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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Bhutanese/Nepali Woman Raped and Robbed in Columbus Home**

Columbus, OH – A Bhutanese/Nepali woman was raped and robbed by four men in her home at The Commons at Victoria Village on the night of Sunday, January 10, 2021.

The woman, who is affiliated with the mental health agency, North Community Counseling Centers (NCCC), said the men were knocking on the doors of the apartments looking for the first available victim. Upon her opening the door, the gang forced entry, raped and robbed her of all furniture and belongings, leaving her with nothing.

“We believe the Bhutanese/Nepali community at The Commons at Victoria Village are being systemically and racially targeted.” Yolanda Board, Director of Organizational Development and Interim Director of Clinical Services at NCCC commented as she recalls an instance where another individual who was living in this community was murdered.

“The lack of oversight and proper safety precautions by The Commons at Victoria Village is appalling. They are doing nothing to ensure the safety of their tenants.” The lack of deadbolts on doors and windows that do not open causing restricted airflow for tenants is also lacking on this list of proper safety precautions. Board continues, “The consequences surrounding these instances of racial targeting, assault, and gun violence has led to the murder of our own clients. We can no longer overlook these instances.”

The woman was taken to the hospital where she, with the assistance of NCCC Staff, filed a police report. “When filing the police report, the officer on duty questioned her [the woman] as if she was the criminal and not the victim.” Board added.

Historically, the Bhutanese/Nepali community has generational trauma regarding police officers and members of law enforcement. For this reason, crimes against this community often go unreported due to fear, shame, and stigma.

Board, NCCC staff and community members aim to bring this social injustice into the eyes and ears of the people of Columbus. The Commons at Victoria Village is managed by the Cordoba Real Estate Group and can be contacted for a request for action at 614-847-0777.

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About North Community Counseling Centers (NCCC): [NCCC](#) is a nonprofit, mental health agency striving to assist people in the community to achieve their maximum potential by providing behavioral health care services in a healthy, comfortable, and safe environment. Health care services include addition, therapy, case management, substance use disorder treatment, and youth and adolescent programming.