



# WHITE BIRCH CENTER

HENNIKER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Date: 1/12/2024

## WHITE BIRCH CENTER ANNOUNCES PENDING PURCHASE OF 116 MAIN ST. IN HENNIKER



*Image of 116 Main Street building and property located in Henniker White Birch Center will be purchasing*

— White Birch Center, in Henniker, NH, announced today that it has signed an agreement to purchase the building and property at 116 Main Street in Henniker. Currently the building is home to Quilted Threads. The sale will be completed sometime early to mid-summer of 2024.

White Birch Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit in Henniker, NH that currently focuses on child care, school age, and senior programming. “We are very excited about this opportunity because it will allow White Birch to expand its current operations and add new services. Our current location is completely at capacity. We are still working on our plan, but we do know that the Henniker Food Pantry will have a permanent home in the new facility, and White Birch will be adding approximately 15 infant care slots in our existing building,” said Marc McMurphy, Executive Director of White Birch Center.

The demand for child care has skyrocketed and working families are struggling to find care. “The current waitlist at White Birch for infant and toddler care is 2 years. There are more children on our waitlist than there are slots at our entire facility,” said Leanna Lorden, the Chief Operating Officer at White Birch Center.

To help facilitate the new expansion White Birch will be establishing a capital campaign in the coming months. While both buildings are in excellent condition, various renovations are necessary to accommodate the programming additions. The Henniker Food Pantry is currently

located in the basement of the Grange Building in Henniker. Its relocation will require the most renovation.

“The Henniker Food Pantry is over the moon excited to move our operations to 116 Main Street. Our current location, in the basement of The Grange Building, is cramped and difficult to access. We look forward to the opportunity to design a new, more accessible, expanded space to serve our neighbors in need,” said Debbie Moskey, President of the Henniker Food Pantry.

**Notable mention:** While we are grateful to *The Messenger* for publishing our exciting news, we need to clarify that the headline is inaccurate. On page 7 of the January 12, 2024, issue of *The Messenger*, the headline states "White Birch Center to expand child care - take over Food Pantry."

White Birch Center is not taking over the Food Pantry. Rather, once the sale of the current Quilted Threads building is complete, the Food Pantry will be housed in its own separate quarters of the same building. It will remain its own independent entity, and White Birch Center will have no influence over its existence or its operations.

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