

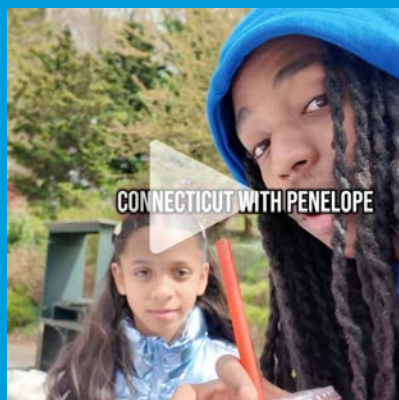


Penelope Raises Over \$4k at Annual Lemonade Stand

Penelope celebrated her birthday by hosting her 5th Annual Lemonade Stand on April 27, raising over \$4,000 to support Columbus House and bringing her five-year total to an incredible \$19,000! Adding to the excitement this year, local influencer Jimmy Robinson (@jimyofficial) stopped by to spotlight her inspiring efforts.

Penelope and her parents, Pam and Mike, delivered the proceeds in person, where CEO Louis Gill thanked her for her continued generosity. Thanks to Mike's employer, Best Buy, which matches donations by 40%, her impact will go even further.

Penelope's dedication continues to make a lasting impact on our neighbors facing homelessness.



Watch Penelope at her
lemonade stand with
[@JimyOfficial!](#)



A bright spot on a rainy day! Thanks to Quinnipiac University students and the Tap Out Hunger campaign, over \$11,000 worth of food staples was delivered to our New Haven Shelter on May 22.

Quinnipiac Students Tap Out Hunger—Again!

For the fifth year in a row, Quinnipiac University’s Tap Out Hunger initiative has benefitted Columbus House—this time raising over \$11,000 through donated meal points to help purchase essential food staples. Over five years, this generous effort has totaled an incredible \$67,000 in support for neighbors facing homelessness.

Students also took part in Be Kind, Leave Your Food Behind, donating tons of non-perishables to local organizations at the end of the semester—including Columbus House!

Many thanks to the students, Vincent Contrucci from the Office of Community Engagement, Chartwells Higher Ed, and Sysco for making this happen!

Spring Newsletter Coming to Your Mailbox Soon!



“This is heart-centered work. At its core, it’s about care and compassion.”

– Louis Gill, CEO

Keep an eye on your mailbox in June for our spring print newsletter featuring a Q&A with our new CEO, Louis Gill!



A Unique Way to Volunteer: Healing Through Sound

Sound bath meditation uses soothing vibrations to calm the nervous system, ease anxiety, and support deep rest—benefits that are especially meaningful for those on the path to recovery and stability.

That's why we're so grateful to volunteer Sam, who led two sound bath meditation sessions this month for guests in our Medical Respite Program. This program provides a safe place for people experiencing homelessness to recover after a hospital stay—care that's vital for healing, but difficult to manage without stable housing.

Sam is now working with Mary Pat, the on-site Medical Respite Nurse from Yale New Haven Hospital at our New Haven shelter, to schedule regular visits.

Thank you, Sam, for sharing this powerful tool for healing!



Chocolate to the Rescue Raises Nearly \$20,000

Thanks to your support, our 22nd Annual Chocolate to the Rescue was a sweet success—raising nearly \$20,000 for the Middlesex Family Shelter! Congratulations to Donovan Family Confections, Sweet Sage Bakery, and MELT Chocolatier for taking home top honors. Thank you to all—chocolatiers, guests, volunteers, and sponsors who made the afternoon unforgettable.

[See photos, winners, sponsors, participants and more highlights here.](#)



Louis Gill, CEO, joined the WNHH Great Give Radiothon to share how your support makes a difference – click to watch!

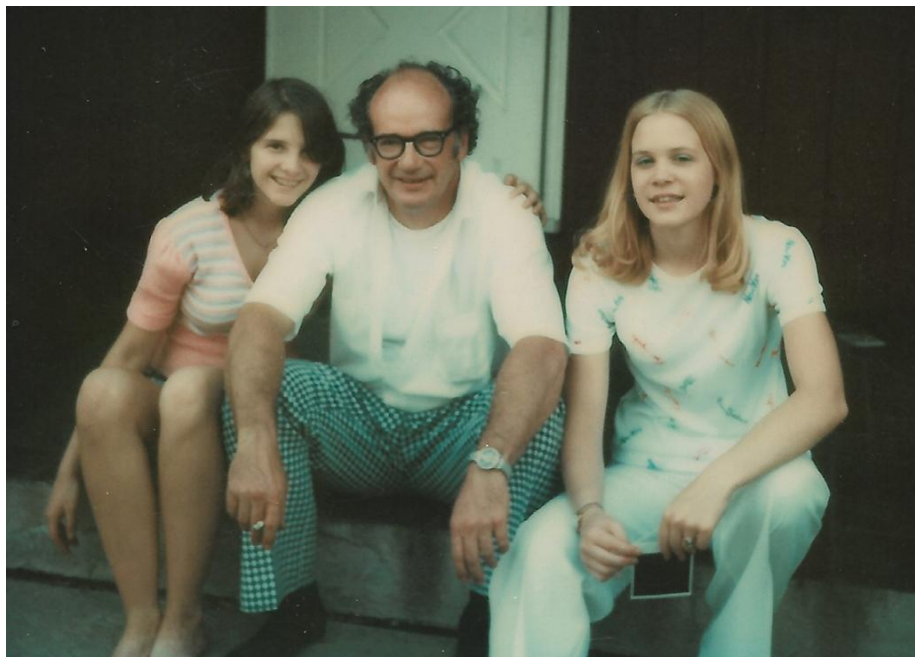
You Helped Us Surpass Our Goal!

During The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven's 36-hour online giving event, 159 generous Columbus House supporters — like you — gave over \$29,000 to help neighbors facing homelessness. Thanks to you, we surpassed our \$25,000 goal!

Your support helps provide vital services to 2,100 people each year — including individuals, families with children, youth, older people, and Veterans — so they can move out of or avoid homelessness.

As our new CEO, Louis Gill, shared in his interview on WNHH's Great Give Radiothon: "Thank you to everybody that has been a donor so far, and if you are considering it, we promise to put it to good use and make sure that people and families are safe."

- [Watch the interview here.](#)
- [Missed your chance to give? It's not too late to make a difference.](#)



Shelly (right), a longtime supporter, chose to include Columbus House in her will. She's pictured here with her sister and father, whom she credits with inspiring her to include a planned gift to ensure our work to end homelessness continues.

Plan Today, Impact Tomorrow

At Columbus House, we believe in building lasting change for our neighbors facing homelessness. One powerful way to ensure your compassion continues to make a difference is through planned giving.

By including Columbus House in your estate plans—whether through a bequest, beneficiary designation, or charitable trust—you help create a future where everyone has a place to call home.

If you've already included Columbus House in your plans, please let us know so we can thank you and honor your commitment. And if you're just beginning to explore your options, we're here to help. Contact Bob Serow, Interim Chief Development Officer, at (203) 215-8569 or bserow@columbushouse.org.

[□ Learn more about planned giving and how you can shape a brighter tomorrow.](#)

In the News

→ [Wednesday's Warrior: West Haven woman makes quilts for children experiencing abuse and abandonment \(watch on News 8 WTNH\)](#)

→ [Students donate two and a half tons of leftover food to those in need \(read on Quinnipiac Today\)](#)

Save the Dates

Sunday, June 21, 2025: Guilford Rotary Lobster Fest

Sunday, August 3, 2025: Homerun for Heroes

Saturday-Sunday, October 4 & 5, 2025: Celebrate Wallingford

Thursday, December 11, 2025: Annual Meeting

[Visit our website more information on these and other events!](#)



Looking for a career that makes a difference helping others? Join our team! [View & apply for open positions at Columbus House now!](#)

Thank you to **some** of our partners who have gone above and beyond helping to end homelessness with their financial support from February 26 – May 29, 2025.

Advanced Diagnostic Pain Treatment Centers

Alera Group, Inc.

Anonymous (2)

Bob Woodruff Foundation

Burns & McDonnell

Rev. David Carey

Community Foundation of Middlesex County

Connecticut Mental Health Center Foundation

Peter Danick & Maureen Donovan

Mary Dolan

Donald and Lorraine Walters Memorial Fund

Chris & Anne Duhaime

Edwin & Karen Duval
Endodontics, LLC
First Congregational Church of Cheshire
John Franklin
David Jones & Rebecca Friedkin
Michael Friedmann
George Harte Nissan
GSB
Linda Harris
Baron & Kiku Jones
Michael & Pamela Jordan
Joseph C. Stevens Fund
Barton C. Kenney
Dwight & Maureen Lopes
M&T Charitable Foundation
Middlesex United Way
Daniel Monaco
NewAlliance Foundation
NFP
Charles O'Connell
Richard & Paula Resch
Select Equity Group Foundation
Aaron Singer
St. George Catholic Church
Ellen Taylor
The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
The First Baptist Church of Wallingford
The Foote School
The Naomi Charitable Fund
The Reagan Foundation
Thimble Island Private Wealth
Stacy Neal & Katherine Thomas
Ulbrich Stainless Steels & Special Metals
United Way of Meriden and Wallingford
Rudy & Carla Zimmermann

We apologize if we inadvertently left out your name.

[DONATE](#)

Your gift to Columbus House literally saves the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors. Each year, you help give 2,100 people – including older people, families with children, and Veterans – the tools and support they need to end or prevent their homelessness.

We are grateful for your dedication to our mission: to serve people experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk by providing life-saving outreach, shelter and housing and by fostering their personal growth and independence. We advocate for and create affordable housing to end homelessness in our communities.



Double Your Donation

Will your employer match your gift to Columbus House? Click to find out!



Legacy Giving

Make a lasting impact on ending homelessness with planned giving.



Donate Your Car

Donate your old clunker – running or not – to help end homelessness!



www.columbushouse.org

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