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Celebrating 65 Years of Service in the Midlands



We're in our sapphire era! Founded in 1960 as the "Social Club for Ex-Mental Patients" to support people leaving psychiatric hospitals, Mirci has provided community-based programs to support mental wellness ever since.

Join us on September 11th at 701 Whaley to commemorate Mirci's 65 years of service!

The event will feature a cocktail hour and seated dinner and presentation, highlighted by a keynote address from Dr. Meera Narasimhan, the senior medical director of behavioral care services at Prisma Health, and professor and department chair of neuropsychiatry and behavioral science at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia. All proceeds from the event go directly toward housing and behavioral healthcare services at Mirci. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Tickets are available for purchase <u>HERE</u>, and sponsorship opportunities are still available! Send us a message at mail@mirci.org for more information.



- Upper left: One of Mirci's housing complexes in Lexington County!
- Upper right: Volunteers helping keep our housing in great shape!
- Lower right: A Mirci client taking their first steps into their new apartment!





Client Corner: Asha's Story of Recovery

We caught up with Asha, a long-time Mirci clinical client, to hear her story of recovery:

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Pictured above: Asha, her daughter, and Mirci's emotional support turtle Raphael!

Asha entered Mirci's clinical services in 2018, having dealt with mental health concerns since she was 12 years old. She recalls a history of depression dating back to age 5.

"I own my mental disability and don't try to fake like I don't have one; it's just me and my daughter and I talk to my neighbor upstairs."

Asha acknowledges that managing life as a single parent is challenging, and she values the support Mirci provides especially because it comes directly to her home. These services include psychiatric care, nursing, individual therapy, and help connecting with community resources.

Due to her mental health condition, everyday tasks like managing finances, maintaining her home, and caring for herself can often feel overwhelming and confusing. However, Asha shares that her treatment has helped her feel more confident in handling the daily challenges of parenting alone while living with depression.

"What I've been through in my life is my testimony – a person can go through a lot and still stand tall - I have no other choice."

Thanking Our Partners in Outreach

In the last year, Mirci's outreach team engaged over 1200 individuals experiencing homeless in Richland and Lexington counties, providing essentials like food and hygiene products, screening for housing and healthcare needs, and referring to both Mirci's services and those of our great partners across the Midlands. Thank you to the City of Columbia, Lexington County, and the State of South Carolina for your recent grant support of our outreach services!



Left: Dianne, Mirci's director of outpatient and outreach services, assisting a client

Right: Alicia, one of Mirci's outreach workers, meeting a client in downtown Columbia



Stay Connected



Donate one of our most needed items.



For questions about volunteering, hosting a supply drive, or coordinating a fundraiser, please email: <u>mail@mirci.org</u>



Recently awarded the Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency, gifts to Mirci can be made with trust and confidence <u>here</u>.

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