Thank you for helping to end homelessness!

Columbus House February E-News

Because of your support...

The momentum of moving people out of homelessness and into safe, affordable homes continues at an unprecedented rate. Thanks to your continuing support, Columbus House helped over 450 households gain permanent housing since last March – over 40 just last month. Our Outreach & Engagement teams have been actively connecting with those living outside, quite literally saving their lives during the recent winter storms with the supplies you donated. Over 200 of our most vulnerable neighbors staying at hotels and warming centers in New Haven and Middlesex counties are provided with vital programs, basic necessities and nutritious meals thanks to your dedication and support. Spring is on its way, but for those who are experiencing homelessness each relentless day is an experience in survival. We are so grateful to have you by our side.

With your support, over 40 households moved out of homelessness last month!

Abraham’s Tent Hosts Remain Committed During Pandemic

Each winter 12 men staying at our Main Shelter get the opportunity to take part in Abraham’s Tent, where local religious organizations open their doors and with the help of their volunteers, provide a week of shelter, food and fellowship. The four-month program allows personal connections to form between volunteers and our neighbors experiencing homelessness and strengthens the relationships among volunteers and congregations. The pandemic caused the cancellation of Abe’s Tent in its usual format this season, but it did not deter the volunteers from making an impact! They rallied together to make significant and heartfelt contributions of pre-packaged snacks, gift cards, PPE & toiletries, food, Welcome Kits, wish list items, groceries, and notes of encouragement. Many also made financial contributions to purchase bus passes and other vital necessities needed by those we serve. We’re so grateful for the continuing dedication of our Abraham’s Tent partners!

Tony and Fran delivered part of St. George Catholic Church’s collection of snacks and supplies that were donated in lieu of their traditional Abraham’s Tent participation. The congregation also donated gift cards, financial contributions and cooked a full eggplant parmesan dinner for 100 of our clients!
A milestone in keeping our clients and staff safe – vaccines!

Thanks to the advocacy and coordination of our partners, Columbus House clients and staff started getting COVID-19 vaccinations last month. In Middletown, Community Health Center (CHC) reached out to local agencies when facing the expiration of 150 doses of the vaccine due to a snowstorm. With rapid collaboration among CHC, St. Vincent de Paul, The Connection's Eddy Shelter, and our staff, 132 of the most vulnerable citizens received their first vaccine on February 5 – including 14 Columbus House clients staying at the Wesley Inn & Suites. Cornell Scott Hill Health Center (CSHHC) provided on-site vaccinations to over 80 of our neighbors receiving emergency shelter at the New Haven Village Suites on February 19. Adding to this milestone in crushing the virus, thanks to Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, the City of New Haven and CSHHC, about 100 Columbus House staff have also received the COVID-19 vaccine. We are grateful to our partners for helping to keep our clients, staff and our community safe!

Join Us for the 14th Annual Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride

Join the Columbus House Green Team for Rock to Rock on April 24 and support our efforts to keep Columbus House green. There are many fun and safe ways to participate! Get small groups of friends or colleagues together and form teams to challenge each other in fitness and fundraising milestones. Register now through 10:00 am on April 24. Every dollar raised for energy efficiency and the greening of Columbus House through Rock to Rock is another dollar towards ending homelessness. Register, begin fundraising, and learn more now

Virtual Tour of the 4th Home in Our HOMELESS:HOUSED Building Initiative

Follow us on Facebook and plan to join us in March for a virtual tour of the fourth of five affordable homes in our HOMELESS:HOUSED building initiative with Yale School of Architecture!

Learn more about HOMELESS:HOUSED

Vote by March 31!

Calling all Ion Bank customers – Columbus House will receive $25 for every vote we receive through Ion Bank Foundation’s 12th Annual Community Awards Program. Click here to vote! (Find us in the Social Services & Basic Needs heading.)

We’re participating in The Great Give!

Join us for The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven’s 36-hour online fundraising event where every dollar you give to Columbus House goes further to help end homelessness.
Thank you to some of our partners who have gone above and beyond helping to end homelessness with their financial support since our January thank you (through 1/31/21):

Anonymous
Arthur & Joan Baer
Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund
Connecticut Mental Health Center Foundation
Connecticut Radio Network
Nancy Dickson
Halsey Associates/The Washington Trust Company
David & Pam Harding
Dr. Peter & Maureen Herbert
David & Denise Jared
Susan Kelly
Patrick & Nancy Kennedy Family
Barton C. Kenney
Jerry & Holly Leitz
Medtronic Foundation
Middlesex Health Systems, Inc.
Middlesex United Way
Ocean Management
Olsen Construction Services, LLC
John & Lupi Robinson
Shalom United Church of Christ
St. George Roman Catholic Church
The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
The Richard and Alice Baxter Fund
The University Church in Yale
Tournament Players Club/Membership

Turn your old vehicle into funds to help end homelessness – whether it runs or not! Learn more
Your donation to Columbus House may be eligible for a match from your employer. Click to find out!

Did you watch our Days of Inspiration series?

It's not too late to view our Days of Inspiration series of short uplifting videos! Whether you missed them in December, or want to revisit the inspiring messages from our dedicated volunteers, staff, and special guest speaker Lauren McGowan – you can view them all here!