



Changing Directions.  
Changing Lives.

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### **CHRIS 180 Opens New Integrated Health Clinic**

*New Year Brings About New Health Services in Underserved Community*

ATLANTA, GA (January 13, 2020) – CHRIS 180, an Atlanta-based nonprofit organization dedicated to healing children and families with holistic health services and trauma-informed care, has partnered with Mercy Care, a federally qualified health center, to open an Integrated Health Clinic (IHC) in East Atlanta. The clinic aims to reduce the barriers that prevent access to quality healthcare by providing primary medical and behavioral health services to uninsured patients, ages 18 and up.

“Through our Drop-In Center for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness we see an increasing need for quality, affordable integrated health services here in East Atlanta, where there are limited options and resources.” said Kathy Colbenson, LMFT, President and Chief Executive Officer of CHRIS 180. “Working with our partner, Mercy Care, we are proud to be able to offer integrated health services to the community. We eventually look to expand to be able to serve children and teens as well as young adults and adults. Our goal is to help people be able to live, fuller, healthier lives.

CHRIS 180 and Mercy Care aim to serve 600 adults within the first year of operation. In addition to primary care, the IHC will provide a CHRIS 180 therapist for mental health needs, as well as offer women’s health assessments, STD and HIV testing, and breast cancer and cervical cancer screenings.

Funding for the IHC was provided by generous donors to CHRIS 180’s Turning Point Capital Campaign, which raised funds to expand trauma training, professional development for the human service workforce, counseling, and other services in Metro Atlanta.

Construction on the IHC began after the opening of CHRIS 180’s Center of Excellence in May 2019. The IHC was architecturally designed and renovated from former office space adjacent to complement CHRIS 180’s drop-in center for youth facing homelessness, which is located next door. CHRIS 180’s drop-in center currently provides meals, career development and skill building, housing support, and mental health counseling to young adults who are experiencing homelessness ages 16-24.

CHRIS 180 will host a grand opening for the Integrated Health Clinic, **Tuesday, January 28 at 4:00 p.m.** The Integrated Health Clinic is located at **1976 Flat Shoals Road SE, Atlanta, GA 30316** and is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30am-5pm. To make an appointment, call 404-430-8180.

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#### **About CHRIS 180**

Since 1981, CHRIS 180 has transformed more than 80,000 lives. CHRIS 180 saves, serves and protects traumatized children, adults and families through trauma-informed, solution-focused programming that empowers them to change the direction of their lives. The name CHRIS 180 represents our core values: **C**reativity, **H**onesty, **R**espect, **I**ntegrity, and **S**afety. CHRIS 180’s ambition is to be Georgia’s go-to place where every child, adult, and family who have experienced trauma can discover how to recover, become resilient, and pivot toward a new future of hope and confidence. For more information, visit [CHRIS180.org](http://CHRIS180.org)