Living in lower Fairfield County can sometimes be like racing in the Indianapolis 500. The pace is lightning fast, the competition is fierce and an unfortunate mishap can derail your game plan. Forced to juggle a multitude of professional, educational and personal responsibilities, many working individuals and families living in our community struggle to keep up and ultimately fall behind the pack.

For 128 years, Family Centers has provided a lift to children, adults and families when they need it most. Combining our proven lineup of effective services with a growing number of promising new initiatives, Family Centers is accelerating the progress of more than 21,000 local residents as they strive to improve their lives.

The testimonials and statistics that populate this Annual Report represent just a sampling of the many ways in which our programs keep families moving forward as they pursue their own personal goals and achieve self-sufficiency.

As a solution-focused organization, Family Centers is among the most integrated and diversified providers of health, education and human services in Connecticut. The constant evolution of our community’s needs has led to an incredible era of innovation spearheaded by our forward-thinking professional team. With an eye toward a comprehensive and personal approach to care, our staff continually leverages the expertise of our internal resources to ensure those we assist have access to a seamless continuum of care.

As diverse as our organization may be, we realize that one provider alone cannot resolve complex societal issues. Our deep commitment to partnerships and collaborations emphasizes how collective impact projects can lead to systemic change.

Our Family First in Education partnership with the Greenwich YMCA, the Per & Astrid Heidenreich Family Foundation and Greenwich Public Schools continues to narrow the Achievement Gap that exists in Greenwich. Through quality afterschool educational enrichment and wrap-around parental support, the program has boosted test scores and encouraged parents to become more engaged in their children’s education. For the 2019-2020 academic year, Family First has expanded to serve 80 families who qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch program.

Along with the Vita Health and Wellness Collaborative, Family Centers is also working with Stamford Public Schools (SPS) and other community providers to address the social and emotional issues of the 300-500 students who enter SPS from other places each year. The primary goal is to assess these incoming students and connect them with resources as they acclimate to their new community. This preventative approach helps prepare students to learn and reduces the likelihood of classroom disruptions.

Our Parents as Co-Educators Program is now in its fourth year. More English as a Second Language families receive a wide range of wrap-around services designed to accelerate child and parent performance and development. With the support of the Herbert and Nell Singer Foundation, Family Centers has partnered with the Stamford Public Education Foundation (SPEF) to bring the Co-Educator’s model to its Summer Start program. As incoming kindergartners caught up with the academic development they missed by not having a preschool experience, our Co-Educators staff helped parents learn how they can foster their children’s education.

While there are others in the works, these are just a few of the collaborations that Family Centers and our partner organizations are pursuing to realize positive social change.

In order to achieve high-level results, Family Centers constantly pushes forward on numerous fronts. Our professionals must receive ongoing training to ensure that their skills and competencies reflect best practices. We are grateful to our funders who invest in our professional development efforts – particularly the Lone Pine Foundation. This past year, Lone Pine has zeroed in on this area and has followed through with training opportunities and support.

Our data needs are also paramount. Collecting, maintaining, sharing and utilizing data helps to define best practices and allows us to demonstrate results. This is a necessity for organizational success.
As 2019 comes to a close, we send our heartfelt thanks to the hundreds of volunteers and employees who infuse Family Centers with their energy, creativity and enthusiasm. Together, we are all celebrating great progress in our community.

On the funder side, we are continuously grateful to everyone who lent us their generous support this past year. Private contributions and foundation grants account for 26% of our operating budget. Special thanks to our incredible event chairs who organized our successful 2019 fundraisers: Titan Series with Ken Langone – Laurie and Peter Grauer; Center for HOPE Luncheon – Anne Goodnow and Joy Hoffman; Under the Tuscan Sun Benefit – Lisa Errico, Patti Fast, Julie Graham, Elizabeth Lake and Amanda Lynch; Scrabble Challenge – David Ball and Rob Vendreg; Friends Drive – Tom Ashforth and Laurie Host.
Family Centers realizes its mission through three Centers of Excellence, which offer programs that span the continuum of life.

**Opportunities Through Education**
- Bettering Our Opportunities in Stamford (BOOST)
- Early Care and Education
  - Armstrong Court Preschools
  - The Grauer Preschool
  - Greenwich Head Start
  - Gateway Preschool
  - Joan Melber Warburg Early Childhood Center
- Family First in Education
- Greenwich Parents as Teachers (GPAT)
- Minding the Baby®
- Nurturing Families Network
- Parents as Co-Educators Program

**Thriving Families and Communities**
- Community and Supportive Services Program
- Family Self Sufficiency Program
- Friendly Connections
- Housing Mobility Program
- Housing Resource Program
- Intensive Family Preservation
- Literacy Volunteers
- Parenting Education Program (PEP)
- Reaching Independence Through Employment (RITE)
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Case Management
- Windrose Work Experience Initiative

**Health Care Connections**
- Care to Care
- Counseling & Mental Health Services
  - Center for HOPE
  - Wellness and Prevention Services
  - Trauma Response
  - WorkLife Solutions
- The Den for Grieving Kids
- Family Centers Health Care
- School Based Health Centers
- Senior Health Insurance Counseling Program (SHIP)
- Stamford CARES

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**Expenditures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Connections</td>
<td>$7,148,124</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities Through Education</td>
<td>$5,524,361</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thriving Families &amp; Communities</td>
<td>$3,272,500</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$15,944,985</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Support and Revenue**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
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<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fees</td>
<td>$5,090,359</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Special Events</td>
<td>$1,921,672</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>$1,793,937</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution From Restricted Funds</td>
<td>$767,045</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Ways &amp; Community Funds</td>
<td>$421,343</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Support &amp; Revenue</td>
<td>$15,944,985</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Family Centers earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® in Ambulatory Health Care and Behavioral Health Care. Family Centers Health Care also received The Joint Commission’s Primary Care Medical Home (PCMH) Certification.

To further combat the Opportunity Gap in Greenwich, Family First in Education expanded to provide 60 elementary school students and their parents with afterschool tutoring and wrap-around services. The program will grow to serve 80 students during the 2019-2020 school year.

Foundation grants, special events and other fundraising efforts added more than $4.1 million to the operating fund in 2019.

Family Centers Health Care added a large section of Stamford to its service area – greatly increasing access to mental health services for underserved populations.

Family Centers was awarded its twelfth Charity Navigator 4-Star rating for outstanding fiscal management and transparency.

Luminaries including Home Depot Co-Founder Ken Langone, New York Yankees General Manager Brian Cashman and former All-Star First Baseman Mark Teixeira donated their time to headline special fundraising events benefitting Family Centers.

Hearst Connecticut Media recognized Family Centers as a Top Workplace in Western Connecticut for the seventh time.

Work began to make several of Family Centers’ buildings more accessible and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
**Pinnacle Gifts**

$100,000+
- Mr. & Mrs. William R. Berkley
- Bloomberg Philanthropies
- Mr. & Mrs. James Clark
- Mr. & Mrs. Peter T. Grauer
- Greenwich United Way
- Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Heidenreich Family Fdn.
- Lone Pine Fdns., Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard P. Pirvato
- The Herbert & Nell Singer Fdn., Inc.

$50,000 – $99,999
- The Ruth W. Brown Fdn.
- Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Carpenter
- Mr. & Mrs. Dominic Cossery
- The Estate of Charles Gibson
- Mr. & Mrs. Carl Goodnow
- Green Howards Fdn.
- The Hearst Fdn., Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. George Host
- Mr. & Mrs. Rabon Mark
- Mr. & Mrs. Garrett M. Moran
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Sandler

$25,000 – $49,999
- Anonymous
- The Steak & Shake Company
- Back To You Fund at FCCF
- Banke/Walker Family Fdn.
- Mr. & Mrs. Alan W. Breed
- Mr. & Mrs. Karen M. Casey
- Green Howards Fdn.
- Mr. & Mrs. Robin Graham
- Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Langone
- Mr. & Mrs. Stephen F. Mandal, Jr.
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael F. McKeefer
- The Oakehows Fdn.
- The Pitt & Davis Fdn.
- The William H. Pitt, Fdn., Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael M. Tripplett
- The Tudor Fdn., Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Walker
- Mr. & Mrs. John Whitenberg
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas B. Wilson
- The Windmill Fdn., Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Witmer, Jr.

$1,000 – $2,499
- Mrs. Marion R. Stone
- Mr. & Mrs. Allan Sallman
- The Tiger Tail Fdn., Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. David P. Tuttle
- Mr. & Mrs. Charles Tyler
- Mr. & Mrs. John Leibengut
- Michael D. White
- Whitman, Breed, Abbott & Morgan

$500 – $999
- Mr. & Mrs. Scott Anderson
- Bonnie A. Arkheim Charitable Foundation
- Mr. & Mrs. John Bennet
- Mr. & Mrs. G. Stafford Bednall
- Charter Oak Communities
- Mr. & Mrs. Christopher L. Collins
- The Crane Family Fdn.
- Mr. & Ms. Bruce D. Dixon
- Jennifer E. Donnelly
- Cory & Bob Donnelly Charitable Fdn.
- Mr. & Mrs. William E. Epting II
- Second Generation Inc.
- Mr. & Mrs. Desmond FitzGerald General Reinsurance Corporation
- Mrs. Evelyn G. Gorman
- Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Gregory
- Mr. & Mrs. Edward T. Henderson
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. Hobbs
- Mr. & Mrs. John S. Horner
- Cecelia H. Jodidio
- Mr. & Mrs. Martin Lipson
- Mr. & Mrs. Frank J. Lovegrove
- Mr. & Mrs. Alexander P. Lynch
- Maison Marthe
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Molly
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas B. Molly, Jr.
- Morgan Stanley

**Leadership Gifts**

$5,000 – $9,999
- Mr. C. M. Armstrong
- Mr. & Mrs. Geri Berger
- Mr. & Mrs. Mark W. Blackman
- Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS
- Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Brooks
- The Alisa Manacher Fund
- Chubb Charitable Fdn., Inc.
- Bermuda Pur & Bill Clements Fdn.
- Mr. & Mrs. John W. Correll III
- Mrs. Mary Davidson
- Mr. & Mrs. E. S. C. Day
- Delta Dental of New Jersey Fdn.
- The Richard Dowd Donchian Charitable Trust
- Mr. & Mrs. John R. Elmore III
- EXCELerate Fdn.
- FastGet Research Systems, Inc.
- Mr. Daniel Finn
- First Congregational Church of Greenwich
- Mr. John Gostan, Jr.
- Mr. & Mrs. Andrew S. Georges
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gerardy
- Gabrielle, Toto & Spallino LLC
- Mr. & Mrs. Taylor Goldhaber
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hokin
- JP Morgan Private Bank
- Leawon Lewinsohn, Fdn.
- Mr. & Mrs. Sharon McDonald
- Mr. T. M. McAuley
- Mr. & Mrs. Charles V. Moore
- Morgan Stanley Fdn.
- People’s United Community Fdn.
- Mrs. Mary Quirk & Jim Jimenez
- Mr. & Mrs. John M. Roth
- St. John’s Community Fdn., Inc.
- Sigalor Gulf & Company

**Special Funds**

- Mrs. Lizora M. Yonce

We apologize for any errors or omissions.
Family Centers By the NUMBERS

21K+ Lives touched

225 Professionals

70 Community Partnerships

3 Centers of Excellence
12X Charity Navigator 4-Star Charity Rating

60 Service Delivery Sites

7X Hearst Connecticut Media Top Workplace

25 Programs and Services

15 Licensed Facilities in Stamford, Greenwich and Darien
After years of reckless living, I moved to Florida to escape the forces that had a firm grip on my life. While there, I learned I was HIV positive and tried a number of holistic approaches to manage the virus. At first I felt good, but found myself slipping back into my old lifestyle and my condition worsened. After going through rehab, I moved back to Connecticut and connected with Stamford CARES. Thanks to the program, I was able to obtain health insurance and medication to stabilize my condition. More importantly, I learned how to take ownership of my personal health. Today, the virus is in remission, I’m five years sober and taking on an advocacy role to help others struggling with addiction.”

Michael S., Stamford CARES client

“I’ve always been on top of things, but started to feel stuck personally and professionally. It wasn’t like me to not view a challenge as an opportunity, so I knew something wasn’t right and I needed guidance. This rut happened to coincide with a decline in my quality of health. Doctors couldn’t explain why I was constantly tired, had migrating pain and numbness in my body and my focus wasn’t as sharp. It wasn’t until I began therapy that I realized these symptoms were caused by Lyme Disease, and found a path toward recovery. While I’m still working to be symptom free, I found the strength to become an advocate for myself and pursue the best treatment.”

Sarah Bunnell, Counseling & Mental Health Program Client

After decades of reckless living, I moved to Florida to escape the forces that had a firm grip on my life. While there, I learned I was HIV positive and tried a number of holistic approaches to manage the virus. After going through rehab, I moved back to Connecticut and connected with Stamford CARES. Thanks to the program, I was able to obtain health insurance and medication to stabilize my condition. More importantly, I learned how to take ownership of my personal health. Today, the virus is in remission, I’m five years sober and taking on an advocacy role to help others struggling with addiction.”

Michael S., Stamford CARES client

Our Volunteers...
Adriana Acevedo • Stella Adams • Alex Brown • Kevin Alcala • Melissa Alvarez • Cynthia Alvarez • Ricky Alvarez • Sam Ambroise • Kate Anderson • Andrea Anderson • Kate Anderson • Linda Andryc • Patricia Angel • Christyne Angulo • Meredith Antell • Lisa Antonacci • Bob Arnold • Courtney Arpano • Sam Ashforth • Carter Ashforth • Tom Ashforth • Fox Ashley • Nancy Axtrold • Greg Balbo • David Ball • Maurizio Barboza • Emily Barnard • Lucy Barrenti • Jocelyn Barriga • Dr. Alan Barry • Alan Barry, PhD • Ryan Bass • Sandrine Bastien • Jane Batkin • Marion Beale • Natasha Beaver • Susan Benthall • Lisa Bentley • Marge Berkley • Kelly Bernard • Aarit Bhatnagar • Gabby Biagini • Leonore Bianco • Jan Blair • Reeva Beemmann • Zoryana Bolgarina • Esther Boris • Laura Boratsky • Gloria Bran • William Brant • Sandra Bria • BridgePoint Risk Management • Elyse Bradie • Stacey Brown • Nancy Brown • Doug Brown • Brunswick School • Jacklyn Brozoska • Ashley Bruynes • Jacklyn Brozoska • Allyson Buck • Ainsley Buck • Cindy Buirago • Jennienne Burke •
"My husband and I have always been very active in our community, so his unexpected death was both devastating and very public. Although we have a large support network in town, no one truly understood what Zoe and I were going through. We needed an outlet to express our grief and several therapists recommended The Den. Right from the start, we both knew this was the place for us. We no longer felt alienated, and everyone accepted us with open arms because they all felt the way we did.”

Mellodye and Zoe Ragin, The Den for Grieving Kids participants

"At the start of my sophomore year, I was going through a tough time. I didn’t feel like myself, but couldn’t express how I was feeling. Most interactions with my mom or friends would end in a big blowup. Talking with the therapist at the School Based Health Center helped me understand the reasons for my anger and gave me the tools to control it. Now that I’ve learned how to communicate my feelings and own up to my actions, I’m much happier and my relationships have improved.”

Arianna Torres, School Based Health Center Patient

"It’s difficult to find a dentist that accepts Medicaid in Greenwich, so I went a long time without regular checkups. When an issue came up that needed immediate attention, I didn’t know what to do. Family Centers Health Care took me in right away and performed the dental work I needed. It’s comforting to finally have a provider I can rely on. I’m now able to take control of my own health without the added stress of high out-of-pocket costs.”

Jinky Calma, Family Centers Health Care Patient

Ron Burke • Ronald Burke • Lindsay Burn • Patricia Burns • Emily Bush • Molly Byrne • Joana Cabrera • Lauren Caffrey • Joanne Callahan • Juan Camilo Figueroa • Lynne Campbell • Tessa Campbell • David Campbell • Stephani Canova • Claire Capella • Leigh Carpenter • Fabiola Carrión • Molly Carroll • Barbara Carter • Veronica Casanova • Nancy Cassafer • Holly Cassin • Mariana Castañeda Echeverry • Jose Capeda • Leason Cery • Amanda Chan • Samantha chiafalo • Perma Chiappetta • Ed Chirongo • Max Christian • Kate Clark • Elizabeth Cleary • Marie Clyn • Courtney Cohen • Mitchell Cole • Hutton Cole • Marla Cola • Nancy Cullamet • Lorraine Collins • Marilyn Collins • Stacy Collins • Emily Collins • Judy Collins • Paige Colon • Lucia Cook • Cindy Cook • John Cook • Priscilla Cornell • Jaime Corredor • Mayerli Corredor • Raker Courtney • Alison Cowan • Allison Cowan • Meg Critchell • Anna Croll • Rosemary Cronin • Dominique Crosby • John Cuff • Mary Cuff • Jack Cuff • Katherine Curtis • Rosa Curtis • Angela D’ari • Megan D’alexandro • Alec Daniel • Joan Danoff
As a kindergarten teacher, I’ve seen how a preschool experience can impact a child’s long-term academic performance. Aside from providing Emme with a solid educational foundation, the teachers at Gateway reinforced the social and emotional learning that will help with the transition into a more structured classroom setting. The love, attention and expertise of the teachers makes Gateway such a special place, and I’m so glad that my family had the opportunity to be part of this community.”

Kimberly Ledonne, Gateway School Parent

Even though we have three boys, you can never stop learning as parents. Each child is unique and has different needs. Greenwich Parents as Teachers has shown us the best ways to encourage Estevan’s development and language development. The program’s home visits also allow us to try new strategies in a familiar environment. We’ve already noticed a big difference, and it’s comforting to have a partner as he continues to grow.”

Luz Manzarez and Abner Lopez, Participants of Greenwich Parents as Teachers [a program of the Greenwich United Way’s Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions (ECAGS) initiative]

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Luz Manzarez and Abner Lopez, Participants of Greenwich Parents as Teachers [a program of the Greenwich United Way’s Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions (ECAGS) initiative]
I was a student at Greenwich Head Start, and always credit the positive interactions with the teachers and other children for helping me overcome my shyness. When it was time to choose a preschool for my own kids, there was no other choice. As a single mother working full time, it’s comforting to know they are in a safe, supportive environment focused on social and academic development. My kids now have a deep love of learning that I know they’ll carry with them throughout school.”

Brigette Gonzales, Greenwich Head Start Parent

Camilla struggled with reading and math during kindergarten. No matter what we did to help, she kept falling further behind her classmates. The after-school tutoring services offered through Family First in Education had an immediate impact. In just one year, her test scores rose to grade-level and she’s now excited to learn. The program also helped us become better advocates for her education and connected us to the community resources we needed to give her the best opportunities possible.”

Nerly and Ricardo Hernandez, Family First in Education Parents

My three children and I came to this country for a better life, but the transition was difficult. Alexa got into a great preschool, but she didn’t speak English and felt isolated. I also struggled with the language and didn’t know how to help her. The Co-Educators program taught me ways to encourage her development so she’s able to be a better learner in school. She’s come so far, and I know she’ll be ready for kindergarten.”

Ines Berrones, Parents as Co-Educators Program Participant

Family First in Education helped 98% of students improve their math scores and 95% of students increase reading levels.

$2.3M was awarded in scholarship to help local families provide their children with a quality preschool experience.

Greenwich Parents at Teachers (GPAT) facilitated 178 home visits to help low income parents foster their children’s social and emotional development.

FamilyCenters.org | 11
Living in a small public housing apartment with my wife and four children was very difficult. I knew I needed to improve my family’s situation, but didn’t know how. The Family Self Sufficiency Program is a great way for hard-working people to get to that next level. Aside from helping me relocate to a larger apartment, the program has shown me ways I can accomplish my goals. Now, I’m saving money that I will one day use to purchase a home and open my own small business.”

Jonathan Hart, Community and Supportive Services Program Participant

“M"y life has been one of constant pain. Since suffering a devastating skateboarding accident as a child, simple tasks like tying my shoes and walking around my apartment were nearly impossible. I needed two hip replacements and a knee reconstruction, but surgeons won’t accept Medicaid. My Resident Services Coordinator found a doctor who would take on my case, and was a major support for me as I went through all three procedures. For the first time in my life, I am pain free and have a new outlook on life.”

Jonathan Hart, Community and Supportive Services Program Participant

Living in a small public housing apartment with my wife and four children was very difficult. I knew I needed to improve my family’s situation, but didn’t know how. The Family Self Sufficiency Program is a great way for hard-working people to get to that next level. Aside from helping me relocate to a larger apartment, the program has shown me ways I can accomplish my goals. Now, I’m saving money that I will one day use to purchase a home and open my own small business.”

Abid Rajput, Family Self Sufficiency Program Participant

I had attendance issues in public school, and transferred to Windrose to get my education back on track. While there, I learned about the Work Experience Initiative and was placed in several internships that exposed me to opportunities in the medical and teaching fields. Aside from gaining job skills, I also learned the importance of organization and responsibility. I had never thought I’d graduate, but I’m now attending college and would like to pursue a career in radiology technology.”

Ariana Ramierz, Windrose Work Experience Initiative Student

Our Volunteers...

Madeline Hart • Harvard Business School Club of CT - Community Partners • Christine Hauck • Gina Havranek • Kate Hawrycak • Eric Hawrylak • Jo Ann Healy • Judith Hein • Annie Heinemann • Jane Herbert • Kelly Herman • Dimora Hernandez • Olga Hernandez • Aaryanna Herrera • Jaimee Hersch • Catherine Heyne • Cathy Heyne • Susannah Heyworth • Katja Hillgruber Fernandez Pita • Stephanie Hilton • Marie Hlovaty • Andrew Ho • Hazel Hobbs • Richard Hokin • Alice Holbrook • Cathy Holligan • Samantha Holmes • Cynthia Holton • Cindy Holton • Derick Horn • Sarah Horney • John Horton Jr. • Laurie Host • Nerena Howard • Rena Howard • Frank Howlett • Seeley Hubbart • Gray Huffard • Jackie Hunt • Jack Hunt • Gina Hurd • Ava Jannitti • Diana Iniguez • Carmen Izuguirra Medina • Stephen Jablonsky • Steve Jablonsky • Amanda Jagodzinski • Theo Johnson • Harper Jones • Conor Jones • Izzy Kalb • Israel Kalb • Molly Kelloway • Beth Kaplan • Catherine Kaplan • Mendelssohn Kara • Mona Kassem • Nihanka Kaushik • Deema Kaye Silverleaf • Keep America Beautiful • 579 adults received English-language, literacy and vocational support through Literacy Volunteers 

96% of families participating in the Intensive Family Preservation Program avoided foster care intervention or the removal of a child from the home.

94% of Housing Resource Program participants avoided eviction and maintained safe, stabilized housing.

94% of Housing Resource Program participants avoided eviction and maintained safe, stabilized housing.
I was blindsided when it was announced the company I worked for was relocating out of state. All of a sudden, I was out of work and had no income to support my children. It had been a long time since I searched for a job, and I was overwhelmed by the process. The RITE program helped me brush up my resume, write a cover letter and understand how to use the many online job sites. Most importantly, the program reassured me that my next opportunity was right around the corner. Thanks to the RITE program, my life is back on track and I have the confidence to take my career to the next level.”

Vianelki Jimenez, Reaching Independence Through Employment (RITE) Participant

I had a successful career in Columbia, but moved to the U.S. shortly after I got married. Even though I knew some English, I wanted to become more fluent. Taking classes with Literacy Volunteers was the best way to begin my new life. I was able to improve my English and became part of a community. Best of all, my involvement with Literacy Volunteers led to a new job as a teacher’s assistant at Family Centers’ Grauer Preschool.

Claudia Franco, Literacy Volunteers Participant

I had always struggled with depression and anxiety, and lived in a group home for several years. Over time, I gained a greater sense of independence and felt ready to branch out on my own. I was apprehensive about the transition, but the Housing Resource Program helped me find an apartment and provided support along the way. I am so proud of how far I’ve come, and feel great about my future.”

Beth Daher, Housing Resource Program Participant

The Community and Supportive Services Program offered 2,258 Community Engagement activities and sessions to residents of Charter Oak Communities.

$1,439,696 The value of new and increased income generated by participants of Reaching Independence Through Employment (RITE)

Amy Keohane • Libby King • Layne Kiretsous • Cameron Kittell • Miriam Kliewe • Miriam Kliewe • Yelena Klimpas • Frieda Knopf • Dick Koch • Ana Kolova • Elena Kolova • Kip Koons • Barbara Kornfield • Erin Krakaur • Katie Kulesh • Georgia Kulok • Katie Kolsh • Erica Lacount • Kimberly Lake • Elizabeth Lake • Nicole Lancia • Clifford Lamier • Samira Loschiavo • Mazullo Lauren • Cami Lavoie • Aleksa Lazarewicz-Antsey • Jane Lazgin • Richard Lee • Rich Lee • Analisse Leger • Melanie Leguizamon • Alejandra Leiva • Alicia Leiva • Bob Lemhan • Marice Leo • Holly Lesser • Andrea Levine • Robert Levine • Andrea Levine • Margaret Levy • Donna Liderman • Jim Linden • Michael Lindsay • Nicolette Loaiza • Laura Lohan • Phil Lohmeyer • Jessica Lombardi • Samira Loschiavo • Brendan Loughran • Stacy Loveless • Kristina Loverro • Katherine Lumbry • Shawn Lunn • Reggio Lupo • Elizabeth Lupo • Reggio Lupo • Amanda Lynch • Michael MacDonald • Kyle MacDougall • Barbara Mach-Oleksak • Janisa Mahaparn • Margaret Mahoney • Toni Mahr • Kathleen Makrakis •

20 students participating in the Windrose Work Experience Program received 1,184 hours of career exploration and workforce prep assistance.

202 students participating in the Windrose Work Experience Program received 1,184 hours of career exploration and workforce prep assistance.

115 Section 8 housing residents gained vocational support, wrap-around case management and educational training through the Family Self Sufficiency Program.

155 Section 8 housing residents gained vocational support, wrap-around case management and educational training through the Family Self Sufficiency Program.
Meet Our VOLUNTEERS

“Growing up in New York City, volunteering was never on my radar. I never thought I could make a difference in such a big city with so many resources. When my family moved to Greenwich, I had the opportunity to work with the kids at the Armstrong Court Preschools. I soon found that just reading a book or helping with a classroom activity can make a positive impact on a child's educational growth. Being a part of that is what keeps me coming back.”

Christine Dillard, Literacy Volunteers Tutor

“A year after my daughter died, I wanted to find a way to keep her memory alive by helping others through their own grieving process. I began volunteering at The Den and was so inspired by the program’s compassionate and thorough approach to coping with a loss. I’m constantly in awe of our families’ resiliency, and this work makes me feel as if I’m doing something meaningful. I am retiring from volunteering after 25 years, but The Den and the people I’ve met over the years will always have a warm place in my heart.”

Susan Evans, The Den for Grieving Kids Volunteer

“Tutoring with Literacy Volunteers has been a wonderful experience. I am constantly in awe of my students’ determination, and share in their pride as they improve their language skills. It’s also gratifying to help facilitate an increased level of confidence as they pursue the goals that brought them to this county. Volunteering has rekindled my connection to the community, and allows me to make an impact on a population that’s really struggling these days.”

Eric Hawrylak, Armstrong Court Preschools Volunteer

Our Volunteers...

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