

# Dream Homes Community Center

**To:** Mayor Mark Boughton and the Common Council  
**From:** Rev. Phyllis J. Leopold  
**Re:** February 2010 monthly report

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## I. Program Synopsis

Per the proposal endorsed by Mayor Boughton and the Common Council, Dream Homes Community Center (DHCC) was established to serve as the Point of Entry for people who are homeless or low-income renters and to facilitate first time home ownership for people with hard to serve backgrounds.

## II. Point of Entry

From July 1, 2009 until February 23, 2010, DHCC has met with **58 families** and **66 individuals** through the Point of Entry. One highlight from this month involves a person I will nickname “Gary”:

Gary came to ARC in early December after seeing news coverage of the “Open House Ceremony” for *Vet House*. Gary is a 75 year old veteran of World War II, and at the time he was sleeping in his truck at night around Danbury.

Gary had worked his whole life, but had to stop working full time about 5 years ago. He receives Social Security and a small amount of Service Connected Disability from the Department of Veterans Affairs, about \$1,100 a month. Even though Gary had steady income once he lost his housing he couldn’t save enough for a security deposit. He was caught in a cycle of staying in hotels, eating out, and using more gas in his truck to keep the heat on at night.

When Gary came in to apply for housing through the *Vet House*, he was a little unsure if it was a good fit for him. He had been living in his truck, on his own, for so long he wasn’t sure how he would do living with the other guys. ARC provided him with one night at a hotel, through the Emergency Aide Network, so he could clean up and get some rest on a particularly freezing night in December.

When Gary decided to apply for *Vet House*, ARC’s Case Manager and Housing Advocate, Nikki Singer, encouraged Gary to meet with Mike Finn at the City Shelter. Nikki explained that there were beds available to Veterans, and it would give Gary a chance to meet some of the other guys and have somewhere to stay while his *Vet House* application was being processed. Gary met with Mike that day and stayed at the shelter until he was approved to move into a Permanent Supportive Housing unit at the *Vet House*. This means that Gary will be able to live there as long as he likes and remains in compliance, while paying only 30% of his income toward rent.

### **III. Supportive Housing/Rentals and Home Ownership**

**Housing for Heroes** – ARC is continuing to provide intake and screening services to the NPDCD and the *Vet House*. In February, three (3) potential applicants were screened for transitional units at the *Vet House*.

One candidate entered into an inpatient treatment program shortly after submitting his application and another declined the program after learning he could not drink or have overnight guests. The third applicant is very much interested in the program and is moving through the application process.

### **IV. Outreach & Program Development**

**Danbury Continuum of Care** – No activity. The February meeting cancelled.

**HPRP Screening Committee** – The committee met on February 2, 2010, at ARC. Nikki Singer (DHCC), Lisa Farmer (CACD), and Eileen Walsch (New Opportunities of Waterbury) were present. Five applications from DHCC were reviewed; three were denied due to homelessness criteria and two were postponed.

**HPRP Executive Meeting** – No activity. Cancelled due to snow.

**Homeless Consortium** – No activity. February meeting cancelled.

**Housing Partnership, Social and Supportive Services Committee** – Met February 17 at 9:30 in the Danbury City Hall. Denise Valeri, Sue Zaborowski (COD), Milena Sangut (WCMHN), Dawn Wilson (MCCA), and Nikki Singer (ARC/DHCC) were present. The committee reviewed the Mission Statement to ensure all areas are being addressed.

The committee decided to explore a possible Community Health Day during the first week of August, which would provide free eye exams, dental exams, foot exams, and possibly physicals and shots for school aged children. This event would benefit the uninsured and under-insured.

### **V. Fundraising:**

**Town of Newtown:** DHCC submitted a funding request to the Town of Newtown for \$1,000 toward operating costs of DHCC, as the Regional Point of Entry. On February 17, 2009 Housing Advocate Nikki Singer attended the Newtown Legislative Council meeting to testify on behalf of ARC. The Town unanimously voted to award award \$1,000 for FY 09/10 and invited annual request to the 10/11 budget.

**VI. HMIS Report – 02/01/10 – 02/23/10:**

<b>2. Persons Served during the operating year.</b>	<b>Number of Singles Not in Families</b>	<b>Number of Adults in Families</b>	<b>Number of Children in Families</b>	<b>Number of Families</b>
a. Number on the first day of the operating year.	<u>31</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>26</u>	12
b. Number entering program during the operating year.	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	5
c. Number who left the program during the operating year.	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	4
d. Number in the program on the last day of the operating year. (a+b-c=d)	32	17	28	13
<b>3. Project Capacity.</b>	<b>Number of Singles Not in Families</b>	<b>Number of Adults in Families</b>	<b>Number of Children in Families</b>	<b>Number of Families</b>
a. Number on last day (from 2d, columns 1 and 4)	32			13
<b>4. Non-homeless persons. (Sec. 8 SRO projects only)</b>				
How many income-eligible non-homeless persons were housed by the SRO program during the operating year?				<u>29</u>
<b>5. Age and Gender. Of those who entered during the operating year, how many people are in the following age and gender categories?</b>				
	<b>Age</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Other/Not given</b>
<b>Single Persons (from 2b, column 1)</b>	a. 62 and over	0	0	0
	b. 51 - 61	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	0
	c. 31 - 50	0	<u>1</u>	0
	d. 18 - 30	0	0	0
	e. 17 and under	0	0	0
	<b>Not given</b>	0	0	0
<b>Persons in Families (from 2b, columns 2 &amp; 3)</b>	f. 62 and over	0	0	0
	g. 51 - 61	0	0	0
	h. 31 - 50	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	0
	i. 18 - 30	0	<u>2</u>	0
	j. 13 - 17	0	<u>1</u>	0
	k. 6 - 12	0	<u>5</u>	0
	l. 1 - 5	<u>3</u>	0	0
	m. Under 1	0	0	0
	<b>Not given</b>	0	0	0
	<b>6 - 10. Participants who entered during the operating year.</b>			
<b>6a. Veterans Status.</b>				
A veteran is anyone who has ever been on active military duty status.				0
<b>6b. Chronically Homeless.</b>				

How many participants were chronically homeless individuals?			<u>3</u>
<b>7. Ethnicity.</b>			
a. Hispanic or Latino			<u>1</u>
b. Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino			<u>10</u>
<b>8. Race.</b>			
a. American Indian or Alaskan Native			0
b. Asian			0
c. Black or African American			<u>4</u>
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander			0
e. White			<u>6</u>
f. American Indian/Alaskan Native & White			0
g. Asian & White			0
h. Black/African American & White			0
i. American Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American			0
j. Other Multi-Racial			0
k. Other/Unknown (all that do not match)			<u>1</u>
<b>9a. Special Needs.</b>			
	<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>	
a. Mental illness	0	0	
b. Alcohol abuse	0	0	
c. Drug abuse	0	0	
d. HIV/AIDS or related diseases	0	0	
e. Developmental disability	0	0	
f. Physical disability	0	0	
g. Domestic violence	<u>3</u>	0	
h. Other (please specify)	0	0	
<b>9b. Disabled.</b>			
How many of the participants are disabled?			0
<b>10. Prior Living Situation. Participants slept in the following places the week prior to entering.</b>			
	<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>	
a. Non-housing (street, park, car, bus station, etc.)	0	0	
b. Emergency shelter	<u>1</u>	0	
c. Transitional housing for homeless persons	0		
d. Psychiatric facility	0		
e. Substance abuse treatment facility	0		
f. Hospital	0		
g. Jail/prison	0		
h. Domestic violence situation	0		
i. Living with relatives/friends	<u>3</u>		
j. Rental housing	0		
k. Other (please specify)	<u>7</u>		
<b>11. Amount and Source of Monthly Income at Entry and Exit. Participants who left</b>			

during the operating year.				
Amount	A. Monthly Income at Entry		B. Monthly Income at Exit	
	All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. No Income	<u>3</u>	0	<u>4</u>	0
b. \$1-150	0	0	0	0
c. \$151 - \$250	0	0	0	0
d. \$251 - \$500	0	0	0	0
e. \$501 - \$1000	<u>1</u>	0	0	0
f. \$1001 - \$1500	<u>2</u>	0	<u>2</u>	0
g. \$1501 - \$2000	0	0	0	0
h. \$2000 +	0	0	0	0
Source	C. Income Sources at Entry		D. Income Sources at Exit	
	All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	0	0	0	0
b. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	0	0	0	0
c. Social Security	0	0	0	0
d. General Public Assistance	0	0	0	0
e. Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)	0	0	0	0
f. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	0	0	0	0
g. Veterans benefits	0	0	0	0
h. Employment Income	<u>3</u>	0	<u>2</u>	0
i. Unemployment Benefits	0	0	0	0
j. Veteran's Health Care	0	0	0	0
k. Medicaid	0	0	0	0
l. Food Stamps	<u>1</u>	0	<u>1</u>	0
m. Other (please specify)	<u>2</u>	0	<u>2</u>	0
n. No financial resources	<u>3</u>	0	<u>4</u>	0
12a. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who left during the operating year.				
	All	Chronic		
a. Less than 1 month	<u>3</u>	0		
b. 1 to 2 months	0	0		
c. 3 - 6 months	<u>2</u>	0		
d. 7 months - 12 months	<u>1</u>	0		
e. 13 months - 24 months	0	0		
f. 25 months - 3 years	0	0		
g. 4 years - 5 years	0	0		
h. 6 years - 7 years	0	0		
i. 8 years - 10 years	0	0		
j. over 10 years	0	0		
12b. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who did not leave during the operating year.				

	All	Chronic
a. Less than 1 month	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>
b. 1 to 2 months	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>
c. 3 - 6 months	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>
d. 7 months - 12 months	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>
e. 13 months - 24 months	<u>3</u>	0
f. 25 months - 3 years	0	0
g. 4 years - 5 years	0	0
h. 6 years - 7 years	0	0
i. 8 years - 10 years	0	0
j. over 10 years	0	0
<b>13. Reasons for Leaving. Participants who left during the operating year.</b>		
	All	Chronic
a. Left for a housing opportunity before completing program	<u>1</u>	0
b. Completed program	<u>1</u>	0
c. Non-payment of rent/occupancy charge	0	0
d. Non-compliance with project	0	0
e. Criminal activity / destruction of property / violence	0	0
f. Reached maximum time allowed in project	0	0
g. Needs could not be met by project	<u>1</u>	0
h. Disagreement with rules/persons	0	0
i. Death	0	0
j. Other (please specify)	0	0
k. Unknown/disappeared	<u>3</u>	0
<b>14. Destination. Participants who left during the operating year.</b>		
	All	Chronic
<b>PERMANENT (a - h)</b>		
a. Rental house or apartment (no subsidy)	0	0
b. Public Housing	0	0
c. Section 8	0	0
d. Shelter Plus Care	0	0
e. HOME subsidized house or apartment	0	0
f. Other subsidized house or apartment	0	0
g. Homeownership	0	0
h. Moved in with family or friends	0	0
<b>TRANSITIONAL (i - j)</b>		
i. Transitional housing for homeless persons	0	0
j. Moved in with family or friends	<u>1</u>	0
<b>INSTITUTION (k - m)</b>		
k. Psychiatric hospital	0	0
l. Inpatient alcohol/drug treatment facility	<u>1</u>	0
m. Jail/prison	0	0
<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER (n)</b>		
n. Emergency shelter	0	0
<b>OTHER (o - q)</b>		
o. Other supportive housing	0	0
p. Places not meant for human habitation (e.g. street)	0	0
q. Other (please specify)	0	0

<b>UNKNOWN</b>	r. Unknown	<u>4</u>	0	
<b>15. Supportive Services. Participants who left during the operating year.</b>				
<b>NOTE: The below services were given to participants who left during the operating year. Add the following counts into the appropriate category for question 15.</b>				
	<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Code</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>
1.	Transitional Housing/Shelter	BH-8600	<u>1</u>	0