

Journeys of Resilience



B U I L D I N G R E S I L I E N T C O M M U N I T I E S

**Empowering Individuals
Strengthen Communities
Creating Sustainable Futures**

Dear Friends,

At QuestCDC, we believe that housing is more than a roof over someone's head—it's the foundation for a stable, dignified life. But what truly transforms that foundation into a future is the power of community, compassion, and collaboration.

Resident Journeys is more than a collection of stories. It's a celebration of resilience. It's a testament to what's possible when people are seen, supported, and empowered. Every resident profiled in these pages came to us carrying burdens—some visible, some silent. Many arrived with little more than the clothes on their backs and a spark of hope buried beneath layers of hardship. But through the support of our dedicated team, our strategic partners, and a community that refuses to give up, that spark has been reignited—illuminating new paths forward.

As you read these personal accounts, I hope you see what I see every day at Quest—courage in the face of adversity, the healing impact of wraparound support, and the unmatched strength of individuals determined to reclaim their lives. These stories underscore that sustainable change doesn't happen in isolation. It's the result of deep partnerships—like those we've forged with NeighborWorks America, local government agencies, healthcare providers, donors, and volunteers—who together make our mission possible.



In service and solidarity,

Leonard L. Adams, Jr.

President & CEO—QuestCDC



Standing In Gratitude

To Our Residents

—thank you for trusting us with your personal journeys of empowerment.

To Our Partners

—thank you for walking this path with us.

To Our Supporters

—may these stories move you, challenge you, and inspire you to believe—like we do—that everyone deserves a place to call home and a community to thrive in.

"Before Quest, I felt invisible—like my story didn't matter. But living at Quest Commons gives me more than just a roof over my head—it gives me purpose, dignity, and a second chance. This place didn't just change my address. It transformed my life."

— Ron, Quest Commons West Resident



“If I can come out of that darkness, so can anyone. Sometimes, all it takes is one safe place and someone who believes in you.”

Embracing A New Life Chapter

Tameka’s Journey: Rising from Rock Bottom to Empower Others

Tameka’s journey to recovery began in one of the darkest chapters of her life. Gripped by depression and addiction, reeling from a DUI arrest, and mourning the pain of a miscarriage, she felt like everything had fallen apart. That pain led her to a homeless shelter, where she spent six long months wrestling with the weight of her reality. But somewhere in that storm, Tameka found her turning point. She made a courageous decision: it was time to take her life back.

At the age of 36, Tameka arrived at Quest with a quiet but powerful resolve to change. She didn’t come looking for a quick fix—she came ready to put in the work. With the guidance of a dedicated support team and the stability of safe housing, she began to confront her trauma, take accountability, and pursue healing on her own terms.

The path wasn't easy, but Tameka met every challenge with courage. She leaned into counseling, embraced her sobriety journey, and surrounded herself with a community that saw her potential—even when she doubted it herself. Day by day, step by step, she began to rebuild not just her life, but her sense of self.

Now, three years later, Tameka is not only clean and sober—she's thriving. She has transformed her pain into purpose, earning her certification as a peer counselor. Through this role, she walks alongside others who are navigating the difficult road to recovery, offering empathy, hope, and lived wisdom that only someone who's been there can provide.

Tameka has become a pillar of strength in the Quest community—a living example that transformation is possible, no matter how far one has fallen. Her story isn't just about recovery; it's about reclaiming dignity, rediscovering purpose, and choosing to rise.

Tameka's journey proves that when individuals are given housing, holistic support, and a community that sees them—not for who they've been, but for who they can become—they don't just survive. They rise. And in doing so, they lift others with them.

Quest marks a second chance for me. They took me in with acceptance and without judgment. My life is no longer about loss—it's about growth. It's about supporting myself and lifting others up. This is my new life.

Tameka

Quest Commons West Resident



Located in the heart of Vine City, Quest Commons West offers 53 units of permanent supportive housing designed for individuals transitioning out of homelessness. The community is equipped with on-site case management and holistic support services to foster stability and self-sufficiency.



A Life Beyond Homelessness

Janet's Journey: From Crisis to Confidence

For over a year, Janet faced the harsh realities of homelessness—uncertainty, isolation, and the daily struggle just to survive. But everything began to shift when she connected with Quest Community Development Corporation. There, she found more than just shelter; she discovered a community of support, a renewed sense of dignity, and a pathway to reclaim her future.

Through the Quest Cares program, Janet was placed in temporary housing, giving her the stability she needed to begin rebuilding her life. With encouragement from her case manager, she quickly found employment—working tirelessly across multiple jobs, including as a Certified Nursing Assistant in a local nursing facility, offering in-home care to elderly clients, and even helping at a neighborhood laundromat. Her strong work ethic and compassion for others became central to her journey forward.

"I arrived at Quest broken. Now I'm rebuilding, brick by brick—with purpose, with peace, and with people who believe in me and allowed me to believe in myself."

But Janet knew rebuilding her life meant more than just finding work. She committed fully to wraparound support services—regularly engaging in case management and prioritizing her mental health through counseling provided by CHRIS 180. This holistic support helped her not only process the trauma of her past but also begin to dream again.

With the help of financial coaching from On the Rise Financial Center, Janet took control of her finances for the first time. She learned to budget, save, and make informed decisions about her future. By the end of her program, she had saved over \$1,000—an achievement that once felt out of reach during her time on the streets.

Exactly one year after entering Quest Village, Janet reached a milestone she had visualized often during her hardest nights: she moved into a townhouse of her own. The same kind of home she had once seen as impossible was now hers—a place of peace, privacy, and pride. Her success is a testament to her perseverance and the power of community-based support.

Today, Janet stands not just as a survivor, but as a symbol of resilience. Her journey reflects what's possible when compassionate systems meet personal determination—when someone is not only given a second chance, but the tools to thrive.

" I just needed a chance. Quest gave me more than that—they gave me tools, support, and a path forward. Today, I have keys to my own home and a future I can be proud of."

Janet
Former Quest Village Resident



Quest Village offers 28 units of deeply affordable housing for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Located on Atlanta's Westside, Quest Village fosters a sense of community with shared outdoor spaces and embedded supportive services.



“For someone rebuilding their life, reliable transportation can open doors. We simply wanted to help remove a barrier.”

— Clarice Wilson

“Travis and Clarice’s continued generosity is a shining example of how individual acts of kindness create real, lasting impact,”

—Leonard L. Adams Jr. - President/CEO

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Longtime supporters and Westside residents, Travis and Clarice Wilson have made a generous and life-changing gift to a Quest resident—a reliable vehicle to support their journey toward independence and stability.

The Wilsons, who have faithfully contributed to QuestCDC’s mission for several years, understand that transportation is often a hidden barrier to success. Their donation directly empowers a resident to access employment, essential services, and greater opportunities.

The recipient, a participant in Quest’s supportive housing program, expressed deep gratitude for the unexpected gift. With this new mobility, they can more confidently pursue their goals.

The Power of Community on Atlanta's Westside

Giving back to our neighbors is at the heart of building a stronger, more connected community. Whether through time, resources, or acts of kindness, every contribution helps uplift individuals and families working to create better lives. It's about showing up for one another, investing in shared progress, and ensuring that everyone has a chance to thrive right here in the neighborhoods we call home.

[QUESTCDC.ORG/ADVOCATE](https://questcdc.org/advocate)



Clean, Focused, & Moving Forward

George's Journey: From Recovery to Renewal

When George first entered The Leonard House, he carried the weight of years spent battling addiction and instability. But from day one, he chose a new path—one anchored in accountability, hope, and the belief that a better life was still within reach. Today, George is proudly celebrating three years of sobriety, a milestone that not only marks his personal resilience but also signals the start of a brighter future.

With the support of QuestCDC's wraparound services and a community that sees his potential, George has begun mentoring fellow residents, sharing his story as a source of strength and inspiration. His journey is a testament to what's possible when housing, healing, and human dignity come together.

"I'm proud of how far I've come, but the most important thing to me is staying clean and sober for the rest of my life."

Sobriety, for George, is more than abstaining from substance use—it's the foundation upon which he's rebuilding his life. With renewed clarity and purpose, he's now actively pursuing his GED, committed to expanding his opportunities and setting a powerful example for his two sons, both of whom are autistic. Reunifying with them is his next major goal, one that fuels his determination each day. He speaks of his boys with tenderness and unwavering love, recognizing that their well-being is tied directly to the stability he's creating.

George's long-term vision is deeply personal: to become a homeowner. More than a dream, it's a declaration of the life he intends to build—a safe, nurturing space where his children can grow in an environment of consistency, love, and possibility.

George sees homeownership as a symbol of self-sufficiency, where financial independence meets emotional restoration. For George, breaking generational cycles begins with a key to his own front door.

Reflecting on his progress, George remains grounded. His journey, though still unfolding, is a powerful testament to what's possible when community support, personal commitment, and a clear vision for the future come together.

"Every day I wake up sober is a blessing. I'm not just doing this for me—I'm doing it for my sons. I want to show them that change is possible, and that we can build something better, together."

George

Former Leonard House Resident



The Leonard House provides up to six months of transitional housing in recovery or re-entry, during which residents are supported holistically across all domains of wellness and self-sufficiency. Residents receive structured support, life skills coaching, and access to workforce development programs.



"The Quest team treated me with kindness and respect, always offering support when I needed it most. The Leonard House truly felt like a place where I could rebuild."

#QUESTFORWARD

From Transition to Triumph

Evinn's Journey: Finding Renewed Strength in Transition

When Evinn arrived at Leonard House in August 2022, he brought with him more than just the desire for shelter—he carried the hope for a fresh start. His journey to Quest Community Development Corporation came after time spent in another transitional facility in Atlanta, one that, while offering housing, lacked the vital resources and encouragement necessary for true progress. At Leonard House, that all changed.

From the moment he joined Quest's transitional housing program, Evinn made it clear he was ready to do the work. Surrounded by a team that believed in his potential, he embraced every opportunity for growth. The structure, guidance, and wraparound services provided by Quest created the stable foundation he needed to thrive—and thrive he did.

With unwavering determination, Evin balanced two jobs, often working long hours but never losing sight of his goals. He began to build up his savings, taking financial empowerment seriously as part of his long-term vision. Encouraged by the support around him, he made the bold decision to return to school—further investing in himself and his future.

Throughout it all, Evin remained deeply committed to his mental health and sobriety. With consistent support and access to mental health services, he maintained his wellness and built the emotional resilience needed to navigate the challenges of life after homelessness.

In time, he achieved a major milestone: securing a place of his own. Moving into his own apartment was more than just a change of address—it was a symbol of self-sufficiency and personal victory.

Today, Evin stands as a powerful example of what's possible when housing, resources, and personal commitment come together. His story reflects the heart of Quest's mission—to create pathways of transformation for individuals who are ready to move forward. We are incredibly proud of Evin's journey and can't wait to see the future he continues to build.

" Living at Leonard House was a turning point for me. I'm deeply grateful to Quest for creating a space that empowers people to move forward."

Evin
Former Leonard House Resident



Quest Cares service delivery model goes beyond shelter — it creates a community of care.

Residents benefit from daily group sessions focused on life skills, relapse prevention, emotional regulation, and wellness planning. Individual case management ensures that personalized goals and barriers are addressed collaboratively, while one-on-one sessions with a dedicated program nurse provide critical support for co-occurring health needs and medication management.

A QUEST FOR HOME, HOPE, AND HEALING



“Quest has played a vital role in helping me restore my faith—in myself and in humanity. I'm currently working toward becoming a licensed RN, but my ultimate dream is to become a medical doctor. With Quest's continued support, I believe I can pursue my education in peace and purpose, one degree at a time.”

— Tameka | Former Quest Village Resident



“After leaving the Army, I struggled to find stable work and ended up homeless. Today, I live in a Quest residence for veterans, where I have a dedicated case manager and someone to turn to whenever I need support. I couldn't ask for a more encouraging and empowering environment.”

— Damion | Quest Veterans Village Resident | U.S. Army Veteran



“Quest gave me more than a second chance—they gave me hope. I was met with compassion instead of judgment, and for the first time in years, I felt truly seen. My life is no longer defined by struggle, but by stability, growth, and the joy of paying it forward. This isn't just a new chapter—it's a whole new beginning.”

— Sheryl | Quest Commons West Resident

Quest Core 4 — Programmatic Pillars

True transformation goes beyond shelter.



01

High-Quality Affordable & Supportive Housing

The foundation of every success story is stable, safe, and dignified housing. By offering deeply affordable homes—many for residents earning 30% or less of the Area Median Income—QuestCDC creates the security needed for individuals to begin healing, rebuilding, and planning for their future.



02

Comprehensive CARF-Accredited Support

Quest’s nationally accredited supportive services offer individualized case management, mental health referrals, recovery coaching, life skills training, and employment support. This wraparound care empowers residents to address the root causes of instability and move forward with confidence and accountability.



03

Trusted Fiduciary Management

Through Quest Fiduciary, we steward over \$4 million in annual benefits for SSI recipients, veterans, and other vulnerable individuals—championing their financial dignity, stability, and path to independence.



04

Inclusive Community Engagement

Whether through resident councils, peer mentorship, or neighborhood partnerships, Quest fosters a culture of belonging and civic participation. Residents don’t just survive—they contribute, lead, and thrive within vibrant, connected communities.

The Westside Housing Trifecta—281 Units

QuestCDC

OUR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING MODEL WORKS.

QUESTCDC MAINTAINS A 93% HOUSING RETENTION RATE, PROVING THAT WHEN RESIDENTS ARE GIVEN THE RIGHT SUPPORT AND STABILITY, THEY THRIVE.



Background: Quest Commons West—53 Units



THE QUEST WESTSIDE IMPACT CENTER

299 JOSEPH E. LOWERY NW | ATLANTA, GA 30314

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES



VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



CHARITY NAVIGATOR
★★★★ Four Star Charity



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