

Dream Homes Community Center

To: Mayor Mark Boughton and the Common Council
From: Rev. Phyllis J. Leopold
Re: July 2010 monthly report

I. Program Synopsis

Per the proposal endorsed by Mayor Boughton and the Common Council, Dream Homes Community Center (DHCC) was established to serve as the Point of Entry for people who are homeless or low-income renters and to facilitate first time home ownership for people with hard to serve backgrounds.

II. Point of Entry

The fiscal year at ARC began on July 1 and we provided services to **72 people** this month: over twice as many as in July 2009. One July 2010 highlight involves a person I will call “Margaret,” referred to us by the Women’s Center of Greater Danbury.

For 6 years, Margaret was homeless off and on and she was also incarcerated. While waiting to get into a Hartford residential program, she was brutally attacked and raped by someone from the local shelter. After being released from the hospital, Margaret decided she wanted to get out of the shelter system and try to make it on her own.

When she first came to the Point of Entry, Margaret had just started a part-time job: working at least 30 hours a week. But at minimum wage, she did not have ample income to support even a small studio apartment. Yet she was determined to move into an apartment before her time was up at the Women’s Center shelter.

Despite many challenges, Margaret kept at it. Within a month of first coming to ARC, she had two part-time jobs and was now working 50 hours a week -- sometimes more. Although Margaret now qualified for ARC’s Security Deposit funding from HPRP (Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program), she needed continued Case Management to find an affordable apartment.

We linked Margaret to a landlord with a vacant studio for \$750, including utilities. Since the landlord had previous success with our clients, the landlord agreed to let Margaret move into the apartment early upon written confirmation that ARC would pay the Security Deposit. The confirmation was gladly provided. On July 1: Margaret moved into the studio. She was greeted by ARC staff with an *ARC Angel Welcome Basket* filled with \$200 of cleaning items, kitchen supplies, toiletries, towels, and fresh sheets and pillows.

After living through 6 years of housing instability, incarceration, and rape, Margaret is proud she got out of the shelter system and that she now has – “a place to call home.”

III. Outreach

Interfaith Peace Camp – Seven parents and guardians who have been assisted by the Point of Entry and who have financial hardship or are unemployed and have children ages 9 to 12 were personally invited to enroll their children in Interfaith Peace Camp, free of charge.

The camp took place July 19 to 24 and engaged 35 participants from many faith based communities and non-profit agencies. Participants included: 2 co-directors, 23 children and youth, and 10 volunteers from 5 sacred sites (Buddhist Temple, Jewish Synagogue, Islamic Masjid, Christian Church, and Native American).

Waiving the \$65 Registration fee for households with unemployment or financial hardship was made possible by a fundraising reception which ARC held on June 28 at Tarrywile Mansion honoring the 25 Year Ordination Anniversaries of ARC Executive Director, Rev. Phyllis J. Leopold, and ARC Board Member, Rev. Sue Spencer.

IV. Program Development

Danbury Housing Partnership – Social & Supportive Services Sub-Committee – Met Wednesday July 7 at 11 am at the Danbury City Hall. Five people were present: Denise Valeri (Chairperson), Milena Sangut (WCMHN), Sue Zaborowski (COD), Nikki Singer (ARC) and Michele Condorino (HOT). A plan was outlined for creating a 6-bed transitional housing program for people ages 18 to 25. The idea will be taken to the Danbury Housing Partnership.

Danbury Continuum of Care – Met Tuesday June 13 at the Danbury City Hall. Eleven people were present: Milena Sangut (WCMHN), Nikki Singer (ARC), Michele Condorino (HOT), Dawn Wilson (MCCA), Gladys McFarland (Amos House), Arthur Gomez (CACD), Denise Valeri, Carina deCarvalho, (CHD-Pilots), Tanya Bingham (Danbury Vet Center), Sue Zaborowski (COD) and Eileen Walsch (NOW).

Nikki Singer and Eileen Walsch provided an update on Housing First for Families (HFF), a new program that coincides with HPRP and provides housing search and placement services for families who are moving out of a shelter or are doubled up.

The COC revisited a decision on the use of new funding from HUD (approximately \$80,000) where it had been decided to designate all funding for “lease only vouchers.” Since the HUD funding can also be used to provide rental subsidies or “services” to people who are homeless, Nikki Singer advocated for the balance of funds (only \$3,500 per year for 2 years) be made available to the Point of Entry: to provide Case Management for people being housed. The COC voted not to change the previous decision. The entire \$80,000 grant will be designated for lease-only vouchers.

HPRP Screening Committee – Met on Tuesday July 13, at 10 am at Community Action Committee of Danbury (CACD). Nikki Singer (ARC), Vestina Rankin (CACD), and Eileen Walsch (NOW) were present.

Neither CACD nor NOW had any new cases to be screened. Nikki Singer presented 4 new cases from the Point of Entry:

Two applicants are single men in need of Security Deposits and both applications were approved. Another applicant is a single mother with two children, living between her father’s and her cousin’s home, and her application for Security Deposit was approved. The fourth application was from a single woman and it was denied because the committee felt she had adequate resources to pay her own security deposit.

This screening brings the total number of cases awarded HPRP funding through ARC to **35**.

V. HMIS Report – 07/01/10 – 07/22/10

Entry/Exit Report

Report Options:

Provider ▼

This provider AND its children. This provider ONLY.

Entry/Exit Type ▼

Operating Year Date Range to (mm/dd/yyyy)

Legal Adult Age (as defined by foster care law in your state)

Or

▼

*** The numbers generated by this HUD report may not be valid for Federal funding purposes unless the report is run by an Agency Administrator or Executive Director.**

2. Persons Served during the operating year.	Number of Singles Not in Families	Number of Adults in Families	Number of Children in Families	Number of Families
a. Number on the first day of the	17	9	12	8

operating year.				
b. Number entering program during the operating year.	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	6
c. Number who left the program during the operating year.	<u>3</u>	0	0	0
d. Number in the program on the last day of the operating year. (a+b-c=d)	22	19	23	14
3. Project Capacity.	Number of Singles Not in Families	Number of Adults in Families	Number of Children in Families	Number of Families
a. Number on last day (from 2d, columns 1 and 4)	22			14
4. Non-homeless persons. (Sec. 8 SRO projects only)				
How many income-eligible non-homeless persons were housed by the SRO program during the operating year?				<u>40</u>
5. Age and Gender. Of those who entered during the operating year, how many people are in the following age and gender categories?				
	Age	Male	Female	Other/Not given
Single Persons (from 2b, column 1)	a. 62 and over	0	0	0
	b. 51 - 61	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	0
	c. 31 - 50	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	0
	d. 18 - 30	<u>1</u>	0	0
	e. 17 and under	0	0	0
	Not given	0	0	0
Persons in Families (from 2b, columns 2 & 3)	f. 62 and over	0	0	0
	g. 51 - 61	0	0	0
	h. 31 - 50	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	0
	i. 18 - 30	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	0
	j. 13 - 17	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	0
	k. 6 - 12	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	0
	l. 1 - 5	0	<u>2</u>	0
	m. Under 1	0	0	0
	Not given	0	0	0
6 - 10. Participants who entered during the operating year.				
6a. Veterans Status.				
A veteran is anyone who has ever been on active military duty status.				<u>3</u>
6b. Chronically Homeless.				
How many participants were chronically homeless individuals?				0
7. Ethnicity.				
a. Hispanic or Latino				<u>3</u>
b. Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino				<u>15</u>
8. Race.				
a. American Indian or Alaskan Native				0
b. Asian				0

c. Black or African American					6
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander					0
e. White					9
f. American Indian/Alaskan Native & White					0
g. Asian & White					0
h. Black/African American & White					0
i. American Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American					0
j. Other Multi-Racial					0
k. Other/Unknown (all that do not match)					3
9a. Special Needs.					
		All		Chronic	
a. Mental illness		1		0	
b. Alcohol abuse		0		0	
c. Drug abuse		0		0	
d. HIV/AIDS or related diseases		0		0	
e. Developmental disability		0		0	
f. Physical disability		2		0	
g. Domestic violence		4		0	
h. Other (please specify)		0		0	
9b. Disabled.					
How many of the participants are disabled?					2
10. Prior Living Situation. Participants slept in the following places the week prior to entering.					
		All		Chronic	
a. Non-housing (street, park, car, bus station, etc.)		1		0	
b. Emergency shelter		2		0	
c. Transitional housing for homeless persons		0			
d. Psychiatric facility		0			
e. Substance abuse treatment facility		0			
f. Hospital		0			
g. Jail/prison		0			
h. Domestic violence situation		0			
i. Living with relatives/friends		10			
j. Rental housing		1			
k. Other (please specify)		4			
11. Amount and Source of Monthly Income at Entry and Exit. Participants who left during the operating year.					
Amount		A. Monthly Income at Entry		B. Monthly Income at Exit	
		All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. No Income		1	0	1	0
b. \$1-150		0	0	0	0
c. \$151 - \$250		0	0	0	0
d. \$251 - \$500		0	0	0	0

e. \$501 - \$1000	<u>1</u>	0	<u>1</u>	0
f. \$1001 - \$1500	0	0	0	0
g. \$1501 - \$2000	<u>1</u>	0	<u>1</u>	0
h. \$2000 +	0	0	0	0
Source	C. Income Sources at Entry		D. Income Sources at Exit	
	All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	0	0	0	0
b. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	0	0	0	0
c. Social Security	0	0	0	0
d. General Public Assistance	0	0	0	0
e. Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)	0	0	0	0
f. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	0	0	0	0
g. Veterans benefits	0	0	0	0
h. Employment Income	<u>2</u>	0	<u>2</u>	0
i. Unemployment Benefits	0	0	0	0
j. Veteran's Health Care	0	0	0	0
k. Medicaid	0	0	<u>1</u>	0
l. Food Stamps	0	0	0	0
m. Other (please specify)	<u>1</u>	0	<u>1</u>	0
n. No financial resources	<u>1</u>	0	<u>1</u>	0
12a. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who left during the operating year.				
	All	Chronic		
a. Less than 1 month	<u>2</u>	0		
b. 1 to 2 months	<u>1</u>	0		
c. 3 - 6 months	0	0		
d. 7 months - 12 months	0	0		
e. 13 months - 24 months	0	0		
f. 25 months - 3 years	0	0		
g. 4 years - 5 years	0	0		
h. 6 years - 7 years	0	0		
i. 8 years - 10 years	0	0		
j. over 10 years	0	0		
12b. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who did not leave during the operating year.				
	All	Chronic		
a. Less than 1 month	<u>20</u>	0		
b. 1 to 2 months	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>		
c. 3 - 6 months	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>		
d. 7 months - 12 months	<u>2</u>	0		
e. 13 months - 24 months	0	0		
f. 25 months - 3 years	0	0		
g. 4 years - 5 years	0	0		
h. 6 years - 7 years	0	0		

i. 8 years - 10 years	0	0
j. over 10 years	0	0
13. Reasons for Leaving. Participants who left during the operating year.		
	All	Chronic
a. Left for a housing opportunity before completing program	0	0
b. Completed program	2	0
c. Non-payment of rent/occupancy charge	0	0
d. Non-compliance with project	0	0
e. Criminal activity / destruction of property / violence	0	0
f. Reached maximum time allowed in project	0	0
g. Needs could not be met by project	1	0
h. Disagreement with rules/persons	0	0
i. Death	0	0
j. Other (please specify)	0	0
k. Unknown/disappeared	0	0
14. Destination. Participants who left during the operating year.		
	All	Chronic
PERMANENT (a - h)		
a. Rental house or apartment (no subsidy)	1	0
b. Public Housing	0	0
c. Section 8	0	0
d. Shelter Plus Care	0	0
e. HOME subsidized house or apartment	0	0
f. Other subsidized house or apartment	0	0
g. Homeownership	0	0
h. Moved in with family or friends	0	0
TRANSITIONAL (i - j)		
i. Transitional housing for homeless persons	0	0
j. Moved in with family or friends	1	0
INSTITUTION (k - m)		
k. Psychiatric hospital	0	0
l. Inpatient alcohol/drug treatment facility	0	0
m. Jail/prison	0	0
EMERGENCY SHELTER (n)		
n. Emergency shelter	1	0
OTHER (o - q)		
o. Other supportive housing	0	0
p. Places not meant for human habitation (e.g. street)	0	0
q. Other (please specify)	0	0
UNKNOWN		
r. Unknown	0	0
15. Supportive Services. Participants who left during the operating year.		
No supportive services found.		