LOTUS CAMPAIGN

Unexpected allies working together to solve homelessness

October 2026 Newsletter

Feature Story

Another Game-Changing Milestone Reached!

Lotus Places 900th Resident

Lotus Campaign has reached another milestone: locating our 900th sponsored resident since we opened our doors in 2018! In early October, a mother and her two children, referred through Interfaith of Water County, moved into a Simple Residential property in Raleigh.

Mom offered this heartfelt testimonial: "I am beyond grateful to Lotus Campaign for helping us find a home. For a long time, I felt like we were stuck with no clear future for me and my children. Seeing how happy my kids are here means more to me than words can express. They have made so many friends and created beautiful memories in a place they can feel happy and comfortable. Thank you to everyone who made this possible and for bringing so much joy and hope into our lives. Your kindness and support have made a lasting difference in our family, and I will always be thankful."

Our pace is accelerating, and we're gaining momentum toward our goal of housing 1,000 residents by the end of 2026. We couldn't get there without the generosity of our donors, volunteers, partners, faith communities, social service agencies, and dedicated staff. Every sponsorship represents countless connections and relationships between individuals and families across safe, stable housing. Together, we're building momentum and bringing us closer to our next milestone: 1,000 residents housed.

Success Story

Degrees, Determination, & The Search For Home

She went to college to find a home

Alexa Sluiters has quite a collegiate resume. She's incredibly well educated for all her bright reasons. She loves learning, is driven to succeed, and has the discipline and curiosity of a life-long student. She also became a serial student for one entire major reason: to secure housing and escape poverty.

"My home was not a safe place for children. I was unhoused starting at age 20," Alexa says. "I was in and out of shelters and couch surfing. I had been working full-time and living in a garage. I slept in Sweet Peas Park and in the bathroom at Interfaith Food Pantry, and became an RA (residence assistant) to cut down on rent to Raleigh's sky-high prices. Nothing was working, and I was referred to Simple Permit Education. Along the way, she met many other Black women who were also homeless during the academic achievement, doing exceptional work while living in their cars.

The physical toll of homelessness

Alexa's struggles with homelessness took a toll on her physical health. "My bone and family weren't safe, so my health wasn't taken care of." Diagnosed with tendonitis, a degenerative connective tissue disease that has no cure, Alexa eventually developed arthritis in her hands. "I'm a writer and a student, and I'm left-handed. My hands failed me. Because I'm left-handed, I pulled a muscle, and worked with parent education, before her eyesight failed me completely and she could no longer read."

Alexa relied on disability benefits for a time. When those benefits ran out, she returned to Raleigh to stay with a friend. But when that arrangement fell through, she found herself facing the loss of nearly everything, on top of her blindness. "But I gained my personhood, which is worth everything."

Lotus Campaign steps in

Alexa's next step was Hosting Transitions, a Lotus Campaign social service partner in Raleigh. "Because of my background in social work, I understood what Hosting Transitions was trying to do. I knew I was going to be a part of it, and I was able to walk with confidence, and hope, and ease, to work with." Shortly after she arrived, her caseworker Allison told her about Lotus Campaign. "It's so smart. I didn't believe it was real. I thought, it makes so much sense, no one will believe it."

Once her application was accepted, things moved very quickly. In March 2018, Alexa moved into her York Properties studio apartment, "with a balcony!" she says with delight. Her apartment is a vibrant, well-lit space filled with nearby windows, public transportation, and adequate and well-maintained amenities, a critically important infrastructure for a blind person. The Raleigh nonprofit Green Chair furnished her place.

Too good to be true

"I was so impressed with the reception I received. As a former social worker, I know how hard it is to get help. I was so grateful to Lotus and to Hosting. I kept it secret because I was so afraid. I'm not used to people, but to a home that I deserve. I'm not used to that's the promise of Lotus: not simply providing housing, but giving people the foundation to restore their lives and imagine what comes next.

Featured Partners

LEO Impact Capital & Bank of America

The Lotus Campaign team was thrilled to welcome Bank of America to Sharon Crossing in Charlotte for a site visit showcasing our Landlord Participation Program in action and highlighting the impact of Bank of America's generous $50,000 grant!

Sharon Crossing Property Manager Lisa Hawkins, Lily Goldstein of participating landlord partner LEO Impact Capital, and Bank of America Senior Vice Presidents Monique Vera-Winston, joined us for the tour.

Bank of America's newly launched Climate Strategic Center LEO Impact Capital will lead a full financial appreciation block party featuring food Network Star Tristan Eyan-Seng. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate community and connection.

These partnerships showcase the power of Lotus Campaign bringing together corporations, nonprofits, faith communities, social services, and funders - who invest in our neighborhoods to create meaningful change.

Lotus Game Changing News

Lotus Campaign on Giving Tuesday!

With Giving Tuesday just around the corner, we want to give you a heads up about the October Charlotte Apartment Association (GCAA) Morning Links Campaign their cause of the day.

Giving Tuesday at GCAA is arguably but ordinary. Here's a sneak peek:

- For six fast-paced, wildly unpredictable hours, the Charlotte multifamily community comes together for the Morning Perks Podcast to raise money for a local charity.
- And yes, things get a little chaotic.
- Think pies in the face, outrageous food challenges, wild hair colors, piercings, tattoos, surprise talents, and plenty of "how much would it take for you to do that?" moments. It's a celebration of generosity and community willing to show up for something bigger than themselves.

Lotus is honored and excited to be this year's "cause it is made!" GCAA has set a goal of raising **$50,000** to support our work, and we can't wait to see what this community makes possible.

Stay tuned for more details on how to tune in and participate. If you'd like to support GCAA's Giving Tuesday campaign now, it's [perfectly easy](#) to do. You can also [sponsor a team](#), and explore the many ways to give as part of your year-end giving!

IN THE NEWS

What We Are Reading And Listening To

- Robert Davis wrote a wonderful in-depth article in his substack **Real Estate 4 Good** about Lotus Campaign and our sponsored residents in Charlotte. Crystal and Brandon. "[Breaking cycles through compassion](#)" is a beautiful piece that highlights the [transformation from real estate](#) sector back to the table to solve homelessness.
- It will come as no surprise that the cost of housing tops the list in this October 21, 2026, New York Times article, "[Life Position Two Transplanted](#) [Hearts Are Beating in Her Chest. Can She Afford Rent?](#)" Lotus Campaign [expected to be a game changer for housing costs in the midtowns.](#) [Here's a snapshot of some reasons people are feeling stressed.](#)
- Another New York Times article from October 12, 2026, "[We Know How to](#) [Solve Homelessness. Why Don't We Do It?](#)" Lotus Campaign is one of the [ten solutions mentioned in the article!](#) Denver Mayor Mike Johnston's can-do attitude that we also subscribe to at Lotus Campaign, "Our fundamental mantra when we started was our belief that all of our problems are solvable and we're the ones to solve them."

Act now to be a game changer.

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