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TRANSPLANT HOUSE OF CLEVELAND PURCHASES UNIVERSITY CIRCLE REAL ESTATE
Thanks to Anonymous Supporter

CLEVELAND, OH May 2025: Transplant House of Cleveland, a nonprofit organization that houses and supports organ transplant patients from University Hospitals and Cleveland Clinic, purchased a University Circle building that it has occupied through master lease since July 2014. The acquisition was made possible by a private family foundation established by a well-meaning member of the greater Cleveland community who wishes to remain anonymous. A ribbon-cutting celebration will be held on May 15 at 5:00 p.m. on site.

"This purchase is a milestone for the organization and the families it serves, because it secures our physical placement in University Circle for the long-term," stated Joanmarie Button, Board President. "Families who leave home to access transplant medical care in Cleveland must reside physically close to the hospitals that provide that care. Where else, but in University Circle could we find suitable living accommodations and the convenience of access to hospital, food, and neighborhood, and the wonderful diversion of museums and green spaces?"

The rowhouse apartment building at Mayfield Road and Circle Drive in University Circle was built in 1900, owned for many years by University Hospitals, but managed by and eventually sold to University Circle, who was Transplant House of Cleveland's landlord until April 18 when title transferred.

"Though we were quite content as University Circle's tenant, we have always known that times and priorities change, and without ownership, we were at risk of losing our valuable place in this neighborhood," explained Elaine Turley, Executive Director. "The patients and caregivers we serve have been very satisfied and grateful temporary residents in University Circle. Due to their feedback and needs, we pursued this opportunity. The sale was also aligned with University Circle Inc.'s vision to release real estate holdings to partners who add to the richness of the Circle."

"We honestly don't know the family who has given the million-dollar program related investment," said Turley, "but we do know it was inspired by a longtime friend of the

organization who has advocated for support of this mission in many of his circles of influence. We owe thanks to many such friends and our professional partners for the growth we've been able to achieve in our first decade. More than 1700 families have been served and our housing has saved them nearly $10 million in hotel costs. Just as important has been the social/emotional support and the healing that takes place within a compassionate community."

"This has been our home since 2014. It is where our story began. Thanks to generous, well-meaning friends, the rowhouse at 11514 Mayfield Rd. will be our forever home. It is a good-news story for certain."

Ribbon Cutting Celebration:
Thursday, May 15, 5:00 p.m.
11514 Mayfield Road
Open to the public

About Transplant House of Cleveland:

Transplant House of Cleveland provides affordable, temporary housing and a welcoming, supportive community to organ transplant patients and their families. Founded in 2014, it began as seven apartments and has grown to 25 fully furnished private apartments where families can find respite and comfort throughout their challenging transplant journey. Community is central to the mission of the nonprofit organization, which offers free, enriching programs such as patient and caregiver support groups, educational presentations on transplant- related topics, social opportunities, and shared community meals, twice weekly.

In 2024, Transplant House was at 93% occupancy, accommodated 258 stays, and had to turn away 387 more due to no vacancy. To date (2014-2024), guests have come from 80 of Ohio's 88 counties, 43 of the 50 U.S. states, and 10 countries. In that first decade, over 1700 families were served, more than 71,200 nights of housing were provided, and guests saved at least $9.973 million thanks to the affordable housing provided. The organization is planning for expansion in 2026.

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