



# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Guilford County Substance Abuse Treatment Center Opens on West Wendover Avenue**

The Guilford County Board of Commissioners and over 100 local dignitaries, community leaders and honored guests gathered Monday, June 9, 2008, for the traditional ribbon-cutting and dedication of the newly renovated Substance Abuse Treatment Center at 5209 West Wendover Avenue in High Point. Chairman Kirk Perkins presided over the ceremony. Vice Chairman Kay Cashion, Commissioners Bruce E. Davis and John Parks also participated. The Invocation was delivered by Reverend George Coates. The festivities were highlighted by comments from Guilford County's distinguished Public Defender and long-time Substance Abuse Recovery advocate, Wally Harrelson, and by Bridgeway's Board Chair, William Green.

Chairman Perkins emphasized that the center will offer a service array that was previously unavailable to Guilford County residents. "This treatment center is a key component in the Guilford County Substance Abuse System of Excellence, an integrative, system-wide approach to addressing addictive disorders. It is our hope that Guilford County will become a model for other communities across North Carolina," stated the Commissioner.

Vice Chairman Cashion acknowledged Director Billie Martin Pierce and the Guilford Center for its efforts in planning and coordinating the development of the treatment facility.

The 56-bed facility is funded by the County and operated by a private service provider, Bridgeway Behavioral Health, Inc. The Guilford Center administers the contract.

Prior to its official opening, the treatment center began assessments and outpatient counseling in March 2008 and gradually added low and high intensity residential services. Detoxification services will begin in the near future.

Residents can contact Bridgeway Behavioral Health, Inc. at 845-3988 for more information.