“I didn’t know how I was going to get it done but Community Housing Solutions came in to help. They were such a blessing.”

Mary Webster, Guilford County homeowner impacted by the April 15 tornado
Community Housing Solutions (CHS) works to preserve home ownership in Guilford County through home repairs and home construction. We provide home repairs to qualifying families who own their homes and who are below specific income levels. We also promote home ownership opportunities for low income families while helping to stabilize neighborhoods. In the Ole Asheboro and Glenwood neighborhoods in Greensboro and the Southside neighborhood in High Point, we are building new homes on vacant lots and rehabilitating existing properties.

With our emphasis on home repairs and affordable homeownership, we are rebuilding homes, restoring hope and keeping our neighbors warmer, drier, and safer.

This restoration is possible because of the many volunteers who support our work for people who are not physically or financially capable of doing the work themselves. A day’s work for a volunteer can make a life-long change for one of our homeowners.

“I love that we spend the week repairing homes rather than building something new. Homes that have been lived in for 20 plus years have loads of memories that just can’t be replaced.”

-- Ben Baker, UVA student and CHS volunteer

FINANCIALS

224 repairs made
161 families served

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<th>Income</th>
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802 volunteers used
7896 hours served

“You all set an example of how community can work together.”

-- CHS Homeowner
Mr. Willie Cain lives in the West End neighborhood in High Point. This neighborhood, chosen for the Fall 2018 Operation Inasmuch project in High Point, is a true melting pot of ages, races and ethnicities. It is the home of several elderly people who aren’t physically or financially capable of doing the work necessary to keep up their home.

Community Housing Solutions - along with many volunteers - help people like Mr. Cain make needed improvements to their home so that they can once again feel a sense of pride in their home. “I love this house, and I love this neighborhood,” said Mr. Cain. “I moved here with my wife in 1979. She has since passed, but I want to keep the house in memory of her. And this is only way I would have gotten that done.”

Ms. Emma Long was in her bedroom when the April 15 tornado hit her neighborhood. “I was standing there and I just looked, and in a few minutes that whole wall was off.” Long said. Two trees fell onto her roof, creating a huge hole in the house.

Community Housing Solutions was able to immediately redeploy volunteer groups and staff to help people like Ms. Long by tarping roofs, boarding up windows and removing trees and debris. Our staff, along with volunteer groups from the Greensboro Builders Association and Arch MI, worked to repair Ms. Long’s home, which she had been in for 30 years. She lost so many of her personal belongings; however, she remained grateful for surviving the tornado and for the help provided by CHS that allowed her to get back into her home.

Songolo and Kiza are refugees from the Republic of Congo. They settled in Greensboro a few years ago, living with their seven children in public housing. The rent started going up, and it was becoming a burden on the family. Songolo then met Frances Giamio, a local realtor and a member of St Pious X Catholic Church, a local parish involved with community ministry.

When Frances heard about Songolo and his family, she reached out to Community Housing Solutions to see if his family would qualify for one of the new construction homes built by CHS. Indeed they did.

“This new house has had an unbelievable impact on Songolo and his family,” said Giamio “It has given them the space they need, and it’s affordable. Community Housing Solutions changed their life overnight.”

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**WHAT OUR HOMEOWNERS SAY**

- **90%** of homeowners are satisfied or very satisfied with staff and volunteers
- **89%** of homeowners are satisfied or very satisfied with the repair
- **86%** of homeowners are more confident in their Activities of Daily Living since the repair
- **86%** of homeowners feel the repairs have prevented a fall
AGING GRACEFULLY IN PLACE

In 2018, Community Housing Solutions completed the Aging Gracefully in Place two-year demonstration project with the National Center for Healthy Housing. With partners from Cone Health and Triad HealthCare Network, elderly participants in this program received visits from nurses and occupational therapists along with necessary home modifications. We are currently working to secure partnership funding in order to continue this valuable program in our community. Throughout this project, Community Housing Solutions and its partners served almost 40 elderly adults and saw substantial improvements in physical and mental outcomes:

- 55% decline in fear of falling
- 69% reduction in number of difficulties with ADLs (Activities of daily living for a person to thrive)
- 46% reduction in number of difficulties with IADLs (tasks giving a person freedom to live independently in their community)
- 17% improvement in quality of life
- 43% improvement in depression

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Community support is what makes our work possible. You can help by:
- Making a donation so that we can help more people in Guilford County at www.chshousing.org.
- Organizing a group to volunteer.
- Donating construction tools or materials.
- Liking us on Facebook so you can read about our success stories and the impact we are having on homeowners in Guilford County.
- Signing up to receive our E-Newsletter twice a month.

For more information on how you can help Community Housing Solutions continue to make an impact in Guilford County, call 336-676-6986.