

'Community House' Happenings

April 2015



Everyone is a Winner at Night At The Races



About 300 people attended our 'Night at the Races' event at the University of New Haven's Beckerman Recreation Center in West Haven on March 20th. It has become a popular annual event for area residents, community leaders and business owners who come together for an entertaining evening of videotaped horse races, raffles and prizes.

Many thanks to all who braved the mid-March snow storm to come out in support of our vital work and to our event's major sponsors, including Webster Bank, the University of New Haven, the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven and Rose & Kiernan, for their support.

View photos from the event [here](#).

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Save The Date



Mark your calendar and join us for our 4th Annual Family Fun Walk & Wellness Fair on Sunday, September 27th. Enjoy free refreshments, prizes and fun activities on the 2-mile walk along the historic Savin Rock boardwalk followed by a wellness fair featuring more than 20 local vendors inside the Savin Rock Conference Center. Stay tuned for more info to come.

The Great Give is Coming - May 5th

We're participating in



Help us win thousands of dollars!

thegreatgive.org



The count down begins for The Great Give® 2015. On Tuesday, May 5th, for 36 hours, your donation through The Great Give will qualify us for grant prizes worth thousands of dollars.

It is easy to do. Just go to www.TheGreatGive.org, search for The West Haven Community House, and join others in making a secure gift online. Your donation will help us win grant prizes that will go a long way in providing the many services and programs we offer including comprehensive pre-school for low-income children, before and after school care and summer program for West Haven students, as well as residential and day services for adults with developmental disabilities.

We hope you'll be a part of the event and help spread the word.

75th Anniversary News



In preparation for our 75th anniversary celebration in 2016, we are seeking comments and remembrances from anyone who has ever participated in a program or activity sponsored or

Nonprofit Advocacy Matters!

We need your help. People with disabilities frequently rely on a number of federally funded programs in order to live in the community. State funding for services offered in the non-profit sector in Connecticut, including those offered by the West Haven Community House, is being threatened in the current deliberations for the new 2015-16 state budget to go into effect on July 1, 2015.

Writing, phoning or emailing a public official **does make a difference**. They know that every person who writes represents many others who feel the same but don't write to them.

Please take a moment to contact our West Haven legislators:

- [State Rep. Steve Dargan](#), D-115
- [State Rep. Louis Esposito](#), D-116
- [State Rep. Charles Ferraro](#), R-115
- [State Sen. Gary Winfield](#), D-10
- [State Sen. Gayle Slossberg](#), D-14

Community Connections is Expanding



Our Community Connections program has been providing a growing menu of service to adults with developmental disabilities for nearly three decades. Our SMILE (Seniors Maintaining an Independent Lifestyle Everyday) program, serving retired or slower-paced older adults with developmental disabilities, has moved from our main campus at 227 Elm St to a

new building located at 840 Boston Post Road, West Haven.

We continue to meet the needs of these clients as people with developmental disabilities are aging at unprecedented rates and have unique health and service needs. The new location features larger program space area with kitchenette, several smaller program rooms as well as handicapped accessible bathrooms and shower.

For more information about Community Connections, view our Stay Connected newsletter [here](#).

West Haven Community House

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run by the Community House since its founding in 1941.

Whether you (or someone you know) participated in any of our programs including Head Start, Camp To Come To, Community Connections, After-School Child Care, Camp Silverberg, TEAM Social Club, TEC, House to House, CHAMP, CHYP or CAP, or attended any number of events and activities during the seven-plus decades since the Community House was founded, we want to hear from you.

Please contact Development & Communications Director, Chris Carroll at (203) 934-5221 x133 or ccarroll@whcommunityhouse.net.

Summer Program



If you, or someone you know, is looking for child care during the summer months, registration is now open for our Summer Program.

We offer child care for elementary school children 5 days a week during the summer school vacation run by experienced, motivated staff who are CPR/First Aid certified.

Find out more [here](#).