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PRESS RELEASE

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THE C. W. WILLIAMS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, INC. HOLDS GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY TO ANNOUNCE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MEDICAL FACILITY

CHARLOTTE, NC, July 31, 2023– The C.W. Williams Community Health Center, Inc. (CWWCHC) held a groundbreaking ceremony on July 24, 2023 to commemorate construction of its new \$11 million medical building. To be constructed at 3333 Wilkinson Boulevard in West Charlotte, the new facility will serve as a medical and dental home for patients seeking comprehensive, affordable, quality healthcare. Completion is scheduled for summer 2024.

“We are building upon the vision and dream of high quality healthcare for all that Dr. Charles Warren (C.W.) Williams had when he founded the Center in 1981,” said Debra Weeks, CWWCHC’s CEO. “For more than 42 years, CWWCHC has been a trusted community partner, and we want the community to know that we are not going anywhere. We are deeply committed to ensuring that individuals and families receive the care they deserve in a safe, clean, structurally sound, and aesthetically pleasing facility,” remarked Weeks.

CWWCHC is a Federally Qualified Health Center serving the Community for over 42 years. To meet the growing needs of its patients and community, CWWCHC plans to tear down its 83 year old flagship medical building and construct a new state-of-the-art facility on the same property. Once erected, the 17,700 square foot building will feature open floor plans with an inviting, light-filled atmosphere that promotes the Patient-Centered Medical Home model. Integrated services will include primary and preventive medical, dental, pharmacy, and support services in one convenient location to reduce barriers to care and minimize unnecessary emergency department visits. Additional services will include Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Counseling and Treatment, Women’s Health, Pediatric care, comprehensive HIV services, Traditional Chinese Medicine (acupuncture, acupressure, and herbal therapies), a lactation area, a Food Pantry, a Demonstration Kitchen, and non-emergency patient transportation. For uninsured patients, the health center will offer a sliding fee discount program and health insurance enrollment assistance.

“Many of our patients face cultural, economic and/or geographic challenges to accessing the medical care they and their families need. The value of having comprehensive, affordable care embedded in our community cannot be underestimated,” stated CWWCHC Board Member, Rodney Gaddy.

The groundbreaking ceremony featured the Queen City Senior African Drummers, an invocation by Rev. Joseph Talley of New Creation Baptist Church, as well as comments from CWWCHC’s Chief Executive Officer Debra Weeks, Bartlett, Hartley & Mulkey Architects’ Partner Kristin Mulkey, Barringer Construction Company’s Senior Vice President Bob Dooley, NC Representative Carla Cunningham, Charlotte City Council Member Malcolm Graham, NC Community Health Association President/CEO Chris Shank, CWWCHC Chief Medical Officer Dr. Jerry Jones, and CWWCHC Board Member Rodney Gaddy. Over 60 people attended the ceremony, including Mecklenburg County Sheriff Garry McFadden, Atrium Health’s Senior Vice President & Chief Medical Officer of Greater Charlotte Region Dr. Gary Little, family members of the Late Dr. Charles Warren (C.W.) Williams, and representatives from Mecklenburg County.

(See attached photos and demolition video.)

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About The C. W. Williams Community Health Center, Inc.

The C.W. Williams Community Health Center, Inc. is a private 501(c)(3), non-profit, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), designated Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) and healthcare safety net founded in 1981. Integrated, affordable services include primary and preventive Medical and Dental care, 340B Pharmacy, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Counseling and Treatment (including Medication Assisted Treatment or MAT), comprehensive HIV/STI Testing and Treatment, laboratory services, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), Medical and Behavioral Health Case Management, General Case Management, Women’s Health, Pediatric Care, Traditional Chinese Medicine (Acupuncture, Acupressure, Herbal Therapies), Chronic Disease Management, Community Health Worker services, Health Insurance Enrollment Assistance, Food Pantry, non-emergency Patient Transportation services, and Community Outreach programs, including HIV testing and linkage to care, Mobile Medical and Dental services. Each year, CWWCHC serves more than 13,000 patients, representing more than 30,000 encounters.



*Architectural rendering of new medical facility to replace CWWCHC's 83 year old main campus building in West Charlotte
(Rendering courtesy of BHM Architects, PA)*



CWWCHC Board members, CEO Debra Weeks (center), and daughter of the late Dr. Charles Warren (C.W.) Williams Pam Coote (second from left) pose for ceremonial groundbreaking.

(Photo courtesy of Paul Williams, III)