



FAMILIES FORWARD

C H A R L O T T E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAMILIES FORWARD CHARLOTTE JOINS GLOBAL NETWORK TO DISRUPT POVERTY

Charlotte, NC — October 8, 2019 — Families Forward Charlotte, FFC, a local non-profit whose mission is to bring people out of poverty through education, mentoring and essential support has joined the Economic Mobility Exchange – a global antipoverty network of non-profits, foundations, academic institutions, human service providers, and government agencies. Exchange members advance a groundbreaking approach to combat poverty, which has a proven track record of helping low-income people achieve economic independence.

FFC has also started working with Economic Mobility Pathways (EMPath), a global non-profit aimed at advancing economic mobility, and has implemented Mobility Mentoring® - an informed approach to support low-income people. Mobility Mentoring® was developed by EMPath, who started using it in 2009. EMPath has seen remarkable results since then, especially by graduates of its flagship five-year program. The percent of participants with college degrees has gone from 38% to 74%; and the percent of participants who are employed has gone from 65% to 97%.

At the most recent Family Assistance Program Kickoff, FFC welcomed 26 families and their Family Liaisons (mentors). It was during this kickoff that the families were introduced to Mobility Mentoring®. The families also attended a financial empowerment workshop led by Common Wealth Charlotte and Healthy Blue also spoke about upcoming changes to Medicaid. Each family received an FFC “Essentials Basket” a soccer ball, and Food Lion gift card. Each family has started working with their Family Liaison to assess their current needs and set goals for economic mobility.

“Giving our families access to Mobility Mentoring® will be a gamechanger. Poverty is not a choice, as we have seen with our families. It’s a result of layers and layers of circumstances that most of the time have no other ending. But with the education and mentoring our families will receive with Mobility Mentoring®, we are confident it will bring the progress of change they need in their lives and positive outcomes for all,” says Carrie Christian, President of Families Forward Charlotte.

The Economic Mobility Exchange was launched by EMPATH in 2014 with 14 members and has since grown to more than 100 organizations across the United States and internationally. Last year, Exchange members across the globe served more than 100,000 people with a Mobility Mentoring® informed approach.

In addition to learning from one another, Exchange members provide collective expertise on key public policy issues with local leaders, state and federal government, and colleges and universities.

For more information on Families Forward Charlotte click [here](#).

About Families Forward Charlotte

Families Forward Charlotte partners with families living in poverty in Mecklenburg County, NC. We provide individualized mentoring, educational opportunities and essential support as we walk alongside each family on their journey toward long-term stability and economic mobility. We envision our city’s children and families living free of the challenges of poverty.

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