



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 4, 2018

CONTACT: belovedasheville@gmail.com
(828) 242-8261

New Community Center Offers Art, Wellness, and Advocacy for All

Asheville, N.C.---BeLoved Asheville, a local nonprofit, will be opening its newest center in a move to expand their programs, services, and hours to the community. Adding to the array of projects BeLoved Asheville currently runs, they plan to engage more people as street medics, artists, skillbuilders, and community advocates. The center will offer a space to teach children, exchange skills, and host large community projects that are able to respond to greater needs.

An open house and space blessing will be held on October 11, 2018 at 6pm at the new space on the third floor of 10 North Market Street. The soul-full stylings of Rhoda Weaver will fill the space with music. Rhoda is a local activist and singer, singing both on the streets and in venues around Asheville. She has a deep heart for the people and social change. Vahisha Hasan travels the country through the Transform Network speaking about how to build movements for change and will be reflecting on BeLoved's identity as a center for mutual liberation in the context of movement work. She will also offer a space blessing.

BeLoved Asheville plans to provide an array of free programming to share with the community in the new space, such as music and art classes, Spanish-English language sharing, health and wellness programs like yoga, speakers on timely topics, and community concerns. The Center has a dedicated art studio and gallery, healing space, internet lounge, and community gathering/working/event space. The Center will also offer ways for people to get active making the community better and in advocating for change.

BeLoved Asheville actively seeks support to make their programs possible. Become a monthly sustainer today! To learn more on how to become involved, visit www.belovedasheville.com or e-mail belovedasheville@gmail.com.

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Asheville, NC 28801



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Performer Bios--Rhoda Weaver sings all over these mountains often with her band the Soul Mates Rhoda Weaver and The Soul Mates! Rhoda says, "I've sang in this town for over 20 yrs and sang my heart out on the street the same way I did on a stage." Rhoda has a deep and abiding friendship with BeLOVED and graced us with her music at our awards dinner in December, 2017 as we honored many of our grassroots leaders from the streets and struggle. Rhoda was recently named #1 Vocalist in the Mountain Xpress Best Of Issue.

Vahisha Hasan is a faith-rooted organizer working at the intersections of faith, social justice, and mental health. She is the Executive Director of Movement in Faith. She is a powerful public speaker, transformative facilitator, and social justice trainer, with a deeply prophetic voice and imagination for collective liberation. She is an Assistant Professor of Human Services at Memphis Center for Urban and Theological Studies (MCUTS). Vahisha holds a dual Master's of Divinity and Master's of Mental Health Counseling with an Education Specialist Certification from Gardner-Webb University and a bachelor's degree in Communications with a concentration in Interpersonal Organization from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.