



## Q What is Fostering Connections?

Fostering Connections is a unique collaboration between Elon Homes and Schools for Children and Johnson C. Smith University. Elon Homes will locate its operations on the Johnson C. Smith University campus and adjacent neighborhood. This partnership will bring two historic education and social service institutions into closer partnership and resource-sharing to improve the lives of Charlotte's children and families.

## Q Why are Elon Homes and Schools for Children (EHSC) and Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU) partnering?

EHSC and JCSU share more than a century-long commitment to education and community outreach. Together we have identified multiple ways each organization can bring value to the other's mission and to the region's children and community in need.

Locating EHSC's programs at JCSU will embed our services in the heart of the community from which most of our children come. EHSC's foster care program will work closely with JCSU's Foster Care Initiative for higher learning. EHSC's behavioral health services will be more readily accessible to the community. EHSC-run Kennedy Charter Public School's students will have valuable access to JCSU's educational facilities and resources. In short, more of Charlotte's children in need will have *greater access to better resources* for gaining *safe haven, life skills and education*.

## Q How can community members support this partnership?

The most immediate and significant need is philanthropic support. EHSC is currently seeking funds to renovate facilities and support the programmatic needs this collaboration entails. But beyond that, EHSC needs mentors for our students and children in foster care. Additionally, we are seeking new foster parents and referrals for new clients in need of our behavioral health and testing services.



For more information or to support this exciting collaboration, contact Nikki Keith at 704-369-2507 or [nikki.keith@elonhomes.org](mailto:nikki.keith@elonhomes.org).

