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## **Local Nonprofit Saves Historic Burlington Home from Wrecking Ball** Historic preservation project to benefit Triangle-area homeowners in need

July 31, 2019 MORRISVILLE, NC – Rebuilding Together of the Triangle recently completed a top-to-bottom renovation of a historic home in Burlington, NC. Proceeds from the home’s sale will support the nonprofit organization’s mission to provide critical home repairs for local homeowners in need.

Known as the Cates-Cobb House, the two-story clapboard home was constructed in 1918 on what is now South Fisher Street. Nestled in the city’s historic district, it boasts a wide front porch with gabled entrance.

Rebuilding Together painstakingly preserved the home’s most unique features such as leaded glass windows, multiple chimneys and fireplaces, a wide front porch, and a distinctive stucco finish that is believed to be original.

“Flipping houses certainly isn’t our typical approach to fundraising,” said Rebuilding Together executive director Dan Sargent. “But this one-of-a-kind opportunity fits into our mission of revitalizing communities and ensuring folks have safe, healthy homes.”



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The house remained a single-family residence until it was divided into units in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and fell on hard times. It was virtually abandoned during the 2008 recession, and Rebuilding Together acquired it in 2016 as a donation from Wells Fargo Bank. Together they saved it from the wrecking ball.

“This was a massive undertaking,” Sargent explained, “but the project is a more efficient way of leveraging our expertise to raise money than, for instance, hosting a black-tie fundraiser.”

Renovation began in 2017 and was completed last month—the result of a 3,000-hour effort by the organization’s staff, members of the board, and regional trade partners.

Sargent contends the house is now “better-than-new construction.” He credits its new mechanical systems to community partners such as Boer Brothers Heating and Cooling of Carrboro, RJR Electric Heating and Air of Burlington, and JVG Plumbing of Durham.

The 2,650 square-foot home offers four bedrooms; two and one-half bathrooms; 12-foot ceilings; an open floor plan; and fully updated electrical, plumbing, kitchen, roof and landscaping. Located at 303 South Fisher Street, it is listed at \$245,000 through [Vicky Hunley Real Estate](#). Those interested in seeing the home’s transformative restoration are invited to stop by the Open House on **Saturday, August 3**, from 1-4 p.m.

[Rebuilding Together of the Triangle \(RTT\)](#) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that repairs homes, revitalizes communities, and rebuilds lives. RTT makes a sustainable impact, ensuring vulnerable homeowners live in safe, healthy homes. An affiliate of the national Rebuilding Together organization, RTT repairs approximately 100 homes per year across a four-county region of Wake, Durham, Orange, and Chatham counties.

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