

CORE·CONNECT
LAUNCH AND INVITATION TO ENGAGE

Honoring a Legacy, Building a Future

Core Connect, Inc. is a nonprofit organization, created to expand access to essential resident services, building on the legacy of Columbia Residential's commitment to affordable housing and community stability. While housing is the foundation, gaps remain in education, workforce opportunities, and basic needs — and Core Connect exists to close gaps, some of which cannot be filled by Columbia Residential's Resident Services teams.

Our Vision and Mission

Mission: We assist residents in under-resourced communities with services that build self-sufficiency.

Vision: Every family in communities we serve is financially stable.

Organization Values:

- Quality and affordable housing as the foundation to short- and long-term stability.
- Access to basic needs support.
- Education as a pathway out of poverty.
- Generational wealth and financial stability.
- Workforce development and education that builds access to gainful employment.
- Financial literacy and wealth building opportunities.

Who We Are

Core Connect, Inc. is a stand-alone 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Columbia Residential is a key partner but does not own the nonprofit. This independence enables us to expand our services and deepen our impact across communities eventually.

Leadership

Core Connect, Inc. is led by an experienced Board and leadership team committed to community success:



Jennifer Owens
Board Chair

VP Resident Services, Columbia Residential



Jim Grauley
Board Member

President
Columbia Residential



Noel McKay
Board Member

Director of Social Services
Horizon Housing



Malaika Taylor
Board Member

VP of Property Management
Columbia Residential



Aaron Swain
Board Member

President of Property Management
Columbia Residential



N. Ka'Ren Sarvis
Board Member

Vice President of Associate Development
Columbia Residential



Aisha Arbuckle
Acting Executive Director

Programs and Services



C.O.R.E. (Centering Our Resources Efficiently)

Key Anticipated Outcomes:

- Grow to stabilize and maintain housing for low-income families to prevent homelessness and eviction (approximately \$3000 per family at 50 families annually), and utility interruptions (\$1000 per year at up to 1500 families annually).
- Reduce hunger and promote food equity in food desert areas.
- Engage low-income communities in healthy food behaviors, recreation, and social interaction via urban food gardens.



Education to the Core (ETC)

Key Anticipated Outcomes:

- To promote education as a pathway out of poverty by measuring secondary and vocational education completion.
- Provide primary students with opportunities and exposure to decrease poor choices during after-school hours when parents/guardians may not be available due to job and work schedules.



Housing to the Core (HTC)

Key Anticipated Outcomes:

- Increase the number of permanent supportive housing units in new and existing housing developments.
- Increase the number of homeless residents transitioning from permanent housing units into affordable subsidized units to open opportunities for more families in need.

ENGAGE

CONNECT US: Introduce partners, vendors, and supporters who share our vision

VOLUNTEER: Introduce partners, vendors, and supporters who share our vision

SPREAD THE WORD: Introduce partners, vendors, and supporters who share our vision

DONATE: Introduce partners, vendors, and supporters who share our vision

Together, we can create pathways to stability, resilience, and thriving communities.