Columbus House August E-News

Columbus House Participates in 1,000 Homes Effort

Columbus House is proud to be part of the statewide endeavor to move 1,000 people experiencing homelessness into permanent housing by September 30. This ambitious initiative to end homelessness and prevent the spread of COVID-19 is a collaborative effort with Partnership for Strong Communities’ Reaching Home Campaign; the CT Dept. of Housing; local, state and federal partners; and homeless service providers in Coordinated Access Networks (CANs) across the state. Columbus House operates in both the New Haven and Middlesex CANs. With our partners we will house 270 people in the New Haven area and 126 people in Middletown. These numbers reflect a significant increase of those housed in the same time frame last year. This effort is made possible in part by the CARES Act, Rapid Re-Housing funding, and YOU, our dedicated supporters and volunteers – without you, this life-saving project would not be possible.

Over 250 People Are in Permanent Homes!

Safe, affordable, permanent housing is the best way to protect our clients from COVID-19. Thanks to your support, since March 15, Columbus House has moved 259 people into their very own apartments – many for the first time! With hotel contracts in New Haven and Meriden extended through September, we are making tremendous progress in keeping our neighbors safe. Your continued support makes these successes possible.

Lainee of the Eliassen Group, Middletown branch, delivers 3 Welcome Kits she and her coworkers put together for Veterans experiencing homelessness who are moving out of the shelter and into permanent homes.
Online Auction Starts Friday!

Chocolate to the Rescue!
VIRTUAL SILENT AUCTION
AUGUST 21-28 - BENEFITS COLUMBUS HOUSE MIDDLESEX FAMILY SHELTER

You can bid on fabulous items from the comfort of your couch – all while helping to end homelessness for families with children! Starting noon on Friday, August 21, through noon on Friday, August 28, you can place bids on your favorite items to benefit the Middlesex Family Shelter. Score exciting items such as Tiffany champagne flutes, concert tickets, gift cards for local eateries, and everything in between. Thanks to our wonderful auction donors there is truly something for everyone. You can preview the auction now and get ready to bid on your favorites.

Thank you to our Sponsors!

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Fusco Management Co., LLC
The Flood Law Firm, LLC
Ben Ledbetter, Jr., & Deborah Freedman

Cathleen Meaden Receives Game Changer Award

Cathleen Meaden oversees the Columbus House housing team that has experienced unprecedented success in moving people into permanent homes since the onset of the pandemic. She will accept United Way of Greater New Haven’s Game Changer Award on behalf of her dedicated team.

Cathleen Meaden’s Director of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Cathleen Meaden, was just named a Game Changer by the United Way of Greater New Haven (UWGNH)! This year, UWGNH is celebrating their centennial anniversary and are presenting 100 Game Changer Awards to people who have made a great impact in our community. We are thrilled to announce that Cathleen was recognized! Cathleen makes a tremendous difference for those experiencing homelessness – overseeing all of our supportive housing sites, Rapid Re-Housing and Income & Employment programs. Cathleen and the PSH team have made unprecedented progress in getting people into permanent, affordable housing – especially during a pandemic. Cathleen will accept the award on behalf of the entire PSH staff. She says, "Any success that I have had is because of the wonderful team at Columbus House as well as the great collaboration we have in the Greater New Haven CAN." Congratulations, Cathleen and the PSH team!
Drop-In Center Serves Our Most Vulnerable

As you know, Columbus House took over the Drop-In Center which serves those living outside during the pandemic. Originally located at Blake Field in New Haven, the Drop-In has relocated to our Annex at 592 Ella T. Grasso Boulevard. Our Outreach & Engagement team continues to connect our neighbors to vital services and provides case management, toiletries, clothing and food five days per week. Showers are available Monday-Thursday. Through continuing partnerships with the City of New Haven, Cornell Scott Hill Health Center, The Connection – Center for Behavioral Health Chapel Street, Connecticut Mental Health Center, Liberty Community Services, Marrakech, Inc., and United Way of Greater New Haven, medical and mental health services are also available. Since we opened the Drop-In Center at the Boulevard location on July 1, we have seen an average of 15 clients per day. The continued need for this program is apparent. Your donations of new socks, underwear, t-shirts, backpacks, sunscreen and insect repellent are much appreciated by those served and are still needed. You can easily purchase these items on our Amazon Wish List. Thank you for your dedication to ending homelessness!

Read Amanda’s story – From Hotel to Home – and more in our Summer Newsletter!

Thank you to some of our partners who have gone above and beyond helping us to end homelessness since our July E-News:

First Presbyterian Church
David and Barbara Keiser
Knights of Columbus Russell Council #65
Ben Ledbetter, Jr. & Deborah Freedman
Medtronic
Medtronic Foundation
Middlesex United Way
Putnam Family Fund
The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
The Ethel & Abe Lapides Foundation
The GoodCoin Foundation
The Keiser Foundation
The Wallingford Foundation
United Way of Greater New Haven
Check us out on Instagram!  @columbushousect

Your donation to Columbus House may be eligible for a match from your employer.  Click to find out!

Donate Today

www.columbushouse.org