

**The Northern Moore Family Resource Center
Purchase Offer
to The Town of Robbins**

Purchase Offer

The Northern Moore Family Resource Center (NMFRC), a nonprofit organization serving the Robbins and greater northern Moore County community, wishes to purchase the building in which it is currently housed from the Town of Robbins for \$1. The building's address is 116 Horner Street, Robbin, NC 27325. The Town of Robbins leased the building to NMFRC for \$1 a year for 10 years, with the understanding that the building needed extensive renovations and upgrades to be suitable to the needs of the organization. The lease expired in September of 2025.

NMFRC initially renovated the building in three phases, and the organization continues to maintain and upgrade the facility. Investments in "leasehold improvements" to the building total over \$500,000, with additional maintenance and repairs expenses totaling more than \$50,000.

Additionally, NMFRC, in partnership with the Town of Robbins, created a community green space with a permanent stage, which is behind the building, and which is a welcoming asset in the center of downtown. NMFRC successfully secured the donation of sod needed and recruited volunteers and equipment to install the sod. A grant from the State of North Carolina to NMFRC paid for construction of the stage. These "improvement" assets were conveyed by NMFRC to the Town of Robbins, as this space is owned and maintained by the Town for the enjoyment and use of all residents. NMFRC's investment in the green space totaled over \$100,000.

NMFRC currently seeks private financial support to improve its fenced in outdoor space behind the building which adjoins the green space, and which is used by NMFRC for its HOPE Academy Preschool program. Further, NMFRC seeks private financial support to renovate the remaining downstairs area of the building, which has not been improved to date. Both projects will be a significant investment, costing over \$300,000. Several potential donors have indicated that their interest is contingent on NMFRC having ownership of the building and space.

Background and Future Sustainability

NMFRC was founded 30 years ago and has been serving the community in various ways since its inception. The current Executive Director has served the organization for 20 years, and for her tenure the organization has had two main areas of focus: supporting

children in their education and working with the Town of Robbins to improve community and economic conditions. Support of children in their education has included the HOPE Academy Preschool for the past 10 years, which serves over 50 children annually. Additionally, NMFRC offers after school programs that have supported students at Robbins Elementary and Elise Middle Schools for more than 15 years, serving 150 and 200 students annually. NMFRC's longest running program is its free summer camp, which serves more than 200 children for six weeks each summer.

While the current Executive Director plans to retire in several years, the organization has a succession plan in place. Over the next several years, the current Director of Development will become well versed in all facets of the organization, so that she will be prepared to step into the Executive Director position at the appropriate time.

Further, because its HOPE Academy Preschool was designed to be affordable to the families it serves, the organization has worked diligently each year to raise the funds necessary to allow it to provide a 75% subsidy to its families. This has been a formidable challenge to the organization, which remains steadfast in its determination to provide high-quality, early-childhood education at a nominal cost to the community. One of the classrooms at the preschool has just received designation as an NC Pre-K classroom, which means that families of children qualifying for an NC Pre-K seat will pay no tuition, and NMFRC will receive monthly funding for those qualifying children. These funds will cover the annual cost of that classroom, and the funds will be reliable and consistent, eliminating some of the ongoing challenge of raising funds necessary for sustaining the program as a whole.

In summary, the organization is healthy and looks forward to serving and strengthening the community for many years to come.

Conclusion

NMFRC is grateful for the collaboration between it and the Town of Robbins to serve and strengthen the community and its residents and looks forward to working with the Town well into the future. NMFRC respectfully requests serious consideration of this purchase offer by Town officials. Should officials have any questions or concerns, the Executive Director and/or the organization's Board of Directors will be happy to meet and address and answer those questions or concerns.

On behalf of Northern Moore Family Resource Center



Clare Ruggles, Executive Director