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### **Mercy Care Successfully Completes Capital Campaign for New Clinic in Chamblee**

*Construction of New Clinic with Expanded Patient Capacity and Services Underway*

ATLANTA, February 17, 2016: The Mercy Care Foundation successfully met a \$13.9 million fundraising goal by its 2015 deadline. As a result, construction of the new Mercy Care Chamblee clinic started in early February. The new, 45,000 square foot facility will serve the area's low income population.

The capital campaign was co-chaired by Foundation board members Dave Fitzgerald, Jane Haverty and Jim Winchester. "Despite the ever-changing complexities of the healthcare industry and marketplace, the success of this campaign for Mercy Care Chamblee reflects a uniting of the Atlanta community around the fundamental belief that everyone, regardless of income or insurance status, deserves access to healthcare," said Fitzgerald.

The new clinic will more than triple the medical and dental service capacity at Mercy Care's existing North clinic location, currently housed along the Buford Highway corridor, and will expand services to include optometry, ultrasound, radiology, integrated behavioral health and a variety of health education programs. Mercy Care also collaborated with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta to provide on-site pediatric primary care, and Mercy Housing has purchased a portion of the site to build affordable residences for senior citizens.

"The Atlanta community has rallied behind our new Mercy Care Chamblee Clinic, and we are incredibly grateful," said Bonnie Hardage, President, Mercy Care Foundation. "Our donors recognize the critical importance of our mission to provide affordable, comprehensive healthcare to the thousands of marginalized individuals in our city. We couldn't advance our mission without this generous support."

"Thanks to the successful completion of this fundraising campaign, we are one step further to our goal of expanding healthcare to even more of those in our city that need it most," said Tom Andrews, President and CEO, Mercy Care. "What's so special about our new Chamblee clinic facility is that it will provide a medical refuge for the impoverished at every stage of life, from childhood, through adulthood and beyond."

Mercy Care had the support of generous individuals, corporations and foundations, including the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta, the James M. Cox Foundation, the Mary E. Haverty Foundation, the Tull Charitable Foundation, the R. Howard Dobbs Foundation, the SunTrust Foundation, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, the Mary Ryan & Henry G. Kuhrt Foundation, and many more.

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta was one of the first organizations to support the Mercy Care Chamblee project. "The new Mercy Care Chamblee clinic will expand upon the healing ministry established by the Sisters of Mercy, and we are honored to be a part of this incredibly special project that will further Mercy Care's mission to provide compassionate healthcare to those most in need in our community," said The Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Atlanta.

The new Mercy Care Chamblee clinic, strategically located on Peachtree Road adjacent to MARTA and Wal-Mart, will eventually house 24 examination rooms, eight counseling rooms, six dental operatories, two dental hygiene rooms and space for lab, vision, and diagnostic services. The clinic will feature a unique health education program to address life-style changes including family health promotion, diabetes management, obesity, nutrition and healthy cooking classes, and perinatal education. In recognition of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's commitment to this project, the educational kitchen providing these classes will be named the "Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Strong4 Life Kitchen," in alignment with their wellness movement designed to ignite societal change and reverse the epidemic of childhood obesity and its associated diseases in Georgia.

"We are so honored to bring pediatric services and expanded educational offerings to the new Mercy Care Chamblee clinic," said Donna Hyland, CEO, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. "We are dedicated to every child who needs pediatric care and to providing healing to those children in our community most in need."

Tina Lowe, President, Mercy Housing Southeast said, "We strive to create vibrant and healthy communities and are certain that, through our partnership with Mercy Care, we will be able to do just that in the Chamblee area. We look forward to meeting the need for affordable, senior citizen housing in a site dedicated to healing the whole person."

The new clinic is slated to open in early 2017. For more information on Mercy Care and Mercy Care Chamblee, visit [www.Mercyatlanta.org](http://www.Mercyatlanta.org).

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## **ABOUT MERCY CARE**

Since the 1980s, Mercy Care has been a healing presence among Atlanta's homeless and uninsured populations by providing high quality, integrated care. In the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy, care reflects compassion and respect for vulnerable patients. As access and coverage inequities persist, a growing number of families and individuals rely on Mercy Care, a Federally Qualified Health Center, to meet their primary healthcare needs. A network of ten fixed site and five mobile clinics provides excellent medical care and is staffed with a mix of employed and volunteer physicians, nurse practitioners, dentists, dental hygienists, optometrists, registered nurses and medical assistants.

By providing a healthcare home for uninsured patients, Mercy Care alleviates the burden on hospital emergency rooms throughout metro Atlanta. In addition to primary care, an array of critical wrap-around services including dental and vision care, radiology, prenatal education, behavioral health, HIV and homeless case management services are available. Mercy Care's dedicated staff, tireless volunteers and caring donors are a vital part of the city's medical safety net, catching those who fall through the cracks of mainstream healthcare. As one staff member commented, "We give our clients hope. This may be the best medicine of all."

In 2014, Mercy Care's clinics provided medical care to nearly 12,000 individuals; 65% were experiencing homelessness. Less than 9% of Mercy Care's budget came from patient revenue. For the remainder, Mercy Care relied on compassionate donors, grantors, volunteers and partners to support our mission.

Through philanthropy, Mercy Care Foundation honors the heritage and advances the ministry of the Sisters of Mercy through stewardship of resources that support Mercy Care's mission to provide excellent healthcare to poor and marginalized persons.