



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## “LAND, TRUST, AND RESILIENCE: THE ROAD TO STAYING HOME” TO PREMIERE AT CAROLINA THEATRE OF DURHAM

On Tuesday, February 18 at 7 p.m., local nonprofit affordable housing organization Community Home Trust will premiere its impact film, “Land, Trust, and Resilience: The Road to Staying Home,” at the Carolina Theatre of Durham. The film highlights the stories of three Durham, North Carolina residents, once threatened with eviction from their poorly maintained homes on the Eno River, and the process of turning their houses into safe, beautiful, permanently affordable land trust homes. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion and question and answer session.

On March 1, 2024, Community Home Trust purchased five homes on Open Air Camp Road in Durham. The residents of those homes are members of the Eno River Tenants’ Association and, after they were threatened with eviction, hoped their homes could instead be protected and preserved by becoming part of a community land trust. Thanks to a grant from the Oak Foundation and a loan from the Durham Affordable Housing Loan Fund, Community Home Trust was able to acquire the five homes and complete approximately \$850,000 in necessary renovations. The current tenants, some of whom have lived in their homes for nearly twenty years, will get to stay – and some may even choose to become homeowners through the organization’s land trust homeownership model.

“This was a mission-driven project,” explained Community Home Trust Executive Director Kimberly Sanchez. “As a small nonprofit, we do not have the capital to purchase and rehab homes without public support. We are incredibly grateful that private philanthropy stepped in and that Durham has a loan product specific to affordable housing projects. Otherwise, five families would have lost their homes, and the community would have lost the opportunity to preserve five naturally-occurring affordable homes, or NOAH. We are so grateful to be able to partner with these residents in their journey to stay home.”

Because of the unique nature of the project and the significant investment in the homes, Community Home Trust has chronicled the project in a short impact film, highlighting not just the “before and after” of the houses but also the stories of three of the families who call them home. The film and the accompanying discussion will also examine the significance of the homes’ inclusion in the community land trust, a model that ensures they will remain protected and affordable to the community permanently.

The event will be held at The Carolina Theatre of Durham and is sponsored by Self-Help Credit Union. Seating is limited, and tickets are free but required. Visit <https://communityhometruster.org/land-trust-and-resilience-the-road-to-staying-home/> to reserve your seat.

About Community Home Trust (CHT): Community Home Trust delivers housing affordability to diverse populations in partnership with communities. CHT currently has 337 homeownership and rental units in its inventory in Orange and Durham counties, NC. The median cost of a CHT home is less than one-third of the median cost of a home in the area and remains affordable for 99 years. Learn more at [communityhometruster.org](https://communityhometruster.org).

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