



Columbus House December E-News

Winter Shelters Now Open, Thanks to Volunteers

During the harsh winter months, Columbus House opens the Men's Seasonal Overflow Shelter in New Haven and expands the Wallingford Emergency Shelter (WES) to provide an additional 90 individuals with a warm, safe place to sleep and nutritious meals. For those who are experiencing homelessness, these shelters offer more than just a bed and meal - they provide a sense of security and relief, knowing they can be off the cold, dark streets and be greeted by staff and volunteers who welcome them to the community. To ready the shelters for their openings on November 15, groups of volunteers from Webster Bank and Alexion (with the help of Jersey Cares) came to WES and were hands-on in their efforts, replacing fencing, laying flooring, painting, cleaning beds, and winterizing the residence. At the Overflow Shelter, members of Columbus House's Board revitalized the space and braced it for the cold weather. Everyone's efforts were integral to our openings, and we are grateful for all of the support!



Join us Thursday for our 2017 Annual Meeting

The first Thursday of December is almost here - that means Columbus House's Annual Meeting is fast approaching! Please join us and keynote speaker Sharon Kugler, Yale University Chaplain, as we celebrate you and all those who assist with our mission of ending homelessness. This year the John S. Martinez Community Service Award will be given to Stephen Peterson, Liberty Bank and North Guilford Congregational Church. We will also bid a fond farewell to retiring Board members Mark Fopeano and Cathy Velez. Join us for this inspirational breakfast on December 7 at 7:30 AM at the New Haven Lawn Club!

Many thanks to our Annual Meeting Table Sponsors



New Veteran Housing in Middletown

In a continued effort to create additional affordable housing for homeless Veterans, Columbus House, in collaboration with St Vincent DePaul, DeMarco Management, and others, will turn the Mary Shepherd Home, a historic and vacant building in Middletown, into permanent, supportive housing for 32 tenants with a preference given to Veterans experiencing homelessness. Six studio and 26 one-bedroom apartments, each with kitchen and bath facilities, will be furnished, have secure access and on-site supportive services to help residents maintain their housing while improving their quality of life and increasing their independence. The location offers convenient access to transportation, retail and employment opportunities. We will keep you updated on this endeavor, as progress is largely dependent on an approved federal budget.



[Watch a video about the project and learn more at the Hartford Courant](#)

Thanksgiving Blessings

Due to so many people devoting their time and energy to our mission, those staying in our shelters over the Thanksgiving holiday were treated to full-course turkey dinners in festive settings, served by welcoming volunteers. Special thanks to KBE Construction for once again donating and delivering dinners comprised of turkeys, vegetables, gravy, rolls and pies to residents in New Haven at our main shelter, Harkness House and Recovery House as well as to those residing in Wallingford and Middlesex County.



[Watch our Thanksgiving Gratitude video on Facebook](#)

Uniting for Veterans

Over the summer, sporting events were held to benefit Columbus House's program for Veterans. Orange Congregational Church held their 10th Annual Higher Ground Golf Tournament, and recently presented Alison Cunningham, CEO of Columbus House, with a donation of over \$6,000! Sikorsky, Lockheed Martin and Teamsters Local 1150 held their 7th Annual Homerun for Heroes Bluefish Baseball Game, and visited Harkness House in early November to award us with \$28,000 to support our programs for homeless Veterans. On behalf of all the Veterans who will benefit from your generosity, thank you!



Now and Later - Ways to Help

No matter the time of year, those experiencing homelessness need our assistance. You have the opportunity to help immediately, in the near future, and for perpetuity. To make an immediate impact, provide a financial contribution of cash or appreciated stocks, or make a transfer from your IRA. (Many employers offer a Matching Gift program that will match charitable contributions by their employees, board members, spouses and retirees, [click here](#) to see if your employer will double, or even triple, your gift!) Gift cards to stores like Target, Walmart, CVS and Stop & Shop also truly benefit our clients. To make a continuing impact, sign up to become a monthly donor and automatically provide us with a reliable revenue stream. Legacy gifts, such as naming Columbus House as a beneficiary in your will or insurance policy, make significant and lasting impacts on our programs. Contact John Brooks, jbrooks@columbushouse.org or 203-401-4400 ext. 108 to discuss your plans.

[Learn more about Columbus House's Legacy Society](#)

[Find out if your company will match your gift to Columbus House](#)

Mark your calendars!

December 7, 2017

[Annual Meeting](#)

New Haven Lawn Club, 7:30-9:00 AM

December 9, 2017

[Sanctuary Saturday at Firehouse 12](#)

Eat, drink and listen to music to benefit Columbus House

January 27, 2018

["Serving for Columbus House"](#)

Tennis Tournament at Yale

March 18, 2018

[Chocolate to the Rescue!](#)

Inn at Middletown, 1:00-4:00 PM

April 28, 2018

[Rock to Rock](#)

Cycling fundraiser



Margaret Allman dedicated herself to others throughout her life. Now, her legacy continues through the incredibly generous bequest she left to Columbus House.



[Click to learn more at www.columbushouse.org/events](http://www.columbushouse.org/events)

Many thanks to our partners in ending homelessness

Richard and Alice Baxter

Matt and Maria Cammarota

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

Barton C. Kenney

Wilson and Carole Kimnach

New Haven Lions Club

North Guilford Congregational Church

Quinnipiac University Department of Public Safety

William Reese

St. George Roman Catholic Church

Town Fair Tire Foundation

United Way of Meriden and Wallingford

Rudy and Carla Zimmermann

Looking to do a Drive?

Get your friends, family, and colleagues together for fun fundraising by holding a "drive" for Columbus House. You can help by making [Welcome Kits](#) for those entering permanent, supportive housing. Or you can collect items from our [Wish List](#) - basic necessities for clients in our shelter - of which we are always in need.

Please remember to give us a ring before your bring!

Questions and donation delivery times should be directed to sdimario@columbushouse.org or (203) 401-4400, ext.138, before arriving with donations. We would also like to hear from you if you are interested in running a drive.



Donate

Columbus House | 203-401-4400 x131 | info@columbushouse.org
www.columbushouse.org

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