CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF FOCUSING ON OUR WEST HAVEN COMMUNITY

West Haven Community House

COVER PHOTO BY: LASAUNDRIA MONK
Dear Friends,

It is an honor to assume the role of President of the Board of The West Haven Community House. While I know we will continue to face financial challenges, I am confident that an organization that has survived for over 70 years is strong, resilient and will never fail to find ways to fulfill our mission.

My involvement with the Community House goes back over twenty years, to when I hired several clients from what was then the Training and Employment Center. Several men and women with disabilities came to work at my business, performing assembly tasks on the equipment we produced. This experienced opened a new door for me personally and professionally, and soon I was a member of the board of directors.

Over the years, I have seen the vital role this organization plays in our community. Quality pre-school, child care, after-school programs, services that help adults with developmental disabilities live rich and independent lives, all have a powerfully positive impact on hundreds of people everyday. We could not do it all without our generous supporters, committed Board of Directors, an experienced and energetic executive director, Patty Stevens, and our hard-working staff. I am most appreciative of the service of my predecessor, Sharon Martin, who served as Board President for the previous three years and accomplished so much for the agency in that time.

It is no secret the dismal economy has caused us to look critically at every program we offer and refocus our efforts on those we can sustain. We have experienced funding cuts at the state level and from the private sector. Therefore, we are sharpening our focus on our after school activities that help our children develop leadership and good decision – making skills to prevent risky behaviors and poor choices. Simply stated, our goal is to offer care, protection, education and enrichment to those we serve, in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.

I want to thank the many individuals and organizations that supported the Community House through donations, grants, sponsorships and volunteer efforts over the past year. I hope that we can count on your continued and even increased support this year. I am excited about the possibilities ahead, as I truly believe these difficult times will lead to new opportunities, and with your help the Community House can be a leader and partner in improving the quality of life in West Haven.

Richard S. Bruno | President

West Haven Community House
As we enter our eighth decade of service to West Haven, the Community House is proud to take stock of the many notable goals we have achieved as an organization. Yet we also recognize the need to evaluate where we are and where we are headed, to focus on the factors that affect how we do our work, and to refocus on what we do well, and where we can have the greatest impact on our community. Our achievements are best reflected in the ways we have made life better for thousands of individuals and families. Our work to fulfill our mission – to facilitate healthy, meaningful, independent lives for children, families and adults with developmental disabilities – continues to drive our “can-do” spirit, despite the many challenges we face, particularly in a difficult economy. We strive to be a leader in our city by offering vital programs and services that change with the needs of the community. We appreciate the many entities that partner with us to provide quality programs. We understand that successful collaborations with other organizations are critical to our ability to help those in need of our services.

This annual report will focus on some of the ways our work has made a positive difference in West Haven, and some of the lives that are better for having been involved with the Community House over the years. With your help, we can maintain our focus, refocus when needed, and continue to help so many achieve their own dreams and goals.
Head Start assists families with low incomes and their pre-school aged children, to give them the foundation they need to enter kindergarten prepared to learn. The curriculum of exploratory learning and play engages all developing aspects of the child—social, cognitive, physical, and psychological. Parents are involved to increase their capacity to serve as their child’s first teacher. We offer full day, full-year, and part-day, part-year classes at our 227 Elm Street facility.

Early Education and Family Support

Head Start assists families with low incomes and their pre-school aged children, to give them the foundation they need to enter kindergarten prepared to learn. The curriculum of exploratory learning and play engages all developing aspects of the child—social, cognitive, physical, and psychological. Parents are involved to increase their capacity to serve as their child’s first teacher. We offer full day, full-year, and part-day, part-year classes at our 227 Elm Street facility.

FOCUS

Last year Head Start served 200 preschool children and their families. One hundred of those children eligible to enroll in kindergarten met all the developmental milestones required to take this next step in their early education.

This year, Head Start has planned programs to address the obesity issue with children and families. We have implemented the “I am Moving, I am Learning” curriculum which will help children and families make healthy food choices and add more physical activities to their day. With the help of a Head Start Body Start grant, the Community House is enhancing the outdoor environment and activities for Head Start children with raised gardens and shade paths where they will plant and observe natural processes.

2009 Head Start Report

Total amount of public and private funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Head Start</td>
<td>$1,385,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>State of CT Dept. of Education</td>
<td>216,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Readiness</td>
<td>121,968</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Haven Community Development Admin.</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,584,697</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number of children and families served:

- 200 children; 183 families

Average monthly enrollment as % of funded enrollment: 100%

Percentage of enrolled children that received medical and dental exams: 100%

Parent involvement:

- 175 parents and guardian participated in parent involvement activities
- 37 males participated in Fatherhood Initiative
- 28 children with diagnosed disabilities received services from Local Education Administration
- 101 children were successfully prepared and went on to kindergarten
Child Care and Enrichment for Elementary School Children

School Age Child Care (SACC) Thousands of families have relied on the Community House to provide their elementary school children with a safe location, constructive activities, and qualified supervision in the hours before and after school, and during school holidays and vacation. The program operates in five West Haven public schools from 7 a.m. to school start, and after school until 6 p.m. SACC is open to children grades 1-6 enrolled in any West Haven elementary school.

FOCUS
Our School Age Child Care program served 240 children in 2009-2010. Community House program administrators collaborated with the Board of Education to address and resolve some of the many issues resulting from the restructure of the West Haven school districts. Child care services are now available to families with children in 6th grade, so that children at that very vulnerable age will have a safe and engaging environment to spend the hours after school when parents and guardians are still at work. Curriculum for 5th and 6th grade children addresses the changing needs and interests of older children approaching the challenges of middle school.

KinderKlub provides care and educational enrichment for children attending half-day kindergarten in West Haven public schools.

FOCUS
While all levels of our child care program provide enrichment activities and lessons to enhance classroom learning, the KinderKlub program is even more structured in its approach. By aligning the experiences and learning opportunities in the after school program to those taking place during the school day, the children are better equipped to meet state mandated requirements and milestones. Ninety children enrolled in KinderKlub in 2009-2010.

“Thank you for giving my daughter a wonderful kindergarten experience. Your excellent staff has given me peace of mind while I am at work, knowing my daughter is safe, learning and having fun!”

SACC KinderKlub Parent

Teens in the West Haven Fire Explorers Post 3 collected school supplies and donated them to children in the SACC program.
Summer Program offers elementary school children fun, friendship, and enrichment, while providing families with the peace of mind they need to balance work and home life during the school vacation. Based at the Stiles School building, the children enjoy day trips to parks and attractions, camp-like activities, group games and free play. Summer Program operates for seven weeks in July and August from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**FOCUS**

Children visited a variety of educational and recreational sites including The Discovery Museum, Action Animal Park, The Pequot Indian Museum, Dinosaur State Park and Rocky Neck State Park.

**Kids in the Neighborhood (KIN)** engages elementary school children (grades 1-6) in after-school activities that build social skills and encourage involvement in positive pursuits such as drama, sports, science, and crafts. Program groups are divided by grade level and each meet twice a week for two hours after school, at four West Haven public elementary schools.

In 2009-2010, 284 children participated in KIN. Activities based on multicultural themes engaged both children and parents, culminating in a Family Night event attended by over 200 participants.

With the expansion of the program to include 6th grade students, there will be increased emphasis and activities related to developing leadership skills and preventing risky behaviors for the older children, as well as leadership and global literacy thematic instruction for children in grades 1-5.

**FOCUS**

Several Community Connections participants take part in a photography class instructed by professional photographer Andrew Pippa, who has helped them learn about photo composition, lighting and basic camera operation. The class has visited and photographed West Haven landmarks and well-known buildings, the shoreline, the Green and other locations. Many of those photographs taken by the clients grace the pages of this report.

“I feel that everyone has doors to open in their lives. Unfortunately many do not get the opportunity. I hope that I was able to help these beautiful people open at least one door in their lives through photography.”

Andrew Pippa, WHCH Volunteer photography instructor

Rose, a client in the WHCH Residential Services program, takes a look through a submarine periscope at a visit to the U.S. Naval Sub Base in Groton, CT. The program focuses on providing community integration opportunities for participants, along with life skills, socialization and recreational experiences.
Services for Adults with Disabilities

**Community Connections** enables adults with developmental disabilities to participate in vocational and social activities that increase independence and enhance community integration. The day service option offers group and individual recreation, socialization, music, arts, and physical recreation. Group supported and individual employment services allow participants to work and earn wages for themselves. The program serves adults age 21 and older, referred by the CT Department of Developmental Services.

**FOCUS**
In addition to photography, Community Connections participants enjoy exposure to a variety of arts, including movement and dance classes that help with balance, coordination, and self-expression. Others enjoy painting and have had their work displayed at the New Haven café, Kasbah Gardens. "I was very happy to see my painting hanging in the café." Community Connections artist, Yolanda.

**Residential Services** allows adults with developmental and other disabilities to experience independent living within a safe, structured home environment appropriate to their needs and desires. The Community House operates two state-licensed group homes and five continuous residential support apartments in West Haven. 2009 marked the 25th anniversary of the Residential Services program. Services are available for adults 21 and older referred by the CT Department of Developmental Services.

**FOCUS**
Many residents continue to participate in the Work Out Club for indoor and outdoor exercise, as well as learning about good nutrition and making healthy food choices. Since many of the medications our residents must take wreak havoc with appetites and weight, the focus on fitness and nutrition is important and has paid off with several residents losing weight and increasing their fitness level in the two years of taking part in the Work Out Club.

Residents also express their wishes for recreational activities and trips. Program staff plan as many activities as possible to meet the needs and interests of the residents. A highlight of the summer was a long weekend trip to Martha’s Vineyard, MA for a group of five, where they enjoyed ocean breezes, tasty seafood, and the relaxation and beauty the island offers to all.
Individual Donations

$1,000 - $4,999
Sharon A. Martin
Robert S. Meissner
Carole Porto

$500 - $999
Colin Aiken
Brian F. Banning
William C. Lang
Mary Jane Morrissey
Stacie L. Phan
Celia Pinzi

$250 - $499
Richard S. Bruno
Joel B. Casey
Father Joseph R Cronin
Anne M. Dorsi
Patricia Esposito
Mark A. Healey
Grace R. Hendricks
Mike Lengle
Dr. Steven B. Morrow, DC
John F. Onofrio
Linda Rentz
Eugene F. Sullivan
Dominic F. Vinci
Robert R. Walker

$100 - $249
Blanche B. Baldwin
Violet Bornemann
Gail S. Burns
Robert J. Capozzi
Joyce Collucci
Anthony Cordone
William V. Coughlin
Katherine P. DeSanti
John J. Doody
Kenneth P. Doolittle
Richard Fontana Jr
Dominic Francese
Mark J. Glassman
Patricia Herbert
Mr. & Mrs. David C. Hotchkiss
Bernice P. Kaercher
Jill Karajanis
Arthur J. Kelly Jr
Maureen F. Klein
Betsy P. McCarthy
Molly A. McCarthy
Frank Meyer
Cheryl Milano
Paul Oberempt
James M. Peccerillo
Dale J. Pegler
Stanley F. Pliszka III
Ann Marie Prattson
Kenneth S. Prisco
Ronald M. Quagliani
Dorothy K. Reynolds
Nancy Rossi
Rosemarie Sayers
James Shanbrom
Ronald G. Siedlecki
Edward N. Silver
Mary C. Ulliani
John A. Vinci
David M. Yaffe

$50 - $99
Harry E. Brown
Regina D. Brown
Judge Guido Calabresi
Richard C. Chamberlin, Jr.
Fredrick I. Charles II
Ramona Cortese
Richard P. Dargan
Dorice Farrell
John T. Gradon

$1 - $49
Mildred L. Acker
Rose A. Alarcon
Sharon A. Amato
Louis Asard
Charles P. Asarisi, Jr.
Joseph L. Bacciochi, Jr.
Craig Bradley
Una I. Burns
Richard Castle-Walsh
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest R. Chiarelli
Maureen Coughlin
Michael R. DePalma
Jane Dexter
Phyllis DiNello
Lois M. Doerr
Lois K. Feldman
Janice L. Fournier
Mary Lou Fournier
Janice R. Frank
James T. Gallucci
Norma C. Gianfrede
Andrew J. Giaquinto, Jr.
David Johnson
Hank Katten
Janet T. Lucente
Edward J. McKeon, Jr.
Fred A. Messere
Ann C. Mills
Josephine L. Passariello
Ron Pisani
Val J. Porteses
Marion J. Smith
Rajesh R. Tampi, MS
Paul N. Weber

West Haven Community House
## Business + Organizational Donations

### Over $10,000
- United Way of Greater New Haven

### $2,500 – $4,999
- Bayer Health Care

### $1,000 – $2,499
- Barker Steel
- DeGennaro Auto & Truck
- Sam’s Club
- Target Stores
- Webster Bank

### $500 – $999
- Berchem, Moses & Devlin, PC
- City Point Construction Company
- Cordone & Son General Contractors
- David McDermott Auto Group
- Dimeo Construction Co.
- Great Harbor Gallery LLC
- Leslie Jewelers
- The George Ellis Co., Inc.
- Walmart
- West Haven Rotary Fund
- Winkle Bus Co, Inc

### $250 – $499
- Alpha Carpet
- Aschettino Associates Structural Engineers
- Beardsley, Brown & Bassett Charli’s Cupcake Factory, LLC
- Cordone & Tonucci
- Donahue, Votto, DeGennaro & Dorsi
- Friends of John Picard
- Healey Properties, LLC
- Letizia, Ambrose & Falls
- Litchfield Builders, Inc
- Milano & Wanat, LLC

### $100 – $249
- Charles Chamberlin ‘A’ Fund
- Client Server Technology, Inc
- Connecticut Pest Elimination Inc
- George Ellis Company
- Keenan Funeral Home
- Luanci Construction
- MBR Enterprises, LLC
- Musco Engineering Assoc
- Mutual of America
- North End Hose Co. #3
- Notre Dame High School

### $1 – $99
- City TV & Appliance
- Tracey Energy Svcs

## In Kind Donors

### Individuals
- Andrew Pippa
- Betsy McCarthy
- Colleen Marcello
- Colin Aiken
- Frank Samuelson
- Grace Hendricks
- Jill & John Karajanis
- Joel & Kara Casey
- Katie Heffeman
- Ken Cox
- Michael James
- Cheryl Milano
- Michael Morales
- Stacie Phan
- Stan Piszka
- Nancy Skerritt
- Nick Pascale
- Ron Stancil

### Businesses
- Andre Phillips Salon
- Barker Specialty Co.
- Barnes & Noble
- Best Buy
- Blue Sky Nails
- Bradford Renaissance Portraits
- Bridgeport Arena at Harbor Yard
- CT Diaper Bank
- Cosmo’s Food Products
- Duffy’s Tavern
- Dunkin Donuts
- El Torero Restaurant
- Entenmann’s Bakery
- Foundation for Wellness Professionals
- Giaquinto’s Deli
- Hair Associates
- Hair by Nina
- Inner Essence Spa
- Leslie Jewelers
- Lorenzo’s Restaurant
- Marino’s Deli
- McDonald’s of West Haven
- Milano & Wanat
- Mohegan Sun Casino
- North End Hose Co.
- WH Fire Explorers Post #3
- Our Lady of Victory Church
- Seabreeze Café
- Seacrest Retirement Center

### Foundation, Government + Combined Appeal Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archdiocese of Hartford (Archbishop’s Appeal)</td>
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<td>Community Foundation for Greater New Haven</td>
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<td>CT Dept of Education</td>
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<td>CT Dept of Social Service</td>
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<td>NewAlliance Foundation</td>
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<td>US Dept of Agriculture</td>
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<td>US Dept of Health &amp; Human Services</td>
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<td>US Dept of Labor</td>
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<td>United Way of Greater New Haven</td>
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<td>WalMart</td>
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<td>West Haven Family Resource Center</td>
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<td>West Haven Community Development Administration</td>
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<td>West Haven School Readiness</td>
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<td>Webster Bank</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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**C E L E B R A T I N G 7 0 Y E A R S O F F O C U S I N G O N O U R W E S T H A V E N C O M M U N I T Y**
United Way Donor Designated Gifts

$1,000 and Over
Gerald F. Bonini
Kathleen Hendricks
Honorable John M. Picard
Tara Picard
Mary F. Proto

$500 – $999
Frank Meyer
Kevin Parker
Patricia W. Stevens

$250 – $499
James T. Burns, Jr.
Debbie Capodilupo
John J. Carroll
Dorothy Chambrelli
Philip Crawford
Richard Garcia
James Glasper
Harold L. Grey
Nicole Hammill
Marcella J. Hotchkiss
Cynthia Latella
Mary L. Malenda
Michael Mattielo
Kerri A. McCarty
Mary S. Pierpont
Linda Rentz
Colleen G. Robinson
Donald H. Robinson, Jr.
Gayle Tagliatela
Barry J. Vine
Deborah Wright

$100 – $249
Teresa B. Adams
Rose Alarcon
Thomas Barnes
Paul Bauer

$10 – $99
Tamila M. Bass
Elaine P. Blosick
Chaylynnne Brooks
Celia J. Brown
Albert Calandro, Jr.
Cathy Calhoun
Iyonna Carter
Jennifer Cavallaro
Michelle D. Cofield
Zandra C. Compton
Barbara A. Conroy
Joseph DeCarlo, III.
Diane DeFrancesco

Patricia A. Dematteo
Theresa DiMeglio
Lisa M. Dunn
Georgene Fasanella
Carolyn Galasso
Pauline Gary
Venita Godfrey
Walter A. Grey
Jessica Guilianello
John L. Hayward
Katie M. Heffernan
Gwen Henderson
Patricia Howard
Diana Hoyt
Morgan James
Theresa T. Kovacs
Cindy Leyerzapf
Katherine Massaro
Consquella McFadden
Linyan Mei

Tomas A. Miranda
Sharon Mitchell
Cherylann Natale
Jason Newton
Carol Pellico
Allison Pittman
Thomas W. Prete
Ronald E. Quintanilla
Seyue Roesler
Mary C. Rolfe-Hickman
Gabriela Sacchi
Michael Salzo
Cynthia M. Scully
Sakasha Taylor
Iris Vazquez
Donna Walsh
Jessica Wasgatt
Edward G. Weller
Darla J. West
Endowment Funds

In Memory/Honor of
Bill Burns
West Haven Community House Board of Directors
Bernice P. Kaercher
William C. Lang
Sharon A. Martin
Patricia W. Stevens

In Memory/Honor of
Bob Ursini
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Parker
Patricia W. Stevens

In Memory/Honor of
Clifford Altschuler
William C. Lang

In Memory/Honor of
Joann Eagan
Bernice P. Kaercher

In Memory/Honor of
Mrs. Sullivan
Bernice P. Kaercher

In Memory/Honor of
Ralph Paolillo
William C. Lang
Patricia W. Stevens

Helen Pinzi Fund
In Memory/Honor of
Nello Pinzi
Sandra Arminio
Vera G. Avery
Gertrude D. Beckwith
Joan Bombassei
Albert A. Capasso
Thomas V. Capobianco
Nadyne S. Capone
John F. Cascio
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Jane W. Chamberlin
Joyce Collucci
Maria J. Conte
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Jeanne M. DeAngelo
Robert F. DeFonce
Samuel P. Degennaro
Martin DeGrand
Ann H. Dicerbo
Gail DiReinzo
Karen T. Doyle
Mary M. Doyle
Susanne Duffy
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Beverly C. Ferrie
James E. Fischer
Linda A. Foley
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Gary F. Gilbert
Jack E. Glagowski
Joseph Glynn
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Jeffery K. Hennessey
Katherine Jennette
Bernice P. Kaercher
Leslie M. Keeler
William C. Lang
David H. Locklin
Daniel A. Lyons, Jr.
Sharon A. Martin
Joseph M. Mattei
Melissa Melin- Miles
James A. Mengacci
Cheryl Milano
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Anthony J. Nicoletti
Patricia Ottenbreit
Frank J. Pagogna
T. Joan Pepe
Connie Sacco
Josephine Smetki
Brian F. Smith
Patricia W. Stevens
Judith E. Sugarman
Jessie A. Terrasi
M. Welch

N. Thomas Williams
Melissa Wunder
Cornell Memorial, Inc.
CT Funeral Directors Assoc., Inc.
D’Esopo Funeral Chapel, Inc.
Edward Lawrence Funeral Home, Inc.
Pitsey Funeral Home, Inc.
Rowe Funeral Home
Sisk Brothers, Inc.
West Haven Community House Board of Directors
Abriola Parkview Funeral Home, LLC
CT Funeral Supply
Flomax
Guilford Funeral Home
Lee-Steens
Enfield Chapels

John C. Ireland Fund
In Memory/Honor of
Dodie Ireland
Brian J. Elliott

Mary Jane Kelly Fund
In Memory/Honor of
Mary Jane Kelly
Arthur J. Kelly, Jr.
Mary Jane Morrissey

Scott Merriam Fund
In Memory/Honor of
Scott Merriam
Jeffrey M. Postman

West Haven Lumber Fund
In Honor of
James Shanbrom
James Shanbrom
Our Volunteers + Interns

Rose Alarcon  
Evin Alvarez  
Penny Beauchemin, RN, NCSN  
Walter Boren  
Bill Brennig  
Caroline Bush  
Jenna Camputaro  
Iris Castillo  
Tanya Charles  
Simeon Cole  
Christine Dela Cueva  
Joanne Greatsinger  
Gwen Grosso, RDH, MS  
Cinque Hall  
Nikia Haywood  
Bill Heffernan III  
Caroline Hotchkiss  
Dave Hotchkiss  
David Hotchkiss  
Stephen Hotchkiss  
Larry Inge  
Carol James  
Morgan James  
Merrily Kaplan  
Carly Karajanis  
Jill Karajanis  
Melina Karajanis  
Tristan Karajanis  
Sumiya Khan, RD  
Donna Kosirowksi, RN  
Cindy Leyerzapf  
Ryan Leyerzapf  
Lisa Lozano  
Jody Maldonado  
Chris Mazzacane  
Betsy McCarthy  
Brian McLaughlin  
Keri McLaughlin  
Cheryl Milano  
Peter Milano  
Jessica Perez  
John Picard  
Stan Pliszka  
Linda Rentz  
Ashley Sailer  
Michelle Silva  
Thomas Sledge  
Ardisa Smalls, RDH  
SCSU Recreation & Leisure Class  

Interns  
Elizabeth Keliar  
Ruth Senecharles

Financials

Our Revenues at a Glance*  
Government Grants + Contracts 68%  
Fees for Service 25%  
Room + Board/Rent 3%  
Contributions 1%  
Foundations + Combined Appeals 1%  
Fundraising 1%  
Other 1%  

Revenues  
Government Grants + Contracts $4,491,739  
Fees for Service $1,526,958  
Foundations + Combined Appeals $101,144  
Room + Board/Rent $168,170  
Contributions $92,753  
Fundraising $68,094  
Other $38,749  
Total $6,487,608

Expenses  
Children + Youth $3,143,843  
Adults with Developmental Disabilities $2,841,320  
Unallocated General + Administrative $77,009  
Fund-raising $86,524  
Total $6,148,696  
Depreciation $250,725  
Increase / (Decrease) in Net Assets $88,187

* unaudited
You can help the West Haven Community House earn thousands in grant funds through the giveGreater.org 2010 Challenge.

DONATE ONLINE BY DECEMBER 31

The West Haven Community House is taking part in a fundraising challenge sponsored by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven and its giveGreater.org online giving and knowledge tool. The challenge runs through December 31, 2010.

To be eligible for grants of at least $3,000, we need at least 50 people to make a minimum $50 donation through the giveGreater.org Challenge. The more donations we receive the better our chances of winning a grant award.

Please consider making a gift that will mean even more this year!

Just visit us on www.whcommunityhouse.org and click on the giveGreater.org 2010 Challenge button. The website contains comprehensive profiles of nonprofits like the Community House so you can give with greater knowledge and confidence.
A GREENER WAY TO DONATE!

Eco 2 Deco Furniture and Architectural Home Finishing will remove and re-sell your pre-owned cabinets and fixtures and donate a portion of the proceeds to the West Haven Community House.

Call 203.799.3326 or visit www.eco2deco.com for details.