

REVITALIZING THE AIRPORT INN TO CREATE AN OFF-RAMP FROM HOMELESSNESS

THE PROBLEM

The number of people experiencing homelessness has grown rapidly across the country, and Chattanooga is no exception. The cost of housing skyrocketed during the pandemic, and wages did not keep pace. This meant many residents could no longer afford to stay in their homes.

Chattanooga needs more supportive housing to provide vulnerable residents with an off-ramp from homelessness.

THE SOLUTION

The only permanent solution to homelessness is a home.

The transformation of the Airport Inn will provide that solution to more than 70 people in need.

- In October 2021, the City of Chattanooga used American Rescue Plan funds to purchase the dilapidated Airport Inn located at 7725 Lee Highway.
- The City plans to transform the building into **permanent supportive housing** for residents experiencing homelessness.
- Permanent supportive housing pairs affordable housing units with onsite support services to help residents who want to transition out of homelessness. It is **not** a homeless shelter.
- **Permanent supportive housing works.** In Hamilton County, 97 percent of people who moved into permanent supportive housing over the last year are still housed.

"FROM THE OUTSIDE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL THAT THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE HAVE LIVED LIVES THAT ARE ANY DIFFERENT FROM YOURS OR MINE – AND THAT'S EXACTLY THE POINT. THIS IS NOT A HOMELESS SHELTER, IT'S AN APARTMENT COMPLEX WITH SERVICES ONSITE THAT KEEP PEOPLE HOUSED FOR GOOD."

-MAYOR TIM KELLY

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FROM COMMUNITY PROBLEM TO COMMUNITY ASSET

THE OLD AIRPORT INN

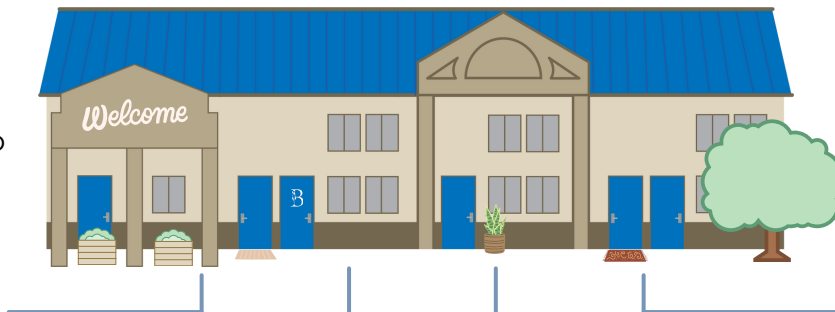
Dilapidated, boarded up building that attracted crime and vagrants.



Did nothing to better the surrounding community or improve the lives of Chattanooga residents.

THE REVITALIZED APARTMENT COMPLEX

Will turn an eyesore into a revitalized building with a new facade, new green spaces, new fencing, and all new efficiency apartment units.



Will help *reduce* crime—911 calls and incidents to the area have *already* decreased by 47% since the City purchased and secured the property

Will provide **housing** and **hope** to more than 70 Chattanoogaans in need, all selected according to a screening process to ensure they can live safely and semi-independently with the surrounding community.

Will provide 24/7 onsite security and supportive services that meet the needs of the residents and the community.

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CHATTANOOGA.GOV/AIRPORT-INN

