Mental Health America of Central Carolinas Welcomes New Clinical Director for Free Counseling **Center in Charlotte**



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Mental Health America of Central Carolinas Welcomes New Clinical Director for Free Counseling Center in Charlotte



Megan Bryant, MS, LCMHC, LCAS-A

NEWSLETTER

New counseling center will launch in January 2023 to serve residents in need of mental health counseling

CHARLOTTE, NC— [October 06, 2022] — <u>Mental Health America of Central Carolinas</u> (MHA) is pleased to announce a significant new addition to its staff. The organization has hired Megan Bryant, MS, LCMHC, LCAS-A as the clinical director for its new, free counseling center in Charlotte. Bryant brings a wealth of mental health experience and is a licensed clinical mental health counselor and a licensed clinical addiction specialist-associate. Bryant has worked with children, adolescents, and adults in both outpatient and inpatient therapy, psychosocial rehabilitation, and substance abuse.

MHA's pro-bono counseling center is expected to open is January 2023 and was made possible through a major investment from Mecklenburg County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Renovations are currently underway to completely repurpose the office space to provide much-needed mental health counseling services for residents who may not be able to afford counseling.

"We are excited to welcome Megan Bryant, MS, LCMHC, LCAS-A and launch our new, free counseling center. With a Master of Science degree in Clinical Counseling and 13 years of experience in the mental health field, her education and experience will serve her well in this new leadership role," said Kathy Rogers, Executive Director of MHA. "Mental health is a critical issue impacting our community. As a nonprofit, we see this as an opportunity to further fulfill our mission to provide help, offer hope, and promote mental wellness."

Located at 3701 Latrobe Drive in Charlotte, the organization is transforming an entire suite into a free counseling center to provide counseling services for uninsured or underinsured Mecklenburg County residents. Under Bryant's leadership, the center will be staffed with graduate students from Johnson C. Smith University and UNC-Charlotte who are seeking professional experience. In the meantime, free <u>short-term counseling</u> is available through MHA for both Cabarrus and Mecklenburg community members.

"Creating this counseling center provides students the opportunity to learn and practice, under clinical supervision, and receive clinical experience through a meaningful internship," added Rogers. "In addition, it is an opportunity for us to help increase the pipeline of therapists of color, through internship opportunities."

About Mental Health America Central Carolinas

Founded in 1933, Mental Health America (MHA) of Central Carolinas has been the voice of hope for those impacted by mental illness in the greater Charlotte area for nearly 90 years. MHA provides family support services to parents of children with behavioral, emotional, or mental health needs; peer support for adults living with chronic mental illnesses; and mental health education and preventative trainings to the broader community. MHA's programs bring together mental health consumers, parents, advocates and service providers to address systemic issues impacting mental health. For more information, please visit https://mhaofcc.org or call (704) 365-3454

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