



EMORY

MICHAEL C.
CARLOS
MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Emily Knight**

Office: 404-727-6117

Emily.Knight@emory.edu

Rise2Recovery and the Michael C. Carlos Museum: *The Comfort of Recovery, a community project*



(Atlanta, Georgia, November 7) — A major focus of the Michael C. Carlos Museum's 2023-27 strategic plan is to make the museum more pertinent to people's lives, with a significant emphasis on programs supporting health and well-being. For the last ten months in a collaborative effort with [Rise2Recovery \(R2ISE\)](#), a Recovery Community Organization established in Atlanta's West End in 2016 by dancer and artist Alexia Jones. R2ISE, the sole arts-centric RCO funded by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and

Developmental Disabilities and endorsed by the Georgia Council for Recovery, comprises team members certified as Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialists (CARES or CPS-AD) and/or Certified Peer Specialists in Mental Health (CPS-MH). This award-winning non-profit is dedicated to providing a secure space for individuals in recovery from substance abuse disorders and mental health challenges.

Our initial collaborative project brought together peers in recovery, family members, peer professionals, Carlos Museum staff, and Emory students in the making of a "recovery quilt," an act of recovery in itself. The project was spearheaded by quilter Rhonda Lawson, a recovering peer, and U.S. Air Force veteran. Alexia Jones shares her goal for the project: "Our hope is that *The Comfort of Recovery* will serve as a reminder that recovery is possible when communities dedicate their creativity to bringing change. May we illustrate the power of recovery, share hope, diminish stigma, and provide comfort to families who have lost loved ones to addictive diseases and or mental health challenges. Every stitch, every square, represents a moment in time where we raised awareness, where we shared our stories of recovery."

Henry S. Kim, Emory Associate Vice Provost and Director of the Carlos speaks of the impact, stating, "It is not just 100 hands working on a quilt, it is 100 hands that have been changed through this experience."

The quilt is on view in the [Emory University School of Medicine](#) now through November 30, 2023. From January 15 through 30, 2024, it will be on display at the Addiction Center of Georgia. Beginning in February, the quilt will travel to multiple Emory Healthcare facilities.

Dr. William J. Eley, MD, MPH, Executive Associate Dean of Medical Education and Student Affairs, and Professor of Hematology/Oncology at Emory University, facilitated the quilt's display at Emory's School of Medicine. He shared his insights on the project: "This beautiful work of heart, mind, and body will inspire our love and compassion for those who have suffered, been lost, and are currently navigating their journey through addiction. The quilt, much like the person in recovery, radiates understanding and a message of growth. We are honored to host this remarkable work and deeply appreciative of the enriching impact it brings as we strive to serve others."



To watch a video about the collaborative project *The Comfort of Recovery*, [click here](#).

About The Addiction Alliance of Georgia:

The [Addiction Alliance of Georgia](#) is a collaborative, community-based model that integrates addiction-focused treatment, prevention, research and educational initiatives to give patients and families a place where they'll be accepted as they are and where their addiction will be viewed as a treatable clinical disease.

The Addiction Alliance of Georgia brings the world-renown addiction and treatment programs of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation into an alliance with an academic medical center for the first time by joining forces with the internationally recognized Emory Healthcare. The result is addiction care that combines proven treatment and recovery methods with world-class research and education — all working together to reduce addiction rates, improve recovery and save more lives.

The Addiction Alliance of Georgia offer Outpatient and Intensive Outpatient services, including individual and group psychotherapy, medication management from an addiction psychiatrist, parental guidance, skills and support groups. Please visit our website at <https://www.addictionallianceofgeorgia.org/> for more information.

About Rise2Recovery

[R2ISE Inc.](#), established in 2016, is a recognized 501.3.c Recovery Community Organization (RCO) dedicated to aiding individuals facing substance abuse and mental health challenges. Based in Atlanta's West End, R2ISE extends its support through in-person meetings, virtual classes via Zoom, and offers contracted services throughout Georgia and other states. The organization's

primary mission is centered on empowering peers, with a team of certified professionals, recognized by the State of Georgia as Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialists (CARES or CPS-AD) and Certified Peer Specialists in Mental Health (CPS-MH), providing comprehensive support and guidance. Participants benefit from personalized support options, inclusive of one-on-one sessions with R2ISE CPS-AD professionals, group check-ins, and access to various artistic materials at their West End location, encompassing paints, music, drums, spoken word, dance, and more. R2ISE Inc. stands out as a supportive and innovative space, offering a holistic approach to recovery, fostering an environment that encourages healing and growth for individuals on their journey to wellness.

About the Michael C. Carlos Museum

Set in the heart of Emory's Atlanta campus, the [Michael C. Carlos Museum](#) is a dynamic, interdisciplinary center for study of art and culture, with collections from Africa; ancient Egypt; Nubia, and the Near East; ancient Greece and Rome; the Indigenous Americas; South Asia; and American and European Works on Paper.

Through our permanent collection galleries, engaging special exhibitions, and innovative programs for audiences of all ages, the Carlos Museum connects the past with the present and the campus with the community.

Curators and faculty develop original exhibitions, engage in interdisciplinary research and teaching, and host touring exhibitions that complement our collections and support the teaching mission of the university. The museum's conservators collaborate with staff, faculty, and students to conduct research and manage preventive care on the museum's varied collections. Museum educators reach across the museum, campus, and city to develop opportunities to engage the intellect and the imagination of university students and faculty, preK-12 students and teachers, and the larger Atlanta community.

The Michael C. Carlos Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday: noon – 5 p.m. For more information, visit carlos.emory.edu/visit, call 404.727.4282, or follow @CarlosMuseum on social media.

carlos.emory.edu

###