UNC HORIZONS GROWS TO GIVE MORE HOPE

On April 19, 2017, the UNC Horizons Program celebrated a long-awaited milestone – the opening of a new state-of-the-art, substance-use treatment facility to bring prenatal care, maternal-child therapy, recovery treatment programs and gatherings together under one warm, welcoming roof.

UNC Horizons Program has been treating new and expecting mothers with substance use disorders since 1993 when the nation was experiencing a cocaine epidemic. Founded by UNC OB-GYN McAllister Distinguished Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology Dr. John Thorp, UNC Horizons began with two employees. The program has grown to more than 80 dedicated employees, including Dr. Hendrée Jones, professor of obstetrics and gynecology and internationally known expert on substance use disorders among pregnant and parenting women.

The celebration of the new facility brought Carolina’s Chancellor Carol L. Folt, N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper, Sen. Richard Burr and School of Medicine Executive Dean Wesley Burks to join Dr. Thorp and Dr. Jones on stage. Donors and friends from the Chapel Hill and University communities listened to program graduate and Horizons employee Lucy Brown tell her moving story.

“In treatment, I was able to dive into the difficult task of overcoming my substance use disorder while experiencing the joys of parenting,” said Brown, a certified peer-support specialist at Horizons and mother of two daughters. “We are so proud to be part of the vision that Chancellor Folt has laid out for all of UNC. Just as UNC sets the bar for public education, Horizons is setting the bar for shaping excellent clinical service, pushing innovation and to access to affordable comprehensive addiction treatment care for women and their children,” said Dr. Jones. “One of my favorite statements a patient once shared is, ‘I came to Horizons with a pocket full of pills and today I am leaving with a pocket full of skills.’ The ultimate secret of Horizons is helping women and children awaken and apply their power and self-worth.

Interested in giving? Visit unchorizons.org.
UNC HORIZONS PROGRAM 2016-17 STATISTICS

Our Mission Is To:

• Increase the number of pregnant women and mothers with substance use issues who successfully engage in the recovery process;
• Increase the number of healthy birth outcomes;
• Assure early intervention and counseling services for children as needed; and
• Improve community response and service collaboration for pregnant women and mothers with substance use disorders.

Generating and applying new knowledge

EDUCATING UNDERGRADUATE POPULATIONS
We provided trainings to all sorority presidents and several sororities at UNC regarding how to identify and help those who may need help with problematic substance use.

ENGAGING UNC SCHOLARS FOR NEW SOLUTIONS
We collaborated with Kenan-Flagler Business School’s 2nd year MBA students to develop a business plan for a small enterprise that would give women the opportunity to build skills.

MAKING A MODEL

SHARING OUR KNOWLEDGE
We created and disseminated training courses that give treatment providers from all over the world the tools they need to identify, assess and treat people for drug addiction under a contract with the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs.

Clinical Excellence

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY
We provided services to 266 women, including 75 families in residence with a total of 80 children.

SUPPORTING HEALTHY MOMS AND BABIES
UNC Horizons’ clients delivered 64 babies, with 56 born at UNC. The 56 babies who were born at UNC averaged 5.6 pounds and 38.6 weeks gestational age.

OFFERING EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE
77% of our residential graduates were employed at program completion.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES
100% of women who completed our residential program had stable or positive Child Protective Services outcomes.

Training Local and International Scholars

AMPLIFYING OUR RESEARCH OUTCOMES
We educated more than 4,800 people through webinars, conference, and seminars across North Carolina, the U.S. and the world.

OFFERING IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES
We welcomed scholars from North Carolina, South Carolina, New Hampshire and Pakistan.