



## NEWS RELEASE – April 6, 2021

The Lake Norman Community Health Clinic (LNCHC) of Huntersville, NC and the Ada Jenkins Center (AJC) of Davidson, NC announce a new partnership to provide more comprehensive care: effective immediately, LNCHC is welcoming uninsured patients formerly served at the AJC Free Medical Clinic.

“Ada Jenkins has, and continues to be, an incredible organization serving those most in need in our community. The environment today is pushing nonprofits to streamline their missions and to capitalize on existing services through partnerships. This synergy will allow us to both effectively provide to the community what we do best. By not duplicating services, we are able to work together to touch more lives in a more efficient manner. I am so looking forward to working with Harold Rice. He is a progressive leader with a passion to move the economies of scale for the individuals and families that Ada Jenkins serves,” offers LNCHC Executive Director, April Cook.

Whereas the volunteer-staffed AJC Free Medical clinic operated one afternoon per week, LNCHC operates on a full-time weekday basis, has a range of paid medical professionals on staff, provides greater access to on-site health specialists, and has lab services on-site.

“These are wonderful patient advantages that we are unable to provide,” explains Harold E. Rice, Jr., Chief Executive Officer of the Ada Jenkins Center. “The Lake Norman Community Health Clinic has a 23-year history of meeting the needs of uninsured patients. Because we want to ensure the best care for our clients, we have taken the bittersweet step to transition all Ada Jenkins Center Free Medical Clinic patient care to LNCHC.”

Rice adds that the COVID-19 economy – resulting in decreased contributions from some major funders -- has forced the Ada Jenkins Center, like many nonprofit organizations, to seek intra-agency partnerships and economies of scale in order to stretch community resources. The Ada Jenkins Center is reinforcing its economic mobility services for families in northern Mecklenburg County through case management; education/employment, financial, and housing coaching; and its after-school academic enrichment program.

The Ada Jenkins Center has contacted all patients who have visited Free Medical Clinic since January 2018, referring them to LNCHC; LNCHC will accept all uninsured patients through April 2022 without further eligibility process. (Starting April 1, 2022, all former Ada Jenkins Center patients must meet the LNCHC eligibility guidelines.) Patients may call 704-316-6611 for more information, and learn more via the LNCHC website: <http://lnchc.org/>

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### **About the Lake Norman Community Health Clinic**

*Lake Norman Community Health Clinic is the oldest and largest medical provider serving the uninsured in Mecklenburg and South Iredell counties. LNCHC provides acute and chronic care and is open five days a week, with evening clinics on Wednesdays. LNCHC not only focuses on prevention and treatment of disease, but in managing healthy outcomes for patients. Lake Norman Community Health Clinic is accredited by the North Carolina Association of Free and Charitable Clinics and, in 2020, earned a Gold*

*Rating from the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics Quality Standards Program. The clinic strives to help patients make health decisions based on the best available, valid, and reliable evidence. Since its 1998 founding, the clinic has provided nearly 89, 700 appointments for 8,150 patients. Learn more: <http://Inchc.org/>*

**About the Ada Jenkins Center:**

*The Ada Jenkins Center has stood in Davidson for more than 80 years as a hub for education and community services in northern Mecklenburg County. With services including social work case management; housing, employment and financial coaching; youth and adult education; and food pantry, we help people in our community create lasting solutions for economic stability. As a result of COVID-19, since March 2020 we have assisted more than 315 families with emergency payments toward rent and utilities; and provided food to nearly 2,500 people at our food pantry. To learn more: [www.adajenkins.org](http://www.adajenkins.org).*