



Angela Hurks, CEO
Step by Step Ministry Hope Project
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March 9, 2023

The Honorable Chandra Dillard – Greenville Dist. 23
South Carolina House of Representative
Ways and Means Committee
414B Blatt Bldg.
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Honorable Chandra Dillard:

It was with great pleasure to meet with you on yesterday at the Statehouse in Columbia SC seeing you in action for us. We appreciate you taking the time to speak with Angela Hurks the executive director at Step by Step Ministry Hope Project. You have been a support to the nonprofit and its programs on representing advocacy for reentry housing, comprehensive wrap support, job assistance, workforce transportation, and other essentials of food and clothing.

Step by Step provides reentry housing in Greenville County where our focus area is South Carolina. The physical location for our housing and offices are in the Village of West Greenville/Brandon Community. The reentry outreach and partnership center is the location where community residents of low income of all ages are assisted. Step by Step provide community assistance for economic mobility through our food pantry, career center and computer lab. Also provided are services to low-income residents for case management and social services to help address crisis of necessity.

The newest project soon to be launched is near completion that represents two generation housing support to women and children geographically located near State Park/Paris Mountain road. This permanent supportive home is forthcoming to open June 2023.

- The goal is to pilot co-collaborative housing with six occupants to begin two generation housing relations for holistic healing and spiritual health and wellness.
- The second phase is to co- create with the families on building the community in agriculture, environment, entrepreneur training and crafting to sustain as well as to implement stem education for kids.
- The third phase will entail install of equipment to change occupancy and use in the fall 2023 adding space for three additional families.

The 7 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 2600 sq. ft. structure is strong to bear weight of occupants to be is to create a safe space and supportive environment for underserved marginalized families in homelessness

facing post incarceration barriers because of arrest and conviction history that greatly impact early life development in children and promote poor mental health. Step by Step with therapist, teachers, aides, and case managers will provide the support to families that will help to reshape their world to envision something new and different for marginalized children who are suffered to see today.

We witnessed on yesterday, your hard won efforts to constituents which are impeccable for getting resources inside South Carolina, as well as to our community in Greenville. For that, we are forever grateful.

The Step by Step Ministry Hope Project leadership have an urgent need we hope through this request your ways and means budget can accommodate of \$35,000 allocation to purchase equipment of overhead sprinkler system for that greatly impact early life mental health the Carriage House. By providing financial resources the revenue will accommodate satisfactory compliance under commercial code for occupancy and use inside the dwelling. Step by Step has invested \$300k on acquisition and rehab for a safe structure which is a huge gap in lack and access to housing from loss of stable housing when mother went to prison.

This ask is with great humility and tireless efforts on providing transitional housing, case management and comprehensive holistic supportive services to the children in South Carolina with moms exiting prison. This year marks 15 years in existence serving the state of South Carolina communities rehabilitating women back into society in positive and healthy ways.

We appreciate your support on investing in the lives of children for a second chance at life. Your efforts on the request being fulfilled is greatly appreciated.

Thank you once again.

Sincerely,

Angela Hurks

Angela Hurks, CEO
Step by Step Reentry Project

://attachments



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