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Passage Home gets federal grant to fight poverty in Wake County

From staff reports December 26, 2013



RALEIGH — The Raleigh nonprofit Passage Home has received a federal grant of more than \$800,000 to aid its mission of fighting poverty in Wake County.

The \$814,514 Community Services Block Grant helps Passage Home extend services into eastern Wake County, where it plans to build a new site in Wendell.

“The CSBG means everything in terms of its purpose and implementation,” Wake County Commissioner James West said in a news release Thursday. “And it comes from Passage Home’s proven track record in working with low-income individuals, reducing poverty and enhancing people’s quality of life.”

Founded in 1991, Passage Home labels itself a community development organization that works to fight poverty and homelessness from the community level down to the individual level.

Utilizing 29 full-time employees, 10 part-time employees and more than 500 volunteers, its case managers work on multiple projects including affordable housing, addiction recovery and after-school programs such as the Homework Haven Kids Cafe where children are fed and tutored.

Earlier this year, Bayer CropScience announced its increased support of Passage Home through a \$600,000 Bayer USA Foundation grant.

That grant was targeted to develop a community garden in the Brown Birch neighborhood of South Raleigh and for increased support of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education for students involved in Passage Home’s after-school and summer-school programs.

For more information about Passage Home and its volunteer opportunities, go to <http://www.passagehome.org/>.



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