

## What's the fuss about corporate landlords?



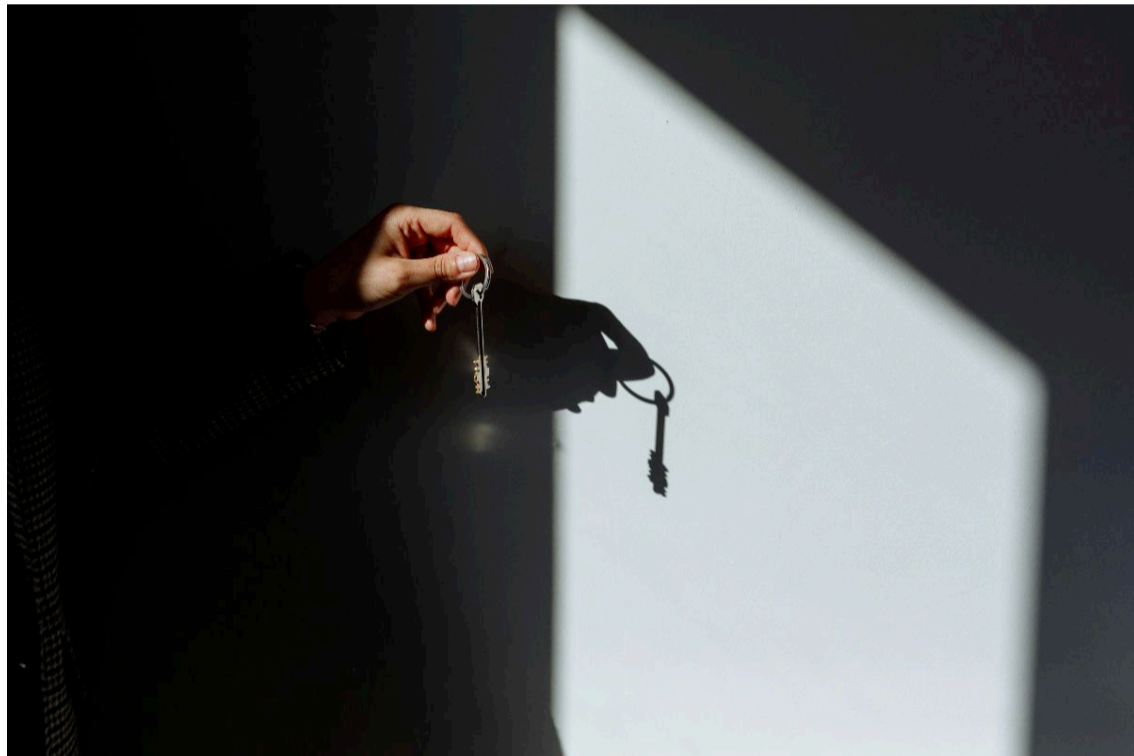
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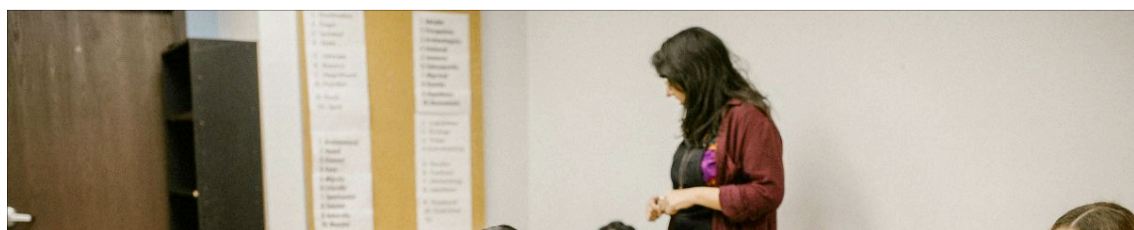
## [Understanding Corporate Landlords: Decoding a Recent Housing Phenomenon](#)

**By Eric Moore, Ph.D.**

The term "corporate landlord" has gained significant attention across the United States in the last few years. Yet, despite all the news stories and legislation focusing on these entities, you may find yourself puzzled by the hype around them or how they relate to your community. You may even be asking yourself: Who are corporate landlords? What makes corporate landlords controversial? How many corporate landlords are there in Charlotte-Mecklenburg? Why do corporate landlords matter for Mecklenburg County or Charlotte?

The uncertainty surrounding corporate landlords is not that surprising. Through our new multi-part series, we'll take a closer look at the recent phenomenon of corporate landlords and what their presence means to our neighbors. >> [The series starts here](#)

### Quality of Life Explorer





## Student Absenteeism Persists in Mecklenburg County

by **Katie Zager**

School attendance is critical to student success. According to the [National Center for Education Statistics](#) (NCES), absenteeism reduces the effectiveness of teachers, and is associated with negative outcomes – even in early grades. By high school, attendance significantly correlates with graduation, and chronic absenteeism can result in a "pile-on" effect of loss of course credits, disciplinary action, and missed opportunities and engagement at school.

New data published to the [Charlotte-Mecklenburg Quality of Life Explorer](#) shows that the rates of **chronic absenteeism**, when a student misses 10% or more of days in a school year, among students in Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) remain elevated.

Countywide, 22% of students met the definition of chronically absent during the 2022-2023 school year. While absenteeism rates the past few years are shaped by the post-pandemic educational landscape, the places where rates are highest reflect long-standing disparities and barriers to school attendance.

>> [Class is in session](#)

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### Community News



## New Report Finds Women and Girls Need 'Safety' and 'Support'

by **Asha Ellison**

Sure. girls just want to have fun – they also want to feel safe and supported.

A recent report for UNC Charlotte's [Women + Girls Research Alliance](#), authored by research associates Bridget Anderson and Mia Gaddy of the [Charlotte Urban Institute](#), found that women and girls in the Charlotte metropolitan area largely desire safe and inclusive spaces to thrive mentally, emotionally, and socially in school and work environments.

They also believe strong support systems, purpose-driven connections, and dynamic allyship help them to flourish. >> [Learn what a girl wants](#)

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### Urban Research & Community Engagement



## [Rewriting Their Story: Meet the Residents of West Sugar Creek](#)

by *Mae Israel*

Marjorie Parker believes in the future of Hidden Valley, a neighborhood she's called home for 47 years. So does Merritt McCully. And Elena Peguero? She's new to the neighborhood from the Dominican Republic, but she hopes to buy a home in the community soon.

What happens when new and old worlds collide? They work together to tell a new story. >> [Meet the neighbors](#)

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