

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 8, 2025

CONTACT:

Elizabeth Redenbaugh
Vice President of Development & External Affairs
Coastal Horizons Center, Inc.
PH: 910-524-5592
email: eredenbaugh@coastalhorizons.org

**Coastal Horizons Celebrates 55th Anniversary with Annual Fundraising Luncheon
Featuring Patrick J. Kennedy**

National mental health advocate, former U.S. Congressman, and bestselling author to headline October 6 event in Wilmington

WILMINGTON, N.C. — In celebration of its 55th anniversary, Coastal Horizons will host its Annual Fundraising Luncheon featuring Patrick J. Kennedy—former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, leading mental health advocate, and author of the New York Times bestselling memoir *A Common Struggle: A Personal Journey Through the Past and Future of Mental Illness and Addiction* and *Profiles in Mental Health Courage*.

The luncheon will take place on **Monday, October 6, 2025**, at the **Wilmington Convention Center**, 10 Convention Center Drive, Wilmington, NC 28401. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m., with the program beginning promptly at 12:00 p.m. A book signing with Patrick J. Kennedy will immediately follow.

The event will feature a conversation between Patrick J. Kennedy and **Frances Weller, news anchor with WECT**.

“Welcoming Patrick J. Kennedy to Wilmington is about far more than celebrating Coastal Horizons’ 55th anniversary—it is about shining a light on the people and families who need us most, and the future we are determined to build,” said Margaret Weller-Stargell, President & CEO of Coastal Horizons. “Patrick J. Kennedy has courageously shared his own journey with mental health and substance use disorder, reminding us that these struggles touch every family, regardless of wealth or status.”

For more than five decades, Coastal Horizons has stood with the community in its darkest moments, offering hope and healing. Behind every statistic is a child, a parent, or a neighbor whose life has been turned upside down by mental illness or substance use. This luncheon is not only a celebration of our history, but also a call to action—to lead with compassion, expand access to timely and life-saving care, and join together in building healthier lives, stronger families, and safer communities for generations to come.

Tickets & Tables

- **\$125** per person
- **\$1,250** per table of ten

Purchase tickets and sponsorships:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/HruLzRnUnUqXaSuULb22bQ2> or
<https://coastalhorizons.org/>

About Coastal Horizons

For 55 years, Coastal Horizons has grown and evolved to meet the diverse needs of the communities it serves. Today, the organization provides a comprehensive continuum of care, including primary care, trauma-informed mental health counseling, crisis intervention, substance use disorder treatment, a youth homeless shelter, rape crisis centers, medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder, mobile clinics, child welfare services, veteran support, and justice programs.

Across every program, Coastal Horizons remains committed to integrity, accessibility, acceptance, and person-centered care.

To learn more, please visit www.coastalhorizons.org.

###