

Because everyone
deserves a safe,
affordable home...



A Safe, Affordable Home:
The Foundation of Opportunity

2015 Year in Review



Our Vision

A place to call home... it's the foundation of opportunity. A home is essential to good health, education and strong communities for all citizens of our state.

At the Partnership, we believe that homelessness is unacceptable, solvable and preventable. We and our partners work to build a state where people have choices, where everyone can find safe, affordable housing, where being without a home, even briefly, is the rare exception.

The Board of Directors

Charlotte Suhler, *Chair*

Founding Member, Fairfield County Community Foundation; Chair, Darien Affordable Housing Advisory Commission

William Kosturko, *Treasurer*

Former Executive Vice President/General Counsel, People's United Bank

Randal Davis

Special Assistant to the Commissioner, CT Department of Transportation

Janice Elliott

Executive Director, Melville Charitable Trust

Yvette Meléndez

Vice President, Government and Community Alliances, Hartford HealthCare

Jeanne Milstein

Staff Researcher, Tow Youth Justice Institute, University of New Haven

Calvin Price

Former Vice President, Liberty Bank

Howard Rifkin

Corporation Counsel, Office of the Mayor, City of Hartford

Kevin B. Sullivan

Commissioner, CT Department of Revenue Services

A special thank you:

In December 2015, David Fink formally retired from full-time employment with the Partnership as its Policy Director. For over a decade, David organized and directed the HOMEConnecticut campaign and coordinated education and advocacy efforts that relate housing to education, transportation, energy, healthcare and other key disciplines. David is a state leader on housing policy and a tireless advocate for affordable housing. He has worked with scores of municipalities on planning and zoning issues, and played a major role in transforming the conversation about affordable housing in our state. Fortunately, David will continue to work on a part-time basis as a consultant for the Partnership. We are grateful to David for his years of service and we wish him well in retirement!



From the Executive Director - 2015: A year of success and building momentum...



At the Partnership, we know that to solve social problems as complex as homelessness and affordable housing, we need collective impact, a structure for bringing people together to achieve social change. That's where the Partnership's leadership comes in. Our work is to advocate for policy changes and dedicated resources and to organize effective collaboration across multiple communities, systems and sectors.

Over the past year, we have seen federal, state, and local level planning efforts combined with unprecedented state resources and remarkable community collaboration. The results have been transformative. From state and town officials, to philanthropists, local shelter providers and developers, I have watched and collaborated with these passionate and dedicated people as we all worked to advance our collective goal. In this report, we've detailed some of the incredible successes that we and our many partners have achieved over the past year.

The result of these combined efforts wouldn't have been believable just a few years ago. Connecticut is creating a system to end homelessness, and is making substantial headway for Veterans and people with disabilities. And while of course it's a system that will need to be managed, the lessons learned can be harnessed to solve homelessness for all who experience it. It will take continued commitment and strategic investment to ensure the system is strong and stable. It will require additional affordable housing and the ability to rapidly and permanently house those who do fall into homelessness.

A strong community begins with a home for each of its members. Let's keep the momentum going and finish the job for everyone in Connecticut. We can do this, together.

Thank you for being part of these efforts.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alicia Woodsby".

Alicia Woodsby, Executive Director

Our Mission

To end homelessness,
expand the creation
of affordable housing
and build strong
communities in
Connecticut.



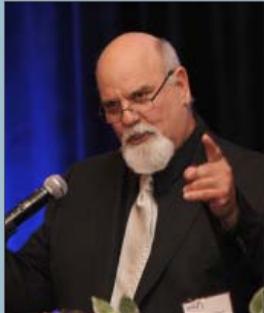
Some of our staff at the 2015
Reaching Home Dinner



Barbara Geller's family accepting
the Career Achievement Award in
her honor

“The Partnership brings folks to the table that need to be there to have the discussion and tell the stories and learn the ways and methods to best help people get housed. And that has made a huge difference in our state.”

*Dave Martineau
Executive Director,
Mercy Housing and
Shelter and Chair
of Reaching Home
Steering Committee*



Building Momentum: FY 2015 Successes

Advocacy: advance policy and mobilize funding

Renewed or new policy developments:

- \$365 million over the biennium in bonding for affordable and supportive housing development
- 180 new units of permanent supportive housing for individuals frequently cycling through shelters and the criminal justice system
- 100 new units of permanent supportive housing for people experiencing chronic homelessness
- Legislation that raised the age of youth/young adults who could be served by the state’s program for homeless youth
- A statewide homeless youth coordinator at the Department of Housing



Outreach: shape ideas and policies

- Organized five IForum events attended by ~800 people on health care/housing, youth homelessness, post-industrial cities, public housing revitalization, and housing choices/mobility
- Advanced the public understanding of homelessness and affordable housing through various media sources
- Published the 2015 HousingInCT annual housing report and updated Housing Data Profiles for every town and county in the state (available at www.pschohousing.org/publications)

Action: guide strategies and support activities

To end homelessness...

- Connecticut became the first state to end chronic homelessness among Veterans
- Reaching Home launched Zero:2016, a national initiative adopted by the Malloy Administration to end chronic and Veterans homelessness by the end of 2016 in Connecticut
- Supported the creation of Coordinated Access Networks across the state to help community providers coordinate service delivery to individuals experiencing homelessness by providing a single point of entry and a common tool for assessing vulnerability and need
- Continued our work to identify frequent visitors of hospital emergency departments who are homeless and to connect them to housing and other services
- Launched the Opening Doors for Youth action plan to end youth homelessness and partnered on the first ever statewide youth count to capture the scope of the problem, which estimated 3,000 youth (age 10-24 years) experiencing homelessness in Connecticut
- Established a public/private partnership (Secure Jobs CT) with 27 Connecticut foundations to improve employment outcomes for families exiting homelessness

... and help communities plan for affordable housing



- Initiated HOMEConnecticut 2.0, opportunity-oriented development to support towns that have carried out the necessary zoning and planning work for moving to the next level in creating affordable housing
- Worked with dozens of towns to promote local housing creation by developing tools such as videos, surveys, policy briefs and more
- Supported Middlesex Chamber of Commerce with community dialogue for developing affordable housing
- Assisted Regional Plan Association in drafting the 4th Regional Plan to advance strategically located and affordable housing in Fairfield, New Haven and Litchfield counties

Our work

Ending homelessness



Creating affordable housing



Sharing knowledge



“The Partnership for Strong Communities has their finger on the pulse of what matters most and they understand the importance of what it means to have a home. They serve as champions for those who don’t always have a voice to help make change for the betterment of all.”

Kathy Luria
*Senior Vice President,
Community Affairs
Webster Bank*



With gratitude to our funders for their commitment and generosity

\$100,000 and above

Melville Charitable Trust

\$20,000-\$99,999

Capitol Region Council of Governments

Connecticut Department of Housing

Connecticut Health Foundation

Connecticut Housing Finance Authority

Fairfield County Community Foundation

Regional Plan Association, Inc.

The Hartford

The Tow Foundation

\$10,000-\$19,999

LEEDS Equity Partners

Michael Hanley & Mary Ann

O'Connor Hanley

TD Charitable Foundation

The Bank of America Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous

Connecticut Coalition To End Homelessness

Connecticut Dept of Economic & Community Development

Fairfield County Community Foundation-The Suhler Family Fund

Garden Homes Fund

The Guilford Foundation, Inc.

Webster Bank

William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund

\$1,500-\$4,999

Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services

Fairfield County Community Foundation-The Meghan Lowney Fund

Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston

Guilford Interfaith Housing Corporation

Howard Rifkin

LaRosa Building Group, LLC

Liberty Bank Foundation

Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority

People's United Bank

Supportive Housing Works

The Sassafras Foundation, Inc.

The Simon Konover Company

ValueOptions Connecticut

William T. Kosturko

\$500-\$1,499

Billings Forge Community Works

Center for Human Development

Columbus House

Community Health Network of Connecticut

Community Renewal Team, Inc.

Corporation for Supportive Housing

Connecticut Business & Industry Association

Connecticut REALTORS®

David Fink & Phyllis Hyman

David Sayet

Farmington Bank

Gaffney Bennett & Associates, Inc.

Gallo & Robinson, LLC

Hartford Hospital

ImmaCare, Inc.

Janice Elliott

Kozak and Salina, LLC

Mayo Crowe, LLC

Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation

Middlesex Hospital

National Equity Fund, Inc.

New Reach, Inc.

Newcastle Housing Ventures, LLC

Paul B. Bailey Architect, LLC

Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc.

The Connection, Inc.

The Roche O'Donnell Group, LLC

The WorkPlace

The Zoom Foundation

Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C.

Women's Institute for Housing & Economic Development

Yale University Office of New Haven Affairs

\$100-\$499

Anonymous

AIDS Connecticut

Brown Rudnick, LLP

Capitol Strategies Group, LLC

Charter Oak Communities

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Connecticut Housing Coalition

Continuum of Care, Inc.

Connecticut Legal Rights Project, Inc.

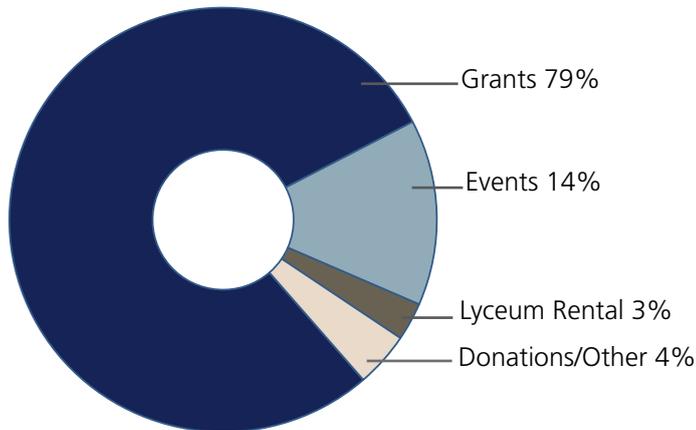
Financials July 2014 - June 2015

Revenue: \$1,535,216 Expenses: \$1,537,982

(\$100-\$499 funders, con't)

Connecticut Public Health Association
Doreen Vreeland
Ellen Grasse
Erma Benedetto
First Baptist Church
Friendship Service Center, Inc.
Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity
Hoffman Auto Group
Jody Wynn Rodiger
John Hancock Financial Services, Inc.
Judith Dowd
Kainen Escalera and McHale, PC
Katherine Kelly
Keith Dumont
Kevin Loveland
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Lorna Joseph
Meghan Lowney
My Sisters' Place
NAMI of Connecticut, Inc.
New Neighborhoods, Inc.
Non Profit Rental Housing Corporation
Patricia A. Rehmer
Tracy Beloin
Travelers
Wendy Kohn & Heather Mosher
West Hartford Housing Authority
White Birch Development, LLC
Wilfred J. Talbot III
William Carbone

Where Our Funding Comes From



To put your donor investment in perspective: In the Partnership's work over the past decade, for every dollar donated, we have returned close to a hundred dollars in public resources for our partners to accomplish our combined community goals.

We run a lean organization, with the vast majority of our expenses (83%) going toward program costs: the Reaching Home campaign, HOMEConnecticut campaign and our public education and outreach efforts.

**audited financial statements available on request or view on Guidestar.org*

"The Partnership for Strong Communities is truly a thought leader in efforts to end homelessness and promote affordable housing in our state. Many of us look to the Partnership for data and analysis on these issues which are so important to Connecticut's residents."

Richard J. Porth,
President/CEO, United Way of Connecticut



Did you know?

~11,000 people



experience homelessness each year

In Connecticut:

37% of households



spend a third or more of income on housing

only 29 towns



have 10% of housing stock as affordable



PARTNERSHIP
FOR STRONG
COMMUNITIES

227 LAWRENCE STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106

How are we helping?

Since 1998, the Partnership has successfully advocated for

over **\$1 billion**

in public funding which helped us and our partners to:

establish
~**5,000** units of permanent supportive housing



 **END** chronic homelessness among Veterans and set a path to end all homelessness

assist over **40%** of CT towns in promoting affordable housing creation

What can you do?

Please **DONATE**.

Because together, we can finish the job.

Donate online at www.pschousing.org

By check to 227 Lawrence St, Hartford, CT 06106

Thank you!

PARTNERSHIP
FOR STRONG
COMMUNITIES



Ending homelessness.

Expanding affordable housing.

Strengthening Connecticut's communities.

Some icons designed by Freepik

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