



### Community Partnership Puts a Veteran in the Driver's Seat

Thanks to APK Charities and J&J Autoworks in Madison, Gus—a Veteran in our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program—now has a safe, reliable way to get to work, attend school, and spend meaningful time with his children.

This is the second car APK Charities has donated to a Veteran in our programs, and just one example of the many ways they continue to help cover essential needs that fall outside our usual funding resources. (We'll soon share another powerful story about a Veteran whose life they profoundly impacted, stay tuned!)

J&J Autoworks played a vital role by donating all parts and labor, including a new transmission, to ensure the vehicle was road-ready. Their generosity helped turn this opportunity into a reality.

APK Charities was founded by Bob and Helen Pedersen-Keiser in honor of their son, Connecticut native Capt. Andrew Pedersen-Keel, who was killed in action at age 28 while serving as the commander of his Special Forces detachment in Eastern Afghanistan.

Pictured left to right: Gus, David Keiser, Aimee DeMusis (Director of Veteran & Middlesex Emergency Services), Bob Keiser (APK Board President & Treasurer), and Luisa Alarcon (Case Manager).



Curtis Cofield Estates in New Haven. Photo Credit: NHP Foundation

## **New Beginnings at Curtis Cofield Estates**

We're proud to share that Curtis Cofield Estates is officially open, and Columbus House is providing supportive services to 12 households who have experienced homelessness.

This beautiful new community features 56 affordable apartments in 11 townhouse-style buildings, co-developed by the NHP Foundation and local nonprofit West River Self-Help Investment Plan (West River SHIP).

Named for the late Curtis Cofield, a respected pastor and founding president of West River SHIP, the development stands as a powerful tribute to his vision for lasting, community-rooted housing solutions in New Haven.

Read more about this milestone in the following linked articles:

- [\*\*The NHP Foundation Opens Doors to Curtis Cofield II Estates in New Haven, CT\*\* \*PR Newswire\*](#)
- [\*\*11-building affordable housing complex re-knits sections of New Haven divided by never-finished urban renewal plan\*\* \*The New Haven Register\*](#)
- [\*\*Ribbon Cut On Cofield Estates\*\* \*The New Haven Independent\*](#)

**Read Our Spring Newsletter – Now Online!**  
*Including a special interview with Louis Gill, CEO*





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

**Read Now**



Thanks to Claire's Cornercopia and The Hartford Provision Company, our Facilities team is pictured here with a large donation of boxed Hello Water, ready to help keep our neighbors hydrated.

## Keeping Cool, Thanks to You

After a brief break, the heat is back, and your support is protecting our most vulnerable neighbors. When extreme temperatures hit in June, you stepped up, helping us raise nearly \$2,500 and providing a steady stream of bottled and boxed water.

Keeping our New Haven Shelter open 24/7 during dangerously hot weather is essential, but it comes with added costs. At the same time, your donations

have allowed our outreach teams to deliver water and other critical supplies to those still living outdoors.

Heatwaves cause more weather-related deaths in the U.S. than any other event, and the danger is even greater for those without shelter. Thanks to you, our neighbors stayed safer and cooler.

□ **You can still help:**

We're still collecting water and other summer essentials, find details on our [website](#). Financial gifts are also deeply appreciated and help us respond quickly when the heat rises.



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.

## **A Smart Time to Plan Ahead**

August is National Make a Will Month, a timely reminder to consider the legacy you want to leave. And since we're halfway to the giving season, it's also the perfect time to explore charitable options that can support the causes you care about.

Tools like donor advised funds, paid-up life insurance policies, appreciated stock, qualified pensions, and Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)—for those age 70½ or older—can offer:

- Potential income and estate tax savings
- Avoidance of capital gains tax
- A way to satisfy required minimum distributions (RMDs)
- Critical support for organizations like Columbus House



We encourage you to speak with your tax or financial advisor to make the most of these opportunities that can greatly benefit you, your family, and your community. You can also learn more about planned giving to Columbus House on our [website](#).

## Save the Dates



Columbus House development team members joined Carl Cooper, Guilford Rotary President, at the June 21 Lobster Fest. We were grateful to be invited back to this fun event and to share our work to end homelessness alongside other local nonprofits.

**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 March 30 – July 20, 2025.

Amphenol

APK Charities

Richard & Alice Baxter

Branford Community Foundation

City Missionary Association of New Haven

First Congregational Church of Cheshire

George A. & Grace L. Long Foundation, Bank of America, N.S., Trustee

Linda A Harris

Ives Bank Foundation

Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart

Liberty Bank

Robert Farrell & Mary-Jean McGarrity

Middlesex United Way

Joesph G. Altonji & Cynthia E. Nethercut

Shalom United Church of Christ

The Bussmann Family Foundation

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

The Israel & Adele Gordon Fund

Town of Wallingford

United Way of Greater New Haven

Patricia Wales

*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!



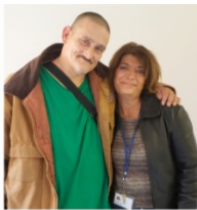
### Legacy Giving

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](http://www.columbushouse.org)

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