Well Durham
1209 N. Elizabeth St.
Durham, 27703

FOR OLDER ADULTS

BASIC PHONE TECH HELP

any smartphone



Downloading Apps



Using the internet



Taking Pictures

Tuesday, May 19th @ 2pm

For Directions and Parking
email/call

Sam@Agingwelldurham.org
919-884-7741 Sam



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May's Honoree is Joyce Thorpe Nichols, "The Joyce."

Keeping in the theme of this month's Well is the Durham Comprehensive Aging Plan's domain of Housing. And who better to lead us through May than Joyce Thorpe Nichols.

Joyce Nichols struggled financially when her then husband left her to raise three children on her own. After dropping out of the North Carolina College for Negroes (now NCCU), she and her family moved to McDougald Terrace, a housing complex managed by the Durham Housing Authority. She was appalled at how the tenants were treated, so she filed formal complaints.

The DHA (Durham Housing Authority), without explanation, evicted her. She sued them. Her case eventually made it to the US Supreme Court, where it won. The decision helped pave the way for future tenants. She went on to become a commissioner for the DHA and remained a vocal advocate.

Joyce Nichols was also the first woman, and the first Black woman, to graduate from Duke University's Physician Assistant Program. She was the first Black woman to become a Physician Assistant.

Aside from her housing advocacy, as a PA she was pivotal in bringing healthcare clinics to rural North Carolina. She also

expanded healthcare access at Lincoln Community Health, where she served for 23 years.

Nearly 54 years after the Thorpe v. Housing Authority decision, and almost a decade after her death, the DHA named a new public housing building “The Joyce” after Nichols (the last name she went by most of her life).

You can read more about Joyce Thorpe Nichols at the [Museum of Durham History](#).

Aging Well Durham
looks forward to partnering
with you this Spring



AgingWellDurham.org/contact/



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