

Dream Homes Community Center

To: Mayor Mark Boughton and the Common Council
From: Rev. Phyllis J. Leopold
Re: November 24, 2009
Cc: Jean Bowen, Nikki Singer, Millie Perez, and ARC Board

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

One highlight of the month comes out of collaborating with Homes for Heroes, on a client whom I'll call Jim. This is his story:

Jim has been homeless for a little over a year. He has bounced back and forth between friends' houses, lived in the back of his van, and most recently has been living in the back of a friend's store.

Jim has had his own business for twenty years but his line of work is becoming obsolete. Despite being in his late sixties with a heart condition that requires a full list of medications, he still insists on trying to work whenever he has the opportunity. That opportunity is becoming more and more rare.

Jim receives a small social security check each month and utilizes his VA health care to get his medications. Jim first came into ARC in early October. He has been regularly meeting with DHCC Housing Advocate & Case Manager, Nikki Singer, to find out about new opportunities. Each time they meet, he is optimistic that the next job opportunity will be his chance to get back on his feet and to get some stability in his life.

When the Homes for Heroes program was ready to begin taking applications for their new transitional housing program on New Street, Jim was at the top of our list of candidates to refer.

He applied as a permanent tenant in the house early in November and continues to keep in contact with ARC to update us on his progress. His application is currently being reviewed.

The collaboration process has gone very well and we are hopeful the new opportunity will end homelessness for Jim.

III. Supportive Housing/Rentals and Home Ownership

Homes for Heroes – Homes for Heroes and the Non-profit Development Corporation have completed their renovation for permanent and transitional units for Veterans on New Street. DHCC has met with agencies funding and providing case management to the residents, on October 19 and October 23. We are developing criteria in collaboration with MCCA, the Veterans Administration and the Homes for Heroes Project Manager to identify and screen appropriate individuals for the program. We interviewed the first candidate this month.

First Time Home Ownership -- Two individuals have requested information and resources to become homeowners. Appropriate referrals have been made for financing assessment and advice on tax implications.

IV. Outreach & Program Development

Danbury Continuum of Care -- DHCC Case Manager & Housing Advocate participated in the November meeting, held at City Hall. Update was provided on HPRP financial assistance.

HMIS Screening – DHCC Case Manager & Housing Advocate participated in the first HMIS screening, held November 4th. 10 Homelessness Prevention & Rapid rehousing Program (HPRP) applicants were reviewed for financial assistance. Of the 10 applicants, 8 were approved – 4 families, 4 individuals totaling \$5,215.36. These funds helped with storage & moving costs, security deposits and back rent.

Danbury HPRP – DHCC Case Manager & Housing Advocate participated in a state-wide coordinators meeting, held November 13th at the CT Hospital Association in Wallingford, CT. The purpose of the meeting was to review any / all contract changes and allow input from case managers and all in attendance to establish a more efficient collaboration of the HPRP and Beyond Shelter Program.

Region V HPRP – ARC's Executive Director, Rev. Phyllis J. Leopold, participated in the Leadership Meeting for agencies collaborating across Region V, from: Danbury, Waterbury, and Torrington. The meeting was held on November 18th in Waterbury at New Opportunities. Discussion centered on 211 Info-line and some glitches across the state. It was established that in Danbury, 211 Info-line will make referrals to ARC who will, in turn, provide services and any appropriate referral.

V. Program Development

DHCC Housing Advocate & Case Manager, Nikki Singer, participated in training for the screening of the DSS Security Deposit Guarantee Program on October 29th. The Guarantee Program is a good resource to assist people coming through the Point of Entry.

VI. Fundraising: HUD/HMIS Renewal Grant

ARC was asked to forego applying for the 3 year renewal and to instead apply for a 1 year renewal of \$8,065. The request came late in the grant making process, just a few days before the letter of intent was due at the United Way. The matter was brought to ARC's attention by Milena Sangut who discussed it with Rev. Phyllis J. Leopold and DHCC Consultant: Jean Bowen.

Changing the DHCC renewal would make it possible for the Danbury CoC to attain a stronger grant.

ARC agreed to change the renewal from 3 years to 1 year, per Milena's request.

VII. HMIS Report – 11/1/09 to 11/23/09

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.	<u>17</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>22</u>	10
b. Number entering program during the operating year.	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	2
c. Number who left the program during the operating year.	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	1
d. Number in the program on the last day of the operating year. (a+b-c=d)	16	14	23	11
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)	16			11
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>20</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	0	0	0

	c. 31 - 50	<u>3</u>	<u>1</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	0	0	0
	i. 18 - 30	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	0
	j. 13 - 17	0	0	0
	k. 6 - 12	0	0	0
	l. 1 - 5	0	<u>1</u>	0
	m. Under 1	0	<u>1</u>	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. 0

6b. Chronically Homeless.

How many participants were chronically homeless individuals? 2

7. Ethnicity.

a. Hispanic or Latino 3

b. Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino 5

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 3

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
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a. Mental illness	0	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	0	0
g. Domestic violence	0	0
h. Other (please specify)	0	0

9b. Disabled.

How many of the participants are disabled? 0

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	<u>2</u>	0
c. Transitional housing for homeless persons	0	
d. Psychiatric facility	0	
e. Substance abuse treatment facility	0	
f. Hospital	0	
g. Jail/prison	<u>1</u>	
h. Domestic violence situation	0	
i. Living with relatives/friends	<u>3</u>	
j. Rental housing	0	
k. Other (please specify)	<u>2</u>	

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	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>
b. \$1-150	0	0	0	0
c. \$151 - \$250	0	0	0	0
d. \$251 - \$500	0	0	0	0
e. \$501 - \$1000	0	0	0	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	<u>1</u>	0	<u>1</u>	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	0	0	0	0
i. Unemployment Benefits	0	0	0	0
j. Veteran's Health Care	0	0	0	0
k. Medicaid	0	0	0	0
l. Food Stamps	0	0	0	0
m. Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0
n. No financial resources	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>

12a. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who left during the operating year.

	All	Chronic
a. Less than 1 month	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>
b. 1 to 2 months	0	0
c. 3 - 6 months	<u>1</u>	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>8</u>	<u>1</u>
b. 1 to 2 months	<u>10</u>	0
c. 3 - 6 months	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>

d. 7 months - 12 months	<u>2</u>	0
e. 13 months - 24 months	<u>2</u>	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	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>
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	<u>2</u>	0
h. Disagreement with rules/persons	0	0
i. Death	0	0
j. Other (please specify)	0	0
k. Unknown/disappeared	<u>1</u>	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	<u>2</u>	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	0	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)	<u>3</u>	0
UNKNOWN	r. Unknown	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
15. Supportive Services. Participants who left during the operating year.			
No supportive services found.			