We are All in this Together ...

“One of the most commonly heard phrases today is, “We’re all in this together.” This mantra makes visible what has been invisible: community, the web of interconnections, the safety net of caring that we extend to one another when life is hard...

“Most people want to help others, want to be generous, and care a great deal about the welfare of neighbors and strangers. We can rely on human goodness...

“No matter what’s going on around us, if we truly believe that we’re in this together, and we work hard to be there for one another, we can make it through...

“We each need to make a choice, and it’s our choices that will determine the outcome...We can choose to be in this together, or not.”

~ Margaret Wheatley, Ed.D
Annual Message from the Board President

It is with fondness and great appreciation that I address our donors and supporters as the Board president of the West Haven Community House for the last time in this 2013 Annual Report.

This board and our West Haven community have truly been blessed for more than seven decades by the programs offered by the Community House. For this, I recognize our dedicated staff and management team, fellow board members, city and state officials, the local school administration and Board of Education, parents, clients and you, our faithful donors and supporters.

I have been aided during my three-year presidency by a tremendous effort and team approach of everyone cited above - because when it comes to the health and welfare of those in our community, and those who need a hand, I believe we are all in this together in West Haven.

In my June 2013 fiscal year ending message, I noted my sense of pride in what has been accomplished through the years since the agency was founded in 1941, when the organizers including our founder Pauline Lang “stood together” for the good of West Haven.

Today, we are helping at-risk pre-school children get ready for kindergarten.

Today, we are helping make lives better for adults with developmental disabilities.

And together we are helping families cope with child care issues in the critical hours before and after school.

A full 72 years later, we are all still standing together, but our work is far from done. If one thing is certain - there will be challenges, some critical, in the months and years to come. We certainly had our share in 2012-2013.

Two major weather events, Hurricane Sandy on Oct. 29, 2012, and the Blizzard of 2013 on Feb. 8 and 9, 2013, wreaked havoc, not only closing programs but testing our resources and facilities.

The blizzard blanketed upwards of 30 inches of snow on West Haven, yet our maintenance staff rose to the occasion, aided by our private snowplowing companies. We again came through both storms with very little damage - but we were lucky, this time.

In January 2013, the federal government financial sequester began, resulting in a 5% reduction in federal funding for our Head Start preschool program. To address this, we were forced to cut the number of preschool students we could enroll going forward. Working together with our board Head Start committee, Parent Policy Council and management staff, we put together a plan that retained the integrity of the program, one that continues to prepare at-risk pre-school children for success in kindergarten.

Similarly, with program space issues continuing to affect how we offer our before and after school Child Care program, we continue to partner with school administrators and the Board of Education, addressing these issues head-on in every school, while continuing to move the program forward all the while ensuring that children are safe, and creatively engaged in the hours when parents and guardians may be otherwise unavailable.

Meanwhile, our services for adults with developmental disabilities continues to serve this population, offering them many opportunities to integrate meaningfully in the community, as well as live in group homes staffed 24/7 by caring staff.

We are also thankful to third party grant funders, like the Werth Family Foundation, and the state of Connecticut for making our Positive Youth Development after school enrichment program possible.

Our partners at the Community Development office not only earmarked funds to support our after school enrichment program, but also approved funding in the Spring of 2013 to install backup electrical generators at two of our group homes in the city so that during periods of electrical service outages we will not have to relocate our residents.

Mayor John Picard was also a tremendous advocate for us, not only leading by example in supporting our special events, but acting as a liaison between major funders including Yale University and the University of New Haven, securing thousands of dollars benefitting our clients. And many thanks to our universities, and our state representatives and senator, too, for their advocacy.

I also thank the many civic and private organizations, our vendors and individual and corporate supporters, like the Elks Club, the Rotary Club of West Haven, ConnectiCare, the United Illuminating Co., the Southern CT Gas Co., the Archdiocese of Hartford and religious community, as well as the WeltMart Foundation, McDonald’s of West Haven, Stop & Shop of West Haven, Eder Bros., the Knights of Columbus, Rose & Kiernan and more.

So in conclusion, I thank my fellow board officers and members, our new Board President Stacie Phan, Executive Director Patty Stevens, our great staff and all our donors for making my three-year tenure as Board president both memorable and meaningful. And I look forward to joining with them and you as we continue together to move the Community House and West Haven forward.

Richard S. Bruno
President

Serving West Haven
Residents Since 1941

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June Annual Meeting - A Time to Say ‘Thanks’

Each year in June, at the agency’s Annual Meeting, several organizations and people in the community are recognized for their outstanding efforts and dedication. In addition, a board member may be nominated to receive the Pauline Lang Award named in honor of our founder.

2013 PAULINE LANG EXCEPTIONAL BOARD MEMBER AWARD WINNER: ANNETTE KNOBLOCH

Board of Directors member Annette Knobloch was honored by Board President Richard Bruno for her leadership and her creative efforts including the many hours spent organizing and preparing our raffles at fundraising events.

Anyone who has attended our “A Night at the Races” fundraising event each Spring can attest to the colorfulness and attractiveness of the displays. This “eye appeal” as well as the quality of the raffle items - thanks to our many generous event donors - are two big reasons why our raffles are so successful.

A tip of the hat, too, to Annette’s husband, Mark, whose talents include some pretty neat wood carvings - popular at our raffles.

who was cited for her tremendous ability to convey storytelling as unique among language arts activities. Ann was specifically awarded for her contributions to reading and literacy for our Head Start program.

Mickey Livi, Westwoods are honored

Mickey Livi was also honored at the Annual Meeting in June 2013, representing himself and the Italian-American (IA) Club of West Haven, aka Westwoods Ballroom.

Mickey and “the club” have been very generous to the Community House in providing favorable event rates and services for many years. From our “A Night at the Races” fundraising event each April, to our “Minute to Win It” event for our school age program children and families in November – to our annual Staff Day in August – the Club and Mickey take care of the Community House - so many thanks to all!

And Mickey Livi just happens to be Annette Knobloch’s father!

Where have all the years gone? Agency planning its 75th anniversary

WHCH Board of Directors member and Past Board President Mary Jane Morrissey is helping lead a team of volunteers in planning the Community House’s 75th anniversary celebration in 2016. While it sounds a long time away, it will be only 24 months from the turn of the New Year on January 1, 2014, and planning is already underway for a year-long celebration, highlighted by some major activities and events.

Members of the committee include Executive Director Patty Stevens, board Vice President Bill Heffernan III, board members Katie Heffernan, Jay Brennan, Gayle Tagliatela and past board presidents Sharon Martin and Carole Porto. Also, Stefanie Seslar and former board member Celia Pinzi round out the committee. “We are in the early planning stages, but have come up with some great ideas,” Morrissey added. Some hints: 1) there may be birthday candles involved, and, 2) spiff up your blue jeans!

Stay tuned to the Community House web site and Facebook pages for further updates

Founder Pauline Lang
Our web of ‘interconnections’ are integral to the fabric of West Haven

When Pauline Lang first convened a group of socially minded West Haven citizens in 1939, she and others envisioned creating an agency that served the varied but critical social needs of its citizens.

At that time, the world was in turmoil, with the effects of The Great Depression still lingering, and a new world war was imminent.

At these meetings, it became clear that West Haven citizens desired a community center that would enhance the quality of life for West Haven residents, a place that would serve as a “hub” of positive activities for children.

To make this dream a reality, a capital campaign was undertaken, resulting in the purchase of a property at 227 Elm Street. Then, in August 1941 incorporation papers were signed establishing the West Haven Community House Association.

Fast-forward to 72 years later to 2013, the Community House has evolved to serve as the home of a pre-school program serving 144 at-risk children. The agency also serves adults with developmental disabilities in the region with a Day program, and separately, we offer residential opportunities for this population. In addition, partnering with the West Haven Board of Education, we serve students and their families with our School Age Child Care programs, both before and after school, and KinderKlub, a supplement to half-day kindergarten in West Haven.

In the spirit of what Margaret Wheatley earlier on these pages described as “community: the web of interconnections - the safety net of caring,” we have also made the Community House facilities available to other entities and partnering now as well as in the past with a multitude of municipal and community groups, religious organizations, a free tax preparation service, the city’s Family Resource Center, the CT Department of Transportation, the Center for Disability Rights, School Readiness, the WHEAT food bank, Early Childhood Council, Beacon on the Hill, CT Dental Associates, the University of New Haven, Southern CT State University, and the West Haven Interagency Network for Children, among many others.

Add to this our partnerships with city and state departments, local emergency services, the health department and civic organizations, we continue today what was first begun in the late 1930s. So as we look to the future, and our upcoming 75th anniversary in 2016, we thank everyone who helps and partners with us as we continue to serve the needs of our citizens in West Haven.

Agency reaches out to Sandy Hook School

One week after the tragedy at Sandy Hook School, the Connecticut’s Parent Teacher Student Association requested homemade snowflakes “to help the students of the school have a winter wonderland as they return to school.” Responding to that call, the staff and clients in Disability Services and Head Start Classroom 1300-A created and submitted snowflakes that were placed inside the new school in Monroe where Sandy Hook students and staff were relocated to in January 2013. The snowflake-decorated postcard, along with message, above, were received soon thereafter.

Long-time staff recognized at Annual Meeting

Each honored for dedication and presented with a red rose

Congratulations Viola Waldo and Barbara Reynolds (31 years), Kevin Parker (30), Patricia Stevens (29), Sandy Santana (28), Kelly Ruickoldt (23), Cynthia Scully (22), Pamela Parker, Diane DeFrancesco and Dee Boynton-Carmon (19), Carol James and Michelle Cofield (18), Kathy Pastelok and Charles Asarisi (17) and Tanya Charles (15 years) for your dedication to the Community House.
Individual stories on how the Community House has impacted people through the generations are as varied as the people themselves. But there is a common theme throughout – the West Haven Community House was there for them.

One unique story involves one newly inducted (June 2013) agency Board of Directors member, Heatherly Carlson, whose own history with the agency began as a child when she attended our Summer Camp program while attending elementary school in West Haven – Carlson remembers it as a very positive experience.

Fast-forward to 2004 when Carlson first became a Head Start pre-school program parent after her oldest child, Daria, enrolled in the full-day pre-school program in Classroom 1100-A of longtime Head Teacher Barbara Reynolds. “The Head Start experience was so overwhelmingly positive, heartwarming and rewarding,” Carlson said, “so much so that I took the time to create a custom, do-it-yourself 1100-A little ‘Golden Book’ that she called a ‘labor of love,’ with illustrations by her husband. The couple presented it to teachers when Daria transitioned to Kindergarten.

In 2004, Carlson was elected to serve on the agency’s Head Start Policy Committee, which is an advisory board to the program. She worked on issues there including busing and transportation policy, a critical issue for families without access to personal vehicular transportation. Even after her first child left the program, Carlson stayed on the Policy Council as a community representative, and she played an active role in program accreditation, federal program auditing and the personnel committee, finally leaving the council in 2006 after two years service.

Fast-forward again, this time to 2011: “My family happily returned to the Community House” when Carlson’s then 3-year-old daughter, Maylanni, entered the Head Start program. This time around, Carlson served her third and final year on Policy Council as its chairperson. “At the time, I had been promoted at Yale as a managerial researcher in Yale-New Haven Hospital’s Emergency Room” and despite the demands of motherhood and work, “I found myself working harder than ever to maintain my commitment to Head Start,” even encountering agency staff and fellow Policy Council members at the ER.

She noted, “It was very important to me to give back to the Community House, since we had experienced so many blessings from the wonderful staff there.” After her final year on the council ended, Carlson said, “I continued to stay in touch with Head Start personnel and expressed an interest in continuing a relationship with the agency.”

In 2013, Carlson was nominated and elected to the West Haven Community House’s Board of Directors, being inducted in June 2013. For the 2013-14 fiscal year, Carlson is chairing the Personnel Committee, and also serves on the Head Start committee.

Said Executive Director Patty Stevens, “Heatherly’s story is a tremendous example of how the Community House has served individuals and families over many generations in West Haven since 1941. We are very pleased to have Heatherly on our Board of Directors, where her expertise and passion will serve the agency and our clients well for many years to come.”
The Head Start program serves 144 pre-school aged children and their families by providing a strong educational and social foundation in helping these children to meet life’s future challenges. West Haven Head Start is licensed by the state of Connecticut and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Head Start offers full-day full-year programs on a sliding scale fee basis for the children of parents who are working or going to school; Care 4 Kids child care assistance is accepted.

### HEAD START 2012 - 2013

Head Start participates in the CT Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP) sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), which allows us to provide each child with nutritious meals (breakfast, lunch and or snack) on a daily basis. In accordance with federal law and USDA policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, political beliefs, or disability.

### POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

**CHILDREN**
- Total children served in 2012-2013: 186
- Age: 2 years 10 months - 5: 3-year-olds - 77; 4-year-olds - 104
- Number of children served for two years or more: 33 (17.7%)
- Number of Children who dropped out after classes started: 26
- Number of children served less than 45 days: 6 (13.2%)
- Number of children who left program and did not re-enroll: 35 (18.3%)
- Number of children projected to enter kindergarten: 93
- Ethnicity: 117 Hispanic origin; 66 Non-Hispanic Origin
- Race: 111 white; 57 black or African American; 14 Biracial/Multi-racial; 2 Asian; 1 Native American or Alaskan; 1 Other
- Primary home language: 109 English; 68 Spanish; 5 Asian or Middle Eastern; 1 East Asian; 1 European & Slavic; 2 Unspecified
- Number foster children: 2

**FAMILY**
- Number of families: 178
- Number of two parent families: 61
- Number of single families: 117
- Number of Families at 100% of Poverty Guidelines: 150
- Number of Families between 101 – 130% of Poverty Guidelines: 16
- Number of Families over Poverty Guidelines: 9
- Number of Families at 100% of Poverty Guidelines: 150
- Number of Families with both parent employed: 18
- Number of Single Families with parent employed: 76
- Number of Families with one member in Military: 1
- Number of Families receiving TANF: 22
- Number of Families receiving SSI: 4
- Number of Families receiving WIC: 45
- Number of Families receiving SNAP: 69

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR CHILDREN

- Children with health insurance: 97.8% (182)
- Type of child insurance: 165 - Medicaid or CHIP; 15 - Private; 4 - None
- Children with medical home: 98.9% (184)
- Children with up-to-date immunizations: 100%
- Children up-to-date with preventive health schedule: 97.4% (182)
- Children diagnosed with chronic health condition needing treatment: 11
- Children receiving treatment for a chronic condition: 9
- Children completing dental professional exams: 95.2% (177/186)
- Children needing treatment due to dental exam: 14.8% (35)
- Children who received dental treatment: 91.4% (32)
- Children with Individual Education Plan (IEP): 24
- Children with an IEP that received special education or related services: 100% (24)

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR PARENTS/FAMILIES

- Number of families who received at least one social service: 139
- Number of families experiencing homelessness: 5
- Number of homeless families that acquired housing: 2
- Number of Families receiving state childcare subsidy: 54
- Parent Education: Advanced Degree - 12; Associate/Vocational/Some College - 45; High School/GED - 93; Less than High School - 28

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR STAFF

- Number of classroom teachers who meet national requirement: 50%
- Number of classrooms with at least one teacher meeting requirements: 100%
- Number of assistant teachers that Child Development Credential or higher: 100%

### SCHOOL READINESS

- Number of newly enrolled children screened for behavior: 103
- Number that were noted with concerns: 32
- Triennial Assessments of children showed gains in the following domains:
  - Social Emotional
  - Approaches to Learning
  - Literacy & Language Development
  - Physical Well being & Motor Skills
  - Cognition & General Knowledge
- Assessments, lesson plans and classroom practices are aligned with both the CT Preschool Curriculum Framework and the National Head Start Child Development & early Learning Framework.
**SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS**

**Child Care**

Military Mom thanks staff with U.S. flag

Excited students presented paper airplanes to her. A newspaper reporter was on hand. There was lots of excitement in the air in March 2013 at Seth Haley School as students and staff greeted Rachel Payne, a technical sergeant in the U.S. Air National Guard, the mother of elementary school student and School Age Child Care client Marisa Payne.

It was during Thanksgiving week back in November 2012 when Sgt. Payne returned home from active duty. Not only were family members excited, but also our staff, and all the children in Marisa’s after-school class. At that time, after-school class members made a “Welcome Home” banner. “It was the first thing I saw when I returned home,” Payne told everyone in March 2013.

Like many female members of the military, Sgt. Payne had to trust her family, including her husband, and her young son and daughter to others, including the Community House’s School Age Child Care program.

Marisa attended the before- and after-school program each school day. Knowing that Marisa was well cared for during this extended period of time was a tremendous help to the family. One of the ways in which Marisa’s Mom kept in touch with her daughter was through phone calls during the after-school program, which were very special, and emotional.

In March, Payne thanked SACC program staff. “You have all been absolutely wonderful. Any time Marisa needed help, including her homework, you were always there, which was a great comfort to me while I was away.”

One SACC staff member who was especially close to the family was Chuck Asarisi, who noted that all staff members were especially attuned to Marisa’s situation. After accepting the several dozen paper airplanes, Sgt. Payne presented a framed American flag that had flown in a mission in the Midwest. For its part, the entire Community House family joined everyone in the region in welcoming home Sgt. Payne – and thanking her for her personal sacrifice while serving our country overseas.

In fiscal year 2012-2013, the School Age Child Care program served 315 children and their working families by providing before and after-school child care for elementary aged students. The Positive Youth Development / Kids in the Neighborhood program (PYD-KIN) served 114 children while the Summer Program averaged 50 youth.

**PYD-KIN**

Local student witnessed Hurricane Sandy - twice

Jamaican native born with heart on wrong side of chest

Few have the distinction of experiencing the same hurricane twice in five days and in locations 2,000 miles apart. But Carrigan Intermediate School student Rayjay Linton did so in October 2012 when Hurricane Sandy ripped through his native Jamaica, and then less than a week later struck the northeastern United States including West Haven – and Rayjay experienced both.

“Sandy” first developed as a tropical wave in the western Caribbean Sea, and on Oct. 24, then-Hurricane Sandy made landfall at Kingston, Jamaica, leaving 70% of that country without electricity, blowing off rooftops, killing one person and causing more than $1 million in damages.

Fast-forward four days later to Sunday, Oct. 28, when 12-year-old Rayjay Linton boarded a jet in Jamaica that landed at JFK Airport in New York City for a long-scheduled, heart-related surgery. Anjay was born with his heart on the wrong side of his chest and the surgery in the Fall of 2012 was one of a series of corrective procedures he needed, said his aunt, Blossom Linton. Blossom Linton is a 17-year resident of West Haven who is now Anjay’s guardian after the boy’s father (Blossom’s brother) was murdered in 2011. Meanwhile, his grandmother in Jamaica passed in 2012, “and that’s when I stepped in,” said Linton.

Anjay was scheduled to travel to NYC on Oct. 29, the day Hurricane Sandy hit the region, Linton said. But he was lucky enough to get out of Jamaica one day early on Oct. 28, arriving at Kennedy Airport just one hour before the NY Port Authority closed the airport for what turned out to be three days.

So, after a week of preparation, Anjay had his surgery on Nov. 6, 2012 – ironically on his birthday. It was just one of many surgical procedures that are continuing and involve moving internal organs including his heart, valves and lungs.

Soon after his November 2012 surgery, Anjay started attending the Positive Youth Development / Kids in the Neighborhood (PYD-KIN) after school program at Carrigan, where Community House staff have helped him work through his adjustment to school, as well as the physical and mental aspects of his disability. “They have helped a lot,” Linton said. “He had just come here, and Anjay didn’t have a lot of friends.” The Community House after school program, the school system, his doctors and others have helped him through this difficult period of his life, Blossom Linton said, and for that they are very grateful.

West Haven Community House
Area universities support events, programs

The Community House derives a tremendous amount of support from area universities and colleges.

In the Fall of 2012, volunteers from the University of New Haven women’s volleyball team were vital to the function and success of the Fall Family Fun Fest and 2-Mile Walk fundraiser held Oct. 28, a new agency event.

With Hurricane Sandy barreling up the coast that same day, and arriving with a fury less than a day later on Monday, Oct. 29, our UNH volunteers helped children face-paint and decorate pumpkins as part of the event that raised more than $6,000 after expenses.

Despite increasing winds buffeting walkers along the scenic Savin Rock boardwalk, the event went off with nary a hitch, with a costume parade, touch a truck, and a book reading from The Cat in the Hat among the event’s many highlights.

Thank you SCSU, Quinnipiac U.

Less than a month later on Nov. 9, 2012, at the Italian-American Club on Chase Lane, students from Southern CT State University planned and hosted the second annual “Minute to Win It” program benefitting our Positive Youth Development after school program clients and family members. Recreation and Leisure study students from SCSU planned the activities, and hosted and ran the event that features fun games intended to challenge and amuse. The evening is modeled after the popular television show of the same name and has become a popular tradition.

In recognition of the SCSU efforts, the agency recognized SCSU Recreation & Leisure Studies Professor Deb Smith in June 2013, presenting Smith with an award of appreciation. The award was presented by School Age Programs Director Carol James, who noted that anyone who has attended any of the “Minute to Win It” programs “knows how much fun our children, parents, siblings and staff have there. Not only do the university student volunteers organize every activity for the evening, they also act as event hosts, setting up, emceeing and even helping clean up the site after hundreds of our clients and their families enjoy a fun-filled evening of activities and laughs.”

Also, many thanks to the volunteers from Quinnipiac University who came in April 2013 to help with spring landscaping and painting projects at our main building at 227 Elm St. Certainly, an excellent job was done by all and we look forward to working with all our university partners in the future.

Thank you Yale, UNH

Student volunteers from Yale University have aided the Summer child care program, playing games and just plain having fun outdoors with the children in this program. “It is so wonderful having these students serve as positive role models for our children,” said Program Director Carol James. “The children do look up to them so much.”

The University of New Haven and Yale University also provide substantial financial support to the Community House. This includes the sponsorship of events, as well as through the efforts of those like Community House Board member Gayle Tagliatela, who serves as Chief of Staff at UNH, and West Haven Mayor John Picard, whose efforts with Yale and its vice president, Bruce Alexander, netted the Community House thousands of dollars in direct financial support.

We are all in this together.
An increasing situation facing many families of adults with developmental disabilities and the agencies that serve them is the fact that more and more of these clients are outliving their parents or guardians.

As one government agency recently noted, “Many people with disabilities are living longer now with more modern and technological advances in health care, and need different kinds of care and support, particularly at the end of life.

“In addition, trends show that parents and caregivers of those with disabilities are NOT outliving their children as they historically did in most cases.”

While it is a positive thing that adults with disabilities are living longer, and more healthy lives – the flip-side is the family caregiver issues that arise when older parents and adult guardians are no longer able to provide adequate care for their adult children with disabilities as they once did.

West Haven Community House Disability Services Director Marie Watson and her staff know full well that these issues are increasingly coming to the forefront for our clients, affecting both the Community Connections Day service program as well as our the Residential program overseen by Residential Director Davaul Amin.
Residential Program

Family support, pre-planning is vital for a successful residential placement

Residential program clients at the West Haven Community House are provided with individualized assistance based on their needs. Support ranges from help with hygiene, nutrition and other tasks of daily living to assistance with more advanced skills such as budgeting and social interaction.

One client currently in our Residential program is Evette Gore, who lived with her 88-year-old mother until just recently. Faced with the growing recognition that Evette had turned 50 and would likely continue to live for many more years if not decades, her mother began the process to provide for her daughter’s living situation and care outside of the family home.

Evette entered into a Community House group home living situation, but it was not easy for her mother to see her daughter leave the family home.

Yet, the alternative, as both Watson and Amin noted, would be the necessity of addressing these issues after they become an emergency, such as when a parent may pass while an adult child with disabilities is still living at home.

“In Evette’s situation, the pre-planning was done by the family,” Watson said, so it’s a “preventative” measure rather than having to react to an emergency. “That’s the way it should be,” she added, although it is always difficult for a parent to trust their child, even if an adult, to someone else’s care.

Of course, having family support is critical for a Residential placement’s success.

Client’s sisters played vital role

Paul is a residential client who moved into a placement at the West Haven Community House during this past agency fiscal year 2012-13. The move occurred seamlessly after Paul’s name was placed on the waiting list by his sisters and mother, awaiting a future opening in one of our Continuous Residential Supports (CRS) sites.

A CRS arrangement is usually where 2-3 apartments are grouped together and where the Community House residential staff support is shared between the apartment clients.

Paul had lived his entire life at home with his parents. But when one parent passed away a year ago, his sisters and his mother started planning for Paul’s future. When an opening occurred, Paul started the transition into independent living, while also having to handle both the declining health of his mother and his impending move.

However, given the excellent pre-planning done by his sisters leading up to the move, the process for Paul was extremely successful.

The love that his sisters had for their brother was very apparent. They very much wanted him to be in an environment that Paul would thrive in and the ongoing communications that the family had with our staff at the Community House prior to the residential opening greatly increased the likelihood of Paul’s move into a supported apartment being successful.

As for himself, Paul perceived his move into his new living arrangement immediately after the death of his mother as “a natural progression of things,” given the passing of now both of his parents. Paul accepted quite readily that his next step was to live on his own.

So Paul, his sisters and Community House residential staff were able to work through the life events that happened in such a short period of time, and all with great success.
Individual Donations

MORE THAN $1,000
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Carole Porto

$500 - $999
Walter Boresen
Richard S. Bruno
William Heffernan, III
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Katie M. Heffernan
William & Anne Heffernan
Grace R. Hendricks
Annette L. Knobloch
Mark Knobloch
Michael Knobloch
Ann & Dominic Liv
Cheryl & Mark Milano
Michaela Morales
Mary Jane Morrissey
Sean Morrissey
Diana Nytko
Hon. Edward O'Brien
Karen O'Brien
Kelly O'Hara
Frank J. & Roseann Paolino
Pamela L. Parker
Stacie L. Phan
Celia Pinzi
Kenneth S. Prisco
Mary Anne Sulik
Eugene & Leslie Sullivan
Gayle S. & Lawrence Tagliatela
Donald F. & Sandra Vogt
David Zarnowski
Kristen Zemke

BUSINESSES
A Flower Affair
Arnold Peck Property World
Beardsley Zoo
The Beautiful Bouquet
Black Bear Saloon
Boston Celtics
Boston Red Sox
Bridgeport Sound Tigers
Chase Bank, Orange
The Children's Museum
City Point
Columbus Auto Body
Durantes
Eder Bros.
Envy Salon-Spa
First Niagara Bank
Goldworks
Green Mountain Coffee
Gusto's Restaurant
Harlem Globetrotters
Indigo Restaurant
Italian-American Club
Lake Compounce
Lazy Lobster Restaurant
Leslie's Jewelers
Lorenzo's Ristorante Italiano
The Milford Bank
Milford Wine & Spirits
Moranscape Landscape
Mystic Seaport
New Britain Rock Cats
New York Giants
New York Jets
New York Knicks
New York Mets
Nutmeg Bowl
Pierson & Smith
Pizzeria UNO
Shoreline Dental Care
Sloppy Joe's
Stop & Shop
University of CT
Village Vogue
Wadsworth Museum of Art
United Way Designated

MORE THAN $1,000
Gerald F. Bonini
Kathleen H. Hendricks
John M. Picard
Tara Picard
Seyue Roesler *

$500 - $999
Nancy S. Guman **
Kevin Parker *
Patricia W. Stevens *

$250 - $499
Louis DaRienzo
Richard Garcia
Jackie Goldstein
Robert J. Guthrie
Evonne Minnix
Patrick O’Shea
John M. Ordazzo
Abel Padro *
Joan Paglinco
Pamela L. Parker *
Ronald Quagliano
Gina M. Riccio
Colleen Robinson *
Geralyn Smith
Richard Standish
Katherine Vecellio
Deborah Wright *

$50 - $99
Stephen Boccarossa
Guido & Anne Calabresi
Dorothy Chambrelli
Diane DeFrancesco *
Christopher Guandalini
David Johnson
Theresa T. Kovacs
Michael J. Masselli
Carol Mendoza
Michael A. Morales
Karen O’Brien
William Sellers
Beverly Skiles
Laura Toole
Donna Williams
Robin Zander

$100 - $249
Paul W. Bauer **
Edward Biondi
Treivor Branch
Traci Evangeliiste *
Debbie Capodilupo
John J. Carroll
Dottie Celata
Michelle D. Cofield *

$1 to $49
Rachel Cushion *
Valentino A. Ferro
Patricia Howard
Carol A. James *
Colleen Kelly
Dong L. Le
James Marshall *
Michael Mattiello
Charles Miller
Richard F. Murray, Jr.
Mark Petronzi
Donald Richardson
Mary C. Rolfe-Hickman
Mark A. Smolenski
Gayle S. Tagliatela **
Robert Vets, Jr.
Terriann Walker-Dick *
Marie E. Watson *
Jacqueline Wynosky
Charles Asarisi *
Thomas Blake
Richard Bouffard
Albert Calandro, Jr.
Barbara A. Conroy
Michael DiMassa
Theresa DiMeglio
Keith Durkin
Katie M. Heffernan **
Cindy Leyerzapf *
Charles Meyers
Mary Miller
Ann Montgomery
Cherylann Natale
John Nestor
Amanda Quirk
Paul C. Robinette
Nancy Vaccaro
Linda William

In December 2012, both ConnectiCare and the Southern CT Gas Co. made major donations via the state of CT’s Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) program. Pictured above, is ConnectiCare’s Kim Kann, along with children from Barbara Reynolds Head Start classroom.

Fall Event brings smiles, decorations to many faces!

The Fall 2012 Family Fun Fest included face painting and pumpkin decorating, as well as a Halloween costume parade for all those attending. The event also included storytelling by the ‘Cat in the Hat,’ free books, games and a 2-mile walk along the boardwalk at Savin Rock.
**Business & Organizational**

**MORE THAN $5,000**
- ConnectiCare
- Bayer HealthCare
- Southern CT Gas Company / UIL
- Werth Family Foundation

**$1,000 - $4,999**
- Archdiocese of Hartford
- City Point Construction Company
- United Way of Greater New Haven
- Walmart Foundation

**$500 - $999**
- The George Ellis Co., Inc.
- J & A Foods, LLC (d/b/a McDonald’s #6394)
- Knights of Columbus

**$250 - $499**
- B & T Association, Inc
- Cordone & Son General Contractors
- Cordone & Tonucci
- Eder Brothers, Inc

**$100 - $249**
- E-Z Way Products, LLP
- JAG & Sons Overhead Door
- The Mens Group
- Special Olympics Connecticut, Inc

**Event Sponsors**

**MORE THAN $1,000**
- Eder Brothers, Inc
- University of New Haven
- Yale University

**$500 - $999**
- David McDermott Auto Group
- William C. Lang
- Rose and Kiernan, Inc.

**$250 - $499**
- Colin Aiken
- The Business Network Group
- Community Foundation of Greater New Haven
- DeGennaro Auto & Truck
- Dimeo Construction Co.

**$50 - $99**
- American Floor Contractors
- Soundental Associates

**$1 - $49**
- Hospital of St. Raphael

**Endowment**

**Helen Pinzi Fund**
- In Memory of Nello & Helen Pinzi
- Gail DiReinzo
- N. Thomas & Ann M. Williams

**Mary Jane Kelly Fund**
- In Memory of Mary Jane Kelly
- Arthur J. & Anne Marie Kelly, Jr.
- Mary Jane Morrissey

**In Memory of Bernice Kaercher**
- Ersilia Post

**In Memory of Frank Meyer**
- Kate H. Blake
- Carole Cillo
- New Haven Ski Club
- Bob & Roberta DeFonce
- Dolores E. Ennico
- Mary Jane Kelly Fund
- In Memory of Mary Jane Kelly
- Arthur J. & Anne Marie Kelly, Jr.
- Mary Jane Morrissey

**In Memory of Ralph Paolillo**
- Paul W. & Joyce Bauer

**In Memory of Nick Pergolotti**
- Jane W. Chamberlin
- Ann Marie Fiondella
- Patricia Howard
- Betty Saccavino

**In Honor of ‘Mr. Al’ at Thompson School**
- Albert A. Capasso

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Neither wind nor rain, nor hurricane ...

Many thanks to ‘Rum Runners’

On Nov. 16, 2012, the Rum Runners band performed a benefit dance party at the IA Club with all proceeds going to the Community House. Many thanks to the band for donating its time and providing a fun time for all attending.
Financials

Revenues

Government Grants and Contracts $4,768,282
Fees for Service $1,094,366
Room & Board / Rent $131,980
Contributions $192,798
Fundraising $38,198
Other $145,754
Total $6,371,378

Expenses

Children and Youth $2,765,631
Adults with Developmental Disabilities $2,850,198
General & Administrative $680,778
Fundraising $25,635
Total $6,322,242
Depreciation $207,848
Increase (Decrease) Net Assets $(158,712)

Revenue & expense figures are audited but do not include endowment funds. For a complete copy of our 2012-2013 financials or audit contact: WHCH Finance Dept., 227 Elm St., WH, CT 06516.

Government & Combined Appeal

US Dept of Health/Human Services $1,284,064
Dept of Education $331,987
US Dept of Agriculture $111,000
Community Development Adm $17,500
Dept of Developmental Services $2,805,571
Fiscal Intermediary $53,994
Dept of Children and Families $79,190
Department of Social Services - BAS $40,275
United Way of Greater New Haven $20,000

2012-2013 Head Start Program Income & Expenses

INCOME

Federal Head Start $1,284,064 64%
State Dept. of Ed / Readiness $331,987 16.5%
Care4Kids & Fees $259,339 13%
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture $111,000 5.5%
West Haven CDA $7,500 .4%
Other $9,244 .6%
Total $2,003,134

EXPENSES

Salary/benefits $1,411,449 73%
Program/Office $65,025 3%
Food $120,818 6%
Maintenance /Services $47,924 2%
Administration/Facility $300,410 15%
Total $1,945,628

Thank you to our agency event and program volunteers & student interns!

Serving West Haven Residents Since 1941

Congratulations Deborah Wright

Deborah Wright, left, the Community House’s Assistant Executive Director, Financial Operations, in February 2013 received a Community Service Award from the West Haven Black Coalition. Wright is pictured with Carroll Brown at right.
We are All in this Together ...