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Triangle Family Services To Host 7th “Annual Wake Up! With TFS” On Sept. 14 *Local Leaders To Discuss Mental Health Challenges in Wake County, Potential Solutions*

RALEIGH, N.C. – Triangle Family Services, an 80-year-old nonprofit dedicated to strengthening the community by strengthening the family, will host its annual “Wake Up! With TFS” breakfast event on Thursday, Sept. 14 from 7:30 – 9 am at PNC Arena, located at 1400 Edwards Mill Road.

This event will bring together local leaders for a conversation about mental health gaps and potential solutions for the local community. Panel guests include:

- Lorrin Freeman, District Attorney
- Dr. John Gilmore, UNC Psychiatry
- Donnie Harrison, Wake County Sheriff
- Jim Hartmann, Wake County Manager

According to a [CDC-Kaiser Permanente Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACE\) Study](#), the number one factor in determining a child’s success is the stability of their parent or caregiver. The CDC has found that, in high doses, childhood trauma impacts an individual’s immune system, hormonal system and even DNA.

“Adverse childhood experiences are the greatest unaddressed public health threat facing our nation today,” said Alice Lutz, CEO of Triangle Family Services. “In Wake County, mental health treatments in emergency rooms have increased 44 percent over the past three years, with involuntary committals up 111 percent. ‘Wake Up! With TFS’ will bring together local leaders to talk about gaps in mental health treatment and how we can all work together to create solutions for our local community. By helping parents, we can break the cycle of intergenerational trauma and help our local families begin to heal.”

Tickets for “Wake Up! With TFS” are available online at <https://tfsnc.org/event/wake-up-with-tfs/>.

Triangle Family Services has been selected as Band Together’s 2018 nonprofit partner. During this fundraising year, the two organizations will aim to raise more than \$1 million for initiatives to close the mental health services and funding gap in the community, which will help Triangle Family Services serve an additional 600 patients annually.

About Triangle Family Services:

Since 1937, Triangle Family Services has served as the safety net for families in crisis. Triangle Family Services accomplishes its mission – “Building a Stronger Community by Strengthening the Family” – by providing data-driven services in its three core program areas: Family Safety, Financial Stability and Mental Health. Serving more than 13,000 families annually, Triangle Family Services’ reputation for efficient and high quality programming, reporting of outcomes, as well as its established relations with community partner and nonprofit referral services, position the agency to continue to meet the growing needs of families in crisis throughout the Triangle. For more information, visit www.tfsnc.org.