



A Word from our Executive Director, Janice McAdams

We have much to be thankful for at Family House and are completely in tune with November being the Awareness month for Pancreatic Cancer, Marrow, and Lung Cancer. November is also National Caregivers Month. Where would Family House be without our caregivers? The family members, the friends who support their loved ones through the halls of Family House, or the paid caregivers who help our guests find their way around UNC Health.



Every moment at Family House, we are aware that together we provide housing, camaraderie and tasty food: each of those is brought to our guests by the *givers* who care enough to support us financially, by the caregivers who volunteer in more ways than I can count, and by the unnamed caregivers who show up monthly with gift and gas cards for our traveling guests.

Care Giving is alive and well at Family House, and we are thankful!

~Staff News~



Sherman Riggsbee Retires!

Over 50 friends, family, volunteers, and former guests came together at Family House on October 20th to celebrate Sherman Riggsbee, our former Evening House Manager, and all that he's meant to

Family House and guests. His cake reflected our thoughts – he's one in a million. After almost 11 years of service, there was much to celebrate and reminisce with Sherman. We are sad to see him leave from our daily lives. Guests were able to put on a happy face during the party, with a photo mask of Sherman and his heartwarming smile (pictured). Sherman has embodied everything that is beautiful and special about Family House and we wish him the best.

[\(Click here to link to video diary of his story.\)](#)



Heart of the House Campaign ♡♡

At the Heart of Family House is the people within – thousands of patients, volunteers, staff and YOU!

Family House is back to full operations after limiting occupancy during the pandemic. This year's "Heart of the House" Annual Fund goal is the largest ever at \$1.5 Million. [The Heart of the House Fund](#) is essential to ensuring our 75 rooms and suites and the community living areas are clean and comfortable for patients and their loved ones.



Won't you make a gift today to ensure no guest is turned away due to an inability to pay? [CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

Donations of long-term appreciated securities, including stocks, bonds and mutual funds are also welcomed as another means to ensure no guest is turned away due to an inability to pay. Please contact Martha Aldridge at martha@secufamilyhouse.org, for more information on investment donations.

Note that gifts to Family House are fully tax-deductible as permitted by law.



Special Opportunity for those over 70—

If you are 70 ½ or older, please consider an IRA Charitable Rollover to SECU Family House at UNC Hospitals. An IRA charitable rollover is a tax-efficient way you can help us further our mission and benefit this year. There are numerous financial benefits for making this type of donation to Family House. To find out more about how to do this, please contact your IRA plan administrator to make a gift from your IRA to Family House. Contact Martha Aldridge at martha@secufamilyhouse.org for further information about giving to Family House.

Thank you for helping us further our mission. For more information on giving to Family House please visit <https://www.secufamilyhouse.org/support/ways-to-give>.

Family House Volunteers ♡♡



Receptionists, Guest Advocates, Tour Guides, (and so much more...)

Front Desk Volunteers Offer Family Hospitality on the Frontline

Did you know that Family House has close to 30 front desk volunteers serving guests throughout the week? These faces are the first ones seen by a family in crisis and one of the last faces they see as they check out. In addition, our front desk volunteers answer questions, receive and record referrals, give tours, welcome guests, assist other volunteers and treat guests as if they were a member of their own family.

With the goal of continuing to provide the best possible service to all our guests, these volunteers are now meeting quarterly with House operations management to go over procedures, policies and other various topics related to their role. We are beyond thankful for the dedication and service our volunteers give for our guests. If you are interested in a purposeful volunteering opportunity at Family House, whether on the "frontline" or behind the scenes, please contact Georgie Clemens, Volunteer Manager at 919-932-8009 for more information.

 *Guest Spotlight*



“
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need.”

-Family House Guest
Wendy Yates

On a recent fall morning, we found Family House guests Wendy and Keshawn Yates busily preparing a hearty breakfast of biscuits, sausage and gravy for our guests. Hailing from Sneads Ferry, North Carolina, they decided to prepare a home-cooked meal because "everybody has been so nice and it's such a help when you're going through something."

Wendy and Keshawn are mother and son, and one of the things they enjoy doing together is cooking for others. They were staying with us because Wendy's sister-in-law, April, was being treated at UNC Hospitals for a mass on her brain. As the aromas from their meal spread throughout the house, guests gathered in the kitchen for this special treat.

Asked what staying at Family House has meant to them, Keshawn and Wendy shared that their first meal here was a home-cooked dinner that had been prepared by one of our numerous, volunteer meal teams, so they wanted to do something. Wendy shared, "Everyone has been so kind to us in all our times of need. We are happy to provide a meal for everybody."

We wish April well and hope our paths cross again in our kitchen with this mother-son epicure duo from Onslow county. A hot, home-cooked meal always does a soul good.

It's the Giving Season...

Did you know you can give while you shop?!

BLACK FRIDAY Sale

CYBER MONDAY

You shop. amazon donates \$\$

amazon smiles program

smile.amazon.com

The graphic features icons for Black Friday, Cyber Monday, a house, and an Amazon delivery van. It also shows the Amazon Smile logo and the website URL smile.amazon.com with an arrow pointing to it.

Give while you shop!

Planning on visiting Amazon for your holiday shopping? Before you shop, please remember to shop via AmazonSmile. By accessing via smile.amazon.com, each eligible purchase that you make, your chosen charity will receive a percentage as a donation – at no cost to you!

Haven't signed into Amazon Smile? It's easy and your shopping can support our Guests!

1. Visit smile.amazon.com.
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials/account if needed.
3. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your

choice. We hope you'll select your charity as "SECU Family House at UNC Hospitals"

To join AmazonSmile from the mobile app, open the app and find "Settings" in the main menu. Tap on "AmazonSmile" and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

Check Out Our Guest Wish Lists

While you are out and about shopping this season, please consider donating vital items from our wish list! Below are our biggest needs to keep the pantry stocked. All gift cards buy food items that make living at Family House feel like living at home!

- Snacks (cookies, nabs, chips, granola bars)
- Fruit cups
- Coffee (regular, ground) Decaf K-cups/Coffee pods
- Powdered coffee creamer
- Aluminum foil
- Paper Plates, Bowls and Small plates
- Milk, Eggs, Butter
- Gift cards (Amazon, Walmart, Food Lion, Harris Teeter)



Our [Amazon Wish List](#) is up-to-date and is a quick and easy way to send [Wish List items](#) to Family House. Thank you so much for your generosity and thoughtfulness.



November 29th - Save the Date!

GivingTuesday is a special movement—a day for individuals to take time out of the busy holiday season and support causes doing good work. During previous GivingTuesdays, we have been extremely moved by our supporters who donated enough to cover the equivalent of 70 guest room nights!

You can support Family House this GivingTuesday, Tuesday, November 29, by [making a donation](#) or even hosting a Facebook Fundraiser. Email lori@secufamilyhouse.org for more

information.

Are you, or do you know an NC state employee or retiree?

Are you a State Employee or Retiree?

SECU FAMILY HOUSE at UNC Hospitals

SECC State Employees Combined Campaign

Find Us! Code 3625

We are so proud and thankful to be an Approved State Employees Combined Campaign charity. Over the years, State employees have contributed over \$330,000 to Family House. Employees or State Retirees can support the guests of SECU Family House through an automatic payroll deduction or by making a donation. North Carolina State participants can find us in the State campaign with charity code 3625.

To learn more, please visit <https://ncsecc.org/donate-now/>

"Guest Comments"

FROM A GUEST

You think of everything to make myself and all guests who need you to feel comfortable and welcome. You extended this to my caregiver as well. Thank you so much for being here. God bless you on staff and those volunteers who give their time, their talents, their delicious meals made with love.

We love hearing from our guests! The image above is the text of a comment that we received recently on our electronic guest survey. This month and every day, we give thanks for our entire family of volunteers, donors, and guests—all together, so much more than a House.

Thank you for all of your generous support and acts of kindness.

Hot off the Press!

Our Impact Report for Fiscal Year 2021-22 can be viewed by clicking [HERE!](#)

When finalized, our Form 990 will be published on our website as well.



Your kind acts of support help keep guest room rates affordable for the *thousands* of patients and their loved ones staying here each year.

HEART *of the* HOUSE

ANNUAL FUND

Make a gift

Volunteer



Our Mission

SECU Family House is a safe, nurturing, affordable home for patients and their loved ones who travel great distances to UNC Hospitals for life-saving procedures and serious illnesses.

[Unsubscribe](#)

[SECU Family House at UNC Hospitals](#)

www.secufamilyhouse.org