



West Haven Community House

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An Unsung Hero Among Us

West Haven, CT—(April 10, 2019) The Community House wishes to congratulate Candace Simmons for her recent "Unsung Hero" award at the West Haven PTA Council Founder's Day dinner for her contributions to the West Haven school community. Each year, every school chooses to recognize a parent, staff member or community member who goes above and beyond to serve the school community.

Candace is a Literacy Aide at Forest School, and she is one of our teachers in our before and after school program. She works tirelessly

in the morning before her school day starts, and then again in the afternoon program at Molloy until around 6:00pm.

She received the award for the lasting impact she is having with the students at Forest school. Candace started a book club with the 4th graders at Forest. They are reading the book "Hatchet", which is about a boy who finds himself stranded in the Canadian wilderness with only his clothing and a hatchet his mother gave him as a present before his departure. The students really enjoy the club and are excited about reading the story to find out what happens next.

Candace works with the Kindergartners and first graders at Molloy Afterschool and is very creative and enthusiastic in her approach to teaching literacy skills. Her room is a clear indicator of the interesting experiences she provides to promote and encourage learning. She noted that she just loves working with students and seeing the reactions on their faces when they learn and master new things.

She said she loves what she does, and clearly they love her too.



About the West Haven Community House: The Community House has been the cornerstone social service agency of West Haven for more than seven decades with programs including Head Start, a quality school readiness program for children from income-eligible families; Children & Youth Services, a before and after-school and summer program for school-aged children; and Community Connections, a day and residential program for people with intellectual disabilities.

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