

**Healing Place of Wake County**  
PRESS RELEASE

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**The Healing Place of Wake County hires Director of Specialized Services**

Raleigh, NC - The Healing Place of Wake County announced the hiring of Ms. Amanda Blue as the new Director of Specialized Services. In this role Ms. Blue will be overseeing our three specialized services programs – Child & Family Services, Transitional Case Management, and the Clinic Services. In addition her major focus will also be on engagement and retention by fostering community partnerships as well as being an on-site person to provide leadership at the Women’s Facility.

Ms. Blue received her undergraduate degree from NCSU in Applied Psychology continuing her education with MSW courses and went on to complete internships with First Urban Ministries of Wake County, Helen Wright Center for Women and Peace College. Upon receiving her degree in MSW, Ms. Blue became the Lead Case Manager for Urban Ministries, HWCW. Ms. Blue is currently involved in several committees as a part of the Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness- the Chamber Employment Initiative, the 24/7 Stabilization committee and she is currently the chair for the Wake County SOAR committee as well as a board member for Triangle Disability Advocates.

With a few more hours to complete and under the clinical supervision of Chris Budnick, Vice President of Programs of The Healing Place Ms. Blue will become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

“I am very passionate about combating homelessness and I would probably say that my two favorite aspects of working with this population are doing community outreach and being able to be a part of the people’s lives that we touch, and by joining The Healing Place I couldn’t imagine a more perfect work environment for me”, says Ms. Blue.

Chris Budnick, Vice President of Programs of The Healing Place said, “I am very excited about Amanda joining us and the expertise she has working with the homeless population. She is sure to strengthen our relationship with the clients other providers and the community”.

The Healing Place is dedicated to reducing homelessness and the devastating impacts of addiction. The current homeless population of Wake County is estimated to be approximately 1200, and on any given night over 300 of those individuals are sheltered and active in the Healing Place’s recovery program.

The recovery and rehabilitation program is focused on “Helping People find their way back” from homelessness and addiction to becoming contributing members of society. This journey is recovery based on a peer-run, 12-step based program that

has demonstrated a success rate of over 70% sober one year after leaving our program.

### **About The Healing Place**

The Healing Place of Wake County is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) recovery and rehabilitation facility for homeless people with alcohol and other drug dependency. The Men's Facility opened its doors in 2001 and the Women's Facility began operation in 2006. The Healing Place facilities have provided more than 500,000 beds of shelter and days of recovery to homeless men and women at a cost of less than \$30 per client per day. Remarkably, one year after program completion, over 65% of the graduates from the program are still sober, employed, tax paying citizens. The Healing Place of Wake County is built on the principles of the highly successful Healing Place in Louisville KY, which received the 1998 US Department of Health Resources and Service Administration "Models That Work Award" in recognition of the success of the program. Visit us on the web at [www.hpowc.org](http://www.hpowc.org).

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