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PTA Thrift Shop Digs Into Radical Collaboration Nonprofit Project

The organization will hold a community groundbreaking for the launch of its Nonprofit Collaborative Venture.

July 21, 2016, Carrboro, NC – The PTA Thrift Shop will hold a groundbreaking on Monday, August 15th, at 9:00 a.m. at 117 West Main Street, the lot adjacent to its Carrboro retail location. The event will celebrate the launch of the first ever Triangle nonprofit collaborative focused on youth-serving organizations.

With nearly 65 years of service to the Chapel Hill and Carrboro communities, the PTA Thrift Shop (PTA TS), in conjunction with Youth Forward (formerly Chapel Hill Carrboro Youth Forward), is poised to launch the Nonprofit Collaborative Venture (NCV) in early 2017. The NCV will be an accelerator space for nonprofit capacity-building for five-to-seven Triangle youth-serving organizations housed within the NCV walls, as well as non-resident collaborative members. Confirmed organizations are Triangle Bikeworks, the SKJAJA Fund, and Youth Forward.

The NCV will be a unique and innovative project providing general and specific programming that will augment each participating nonprofit's outcomes, ultimately enhancing their best practices and sustainability. In addition, the NCV will assist non-Chapel Hill and Carrboro-based nonprofit organizations in establishing an affordable Orange County presence. This will both bring a mix of fresh ideas to the Orange County nonprofit sector, as well as build new partnerships that will provide an infusion of additional, much-needed capacity-building for organizations who serve children and youth.

Barbara Jessie-Black, Executive Director of PTA Thrift Shop explains: "So often, small to medium-sized organizations are hindered by lack of capacity. We're creating a collaborative environment to empower local nonprofits who are making a difference in the lives of youth by helping them build capacity and sustainable practices."

The NCV will craft and implement tailor-made programming that will help cultivate, innovate, and enhance local nonprofits' best practices specifically designed to address under-resourced K-12 students. The NCV also plans on partnering with local professionals who will add their expertise in the form of workshops, trainings, as well as one-on-one sessions with nonprofit staff.

"Our goal is to buoy these organizations so that they can do their best work by providing services that address the under-served in our community," offered Tabitha Blackwell, Executive Director for Youth Forward. "All children and youth deserve to be valued and supported in reaching their potential."

Funds for the innovative project have been secured, including a generous grant from the Grable Foundation, Wells Fargo Charitable Fund, and an anonymous foundation. Additional funds are now being sought for operations and programming.

The NCV will also open its doors to other community organizations through meeting space, common areas, workshops, and public trainings.

"We want to create a ripple effect that goes beyond the five-to-seven participating organizations housed within the NCV. We want our collaboration to be the tide that raises all the boats," added Jessie-Black.

About the PTA Thrift Shop and Youth Forward

PTA TS is a youth-serving nonprofit organization that enriches the lives of children and youth by building collaborative partnerships and transforming charitable donations into educational and community investments. Youth Forward is an organization dedicated to strengthening youth-serving nonprofits with high-quality services aligned to the needs of Orange County young people.

For more information and to donate to the NCV, visit www.ptathriftshop.org

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