

Dream Homes Community Center

To: Mayor Mark Boughton and the Common Council

From: Nikki Singer, Homeless and Housing Advocate

Re: December 2011 Monthly Report

cc: ARC Executive Director, ARC Board of Directors, and
DHCC Consultant/Jean Bowen

I. Program Synopsis

Per the proposal endorsed by Mayor Boughton and the Common Council, Dream Homes Community Center (DHCC) was established at ARC 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. Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program

In 2009 ARC secured a grant which is bringing **\$205,632 to the Danbury area**, over 3 years, through the stimulus program called “Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing” (**HPRP**): to help end and prevent homelessness for the people of Danbury by providing financial assistance through *security deposits, rental assistance, motel vouchers, and moving or storage costs*.

Since October 2009, we have provided a total of **\$49,740** in grants to end homelessness for **23 individuals** and **13 families** and **\$82,000** in grants to prevent homelessness for **41 individuals** and **41 families**.

In December 2011, we provided **\$12,385** in HPRP grants to **5 families**. Some of the financial highlights of the HPRP grants that were awarded this month:

Re-Housing:

- **\$1,350 Security Deposit** – for a single mother and her daughter, living in Harmony House, to secure permanent housing after being homeless for one year. This family also received **\$900 for their first month's rent**

Homelessness Prevention:

- **\$1,200 Security Deposit** – for a mother with 4 children, who was evicted from her apartment when her husband moved out, to secure a more affordable apartment. This family also received **\$900 toward the first month's rent**
- **\$1,150 Security Deposit** – for a mother with 1 child, who could not afford her apartment after her husband moved out, to secure a more affordable apartment. This family also received **\$1,500 toward the first month's rent**
- **\$790 Security Deposit** – for a grandmother and her two granddaughters; who had to move because their home was foreclosed on. The family also received **\$945** to cover moving expenses
- **\$4,000 Back Rent Assistance** – for a family of 4 to remain in their apartment, the family fell behind in rent when both parents were laid off. Both parents are now working again.

III. Point of Entry

From July 1, 2011 until December 26, 2011, DHCC has provided services to **443 people (100 families with children and 131 adults without children)** through the Point of Entry at ARC. The following is a breakdown of people served, by towns within the Greater Danbury Area:

Town	July 2009 – June 2010	July 2010 – June 2011	July 1 – November 23, 2011
Danbury	552	535	311
Bethel	61	39	10
Brookfield	9	38	7
New Fairfield	22	25	16
New Milford	67	81	45
Newtown	11	17	3
Redding	3	6	1
Ridgefield	12	9	2
Sherman	3	6	2
Other Towns	15	78	46
Total	737	834	443

IV. Program Highlights

Highlights – Story of one family we provided Housing Advocacy services to (names changed):

Rachel and her daughter were staying at the family shelter, Harmony House, in November 2011. They had been homeless since January 2011, moving around to different shelters. They became homeless after Rachel's mother and son passed away, and she was unable to maintain employment due to emotional stress. Her daughter's father has passed away several years ago, and Rachel has little financial or emotional support from his family.

Rachel was referred to the Dream Homes Community Center by the shelter staff to explore her options for permanent housing. She is originally from the Danbury area and had been able to secure employment through a home-care nursing agency.

When Rachel met with Dream Homes's Homeless & Housing Advocate, they identified budgeting as a key area Rachel needed support in. The income from her job would be able to cover a rental provided she carefully managed her money. She was enrolled in Housing First for Families (**HFF**), a case management program which provides additional follow up support to families once they have been housed. She also completed an application for the Homeless Prevention and Re-Housing Program (**HPRP**) to get financial assistance with a security deposit and her first month's rent.

The Homeless & Housing Advocate suggested that Rachel attend the Danbury Project Homeless Connect so Rachel could meet with other organizations that may be able to provide counseling and support to Rachel and her daughter. At the event, the Homeless & Housing Advocate introduced Rachel to a local landlord who had previously partnered with Dream Homes to identify safe and affordable apartments for families in shelter. The landlord had a two-bedroom available in a quiet area, and agreed to show Rachel the apartment that weekend.

The following week, the Homeless & Housing Advocate met with the landlord about the apartment, which Rachel was very interested in. The landlord agreed to rent the apartment to Rachel in consideration that Dream Homes would continue to work with the family to maintain a budget and increase their income stability. The landlord also agreed to lower the rent from \$950 per month to \$900. Rachel was approved through Dream Homes to receive a grant of **\$1,350** for the security deposit and to have her first month's rent of **\$900** paid through HPRP. She signed her lease before Christmas and plans to move in by New Year's Eve.

Once the family moves into their new home, they will receive an "ARC Angel" Welcome Basket (valued at \$150), filled with cleaning supplies and personal care items. Rachel will continue to receive case management to maintain her budget and strengthen her support system in the community.

v. **HMIS Report** – Dream Homes December 1 - 23, 2011

Entry/Exit Report				
Report Options:				
Provider	Dream Homes Community Center (#330)			
	<input type="radio"/> This provider AND its children. <input checked="" type="radio"/> This provider ONLY.			
Entry/Exit Type	HUD-40118			
Operating Year Date Range	12/01/2011 to 12/27/2011 (mm/dd/yyyy)			
Legal Adult Age	18 (as defined by foster care law in your state)			
Or				
<input type="text" value="-Select-"/>				
* 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 operating year.	4	5	3	3
b. Number entering program during the operating year.	7	1	1	1
c. Number who left the program during the operating year.	4	1	1	1
d. Number in the program on the last day of the operating year. (a+b-c=d)	7	5	3	3
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)	7			3
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?				15
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	1	0	0
	c. 31 - 50	3	1	0
	d. 18 - 30	0	2	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	0	1	0
	i. 18 - 30	0	0	0
	j. 13 - 17	0	0	0
	k. 6 - 12	0	0	0
	l. 1 - 5	0	1	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.				2
6b. Chronically Homeless.				
How many participants were chronically homeless individuals?				4
7. Ethnicity.				
a. Hispanic or Latino				0
b. Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino				8
8. Race.				
a. American Indian or Alaskan Native				0
b. Asian				0
c. Black or African American				2
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander				0
e. White				6
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)				0
9a. Special Needs.				
			All	Chronic
a. Mental illness			3	2
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	0	0		
g. Domestic violence	2	1		
h. Other (please specify)	0	0		
9b. Disabled.				
How many of the participants are disabled?		3		
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.)	0	0		
b. Emergency shelter	4	3		
c. Transitional housing for homeless persons	1			
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	2			
j. Rental housing	0			
k. Other (please specify)	1			
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	1	1	1	1
d. \$251 - \$500	1	1	1	1
e. \$501 - \$1000	1	0	1	0
f. \$1001 - \$1500	0	0	0	0
g. \$1501 - \$2000	0	0	0	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)	1	1	1	1
f. State Children's Health Insurance Program	0	0	0	0

(SCHIP)				
g. Veterans benefits	0	0	0	0
h. Employment Income	1	0	1	0
i. Unemployment Benefits	0	0	0	0
j. Veteran's Health Care	0	0	0	0
k. Medicaid	2	2	2	2
l. Food Stamps	4	3	4	3
m. Other (please specify)	1	1	1	1
n. No financial resources	2	1	2	1
12a. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who left during the operating year.				
		All	Chronic	
a. Less than 1 month		5	3	
b. 1 to 2 months		0	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		5	2	
b. 1 to 2 months		7	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	
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			3	2
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			0	0

h. Disagreement with rules/persons		1	1
i. Death		0	0
j. Other (please specify)		0	0
k. Unknown/disappeared		1	0
14. Destination. Participants who left during the operating year.			
		All	Chronic
PERMANENT (a - h)	a. Rental house or apartment (no subsidy)	0	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	0	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	2	2
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)	1	0
UNKNOWN	r. Unknown	2	1
15. Supportive Services. Participants who left during the operating year.			
No supportive services found.			