

# Dream Homes Community Center

**To:** Mayor Mark Boughton and the Common Council  
**From:** Rev. Phyllis J. Leopold  
**Re:** June 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 June 30, 2010, DHCC has provided services to **728 people** through the Point of Entry. One highlight from this month involves a person I will nickname "Rose"

Rose was referred to the Point of Entry by the Women's Center of Greater Danbury. Rose and her two children had been staying in the Women's Center shelter since February, fleeing a violent situation in another state. She needed assistance to move from the shelter into her own apartment.

Rose has a very limited income- she receives cash assistance and food stamps. She had a Section 8 voucher from her previous location, and was able to transfer that voucher to Danbury. While staying at the shelter, she had been trying to save as much of her cash assistance as she could, but wasn't able to save enough to pay the security deposit on an apartment.

When Rose came to ARC, she had identified an apartment and had submitted her paperwork to the Housing Authority of the City of Danbury for approval. The landlord was requesting a two month security deposit, in the amount of **\$2,246**. ARC's Housing Advocate, Nikki Singer, completed an application for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program with Rose to cover her deposit. Rose's full rent would be covered by her Section 8 voucher.

After meeting with Rose, Nikki contacted her potential landlord to explain the program and discuss the amount of the security deposit. She explained that all of Rose's rent was guaranteed each month, due to the voucher, and that it was unlikely the landlord would have to recoup any rent. The landlord agreed to lower the deposit amount to **\$1,500**.

Nikki notified Rose of the decrease in the amount of the deposit. The two discussed Rose's resources and how much she had been able to save over the last three months.

Rose felt she could contribute to her deposit, in the amount of **\$250**. Her application for the remaining **\$1,250** was approved by the HPRP Screening Committee and by ARC.

Rose was able to move into her new home June 18, 2010. She received an ARC Angel “Welcome Basket” within days and some household items. She will continue to receive follow up support from ARC, and is considering enrolling her son in ARC’s Peace Camp this summer.

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

**Housing for Heroes** – ARC continues to provide screening and intake services to the Non-Profit Development Corporation of Danbury (NPDCD) for the Vet House on New Street. In June, one new applicant was screened for the program. ARC continued to work with two pending applicants, one who was accepted into the transitional housing program June 19. He will be able to live in the Vet House for up to two years. The other applicant is working with the Vet House team to demonstrate his motivation and commitment to improving his situation.

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

**Danbury Continuum of Care** – The Continuum of Care meeting Tuesday June 8 at 2pm at the Danbury City Hall. Milena Sangut (WCMHN), Michele Condorino (HOT), Dawn Wilson (MCCA), Gladys McFarland (Amos House), Katie Cowell (CACD), Bill Solidad (CACD), Barbara West (CACD), Eileen Walsch (NOW), Melanie Johnson (APGD), Sue Zaborowski (COD), and Nikki Singer (ARC) were present. A representative from the Danbury Vet Center gave a presentation on the services that will be available at the Center for combat veterans.

Milena announced that Danbury’s Pro Rata is \$79,000, with the bonus that will total \$90,000 in available new funding. A portion of that (\$10,000) is will go to support the HIMS activities at the Point of Entry. The COC discussed using the remaining dollars for three additional “lease only” vouchers to go to persons who are homeless, to provide two years of rent.

**HPRP Screening Committee** – The committee met on Tuesday June 8, at 10 am at Community Action Committee of Danbury (CACD). Phyllis Kinlow (CACD), Sara Arroyo (CACD), Eileen Walsch (NOW), and Nikki Singer (ARC) were present.

Six cases were presented at the screening committee (2 from CACD and 4 from ARC). One case was determined to be ineligible for services. The other five cases were approved: three families for rapid re-housing and two single adults for prevention services.

**HPRP Roundtable** – The Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH) hosted a state-wide HPRP Roundtable on June 11, at 12 noon at New Opportunities of Meriden. The Roundtable brought together representatives of from each of the five regions in the state to discuss challenges and tools for HPRP. Each region has been developing different tools to determine “at-risk” factors, ability to sustain, and prioritize cases. Each attendee agreed to forward any tools and forms to CCEH, who in turn will send out to HPRP agencies.

**HMIS Webinar** – On June 15, ARC’s Housing Advocate participated in a one hour webinar to review changes to the HMIS. The Changes reflect new definitions set out by HUD and additional information that HUD wants agencies to begin collecting on persons who are homeless or at risk. Most significant, HUD is broadening the definition of Homelessness to include persons who will lose their housing within 14 days. Changes took effect on June 1, 2010, and Nutmeg is in the process of changing HMIS assessments for each agency to reflect changes.

**HEARTH Roundtable** – CCEH hosted a roundtable on the HEARTH ACT at 9:30 am on June 18 at the South Congregational Church in Hartford. Participants included representatives from 6 Continua of Care: Danbury, Bristol, New Haven, Hartford, Waterbury, and the Balance of State. The purpose of the roundtable was to introduce changes in homeless definitions and new outcomes set forth by HUD in the HEARTH Act. It was discussed that HUD will be looking to decrease the number of Continua in states with a high number of Continua, such as Connecticut. The changes in definitions and outcomes will change the HUD is funding programs. There is a shift in emphasis to decreasing Emergency Shelter stays and providing more prevention services.

**HUD Start-up Training** – On June 24 ARC’s Housing Advocate attended a training at the HUD office in Hartford to review the HMIS grant and the projected outcomes for the System Administrator. Also discussed where the requirements for a monitoring visit of agencies participating in HMIS. HUD will begin monitoring visits in the Winter of 2010.

## V. HMIS Report – 07/01/09 – 06/25/10:

Entry/Exit Report (ServicePoint 4.05 version)

Report Options:

Provider: Dream Homes Community Center (#330)

This provider AND its children.  This provider ONLY.

Entry/Exit Type: HUD-40118

Operating Year Date  to  (mm/dd/yyyy)  
Range

Legal Adult Age  (as defined by foster care law in your state)

Or

**\* The numbers generated by this HUD report may not be valid for Federal funding purposes unless the report is run by an Agency Administrator or Executive Director.**

2. Persons Served during the operating year.	Number of Singles Not in Families	Number of Adults in Families	Number of Children in Families	Number of Families
a. Number on the first day of the operating year.	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	2
b. Number entering program during the operating year.	<u>113</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>59</u>	36
c. Number who left the program during the operating year.	<u>76</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>42</u>	22
d. Number in the program on the last day of the operating year. (a+b-c=d)	46	19	22	16
3. Project Capacity.	Number of Singles Not in Families	Number of Adults in Families	Number of Children in Families	Number of Families
a. Number on last day (from 2d, columns 1 and 4)	46			16
4. Non-homeless persons. (Sec. 8 SRO projects only)				
How many income-eligible non-homeless persons were housed by the SRO program during the operating year?				<u>75</u>
5. Age and Gender. Of those who entered during the operating year, how many people are in the following age and gender categories?				
	Age	Male	Female	Other/Not given
Single Persons (from 2b, column 1)	a. 62 and over	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	0
	b. 51 - 61	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>	0
	c. 31 - 50	<u>24</u>	<u>21</u>	0
	d. 18 - 30	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1</u>
	e. 17 and under	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>	0
	Not given	0	0	<u>1</u>
Persons in Families (from 2b, columns 2 & 3)	f. 62 and over	0	0	0
	g. 51 - 61	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	0

	<b>h.</b> 31 - 50	<a href="#">4</a>	<a href="#">21</a>	0
	<b>i.</b> 18 - 30	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">15</a>	0
	<b>j.</b> 13 - 17	<a href="#">7</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	0
	<b>k.</b> 6 - 12	<a href="#">9</a>	<a href="#">10</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
	<b>l.</b> 1 - 5	<a href="#">14</a>	<a href="#">10</a>	0
	<b>m.</b> Under 1	<a href="#">2</a>	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.				<a href="#">22</a>
<b>6b. Chronically Homeless.</b>				
How many participants were chronically homeless individuals?				<a href="#">28</a>
<b>7. Ethnicity.</b>				
<b>a.</b> Hispanic or Latino				<a href="#">36</a>
<b>b.</b> Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino				<a href="#">123</a>
<b>8. Race.</b>				
<b>a.</b> American Indian or Alaskan Native				<a href="#">1</a>
<b>b.</b> Asian				0
<b>c.</b> Black or African American				<a href="#">28</a>
<b>d.</b> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander				0
<b>e.</b> White				<a href="#">99</a>
<b>f.</b> American Indian/Alaskan Native & White				0
<b>g.</b> Asian & White				0
<b>h.</b> Black/African American & White				<a href="#">1</a>
<b>i.</b> American Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American				0
<b>j.</b> Other Multi-Racial				<a href="#">10</a>
<b>k.</b> Other/Unknown (all that do not match)				<a href="#">20</a>
<b>9a. Special Needs.</b>				
		<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>	
<b>a.</b>	Mental illness	<a href="#">10</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	
<b>b.</b>	Alcohol abuse	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">2</a>	
<b>c.</b>	Drug abuse	0	0	
<b>d.</b>	HIV/AIDS or related diseases	0	0	
<b>e.</b>	Developmental disability	<a href="#">1</a>	0	
<b>f.</b>	Physical disability	<a href="#">12</a>	<a href="#">2</a>	
<b>g.</b>	Domestic violence	<a href="#">24</a>	<a href="#">3</a>	
<b>h.</b>	Other (please specify)	<a href="#">3</a>	0	
<b>9b. Disabled.</b>				
How many of the participants are disabled?				<a href="#">25</a>
<b>10. Prior Living Situation. Participants slept in the following places the week prior to entering.</b>				
		<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>	
<b>a.</b>	Non-housing (street, park, car, bus station, etc.)	<a href="#">14</a>	<a href="#">4</a>	

b. Emergency shelter	<u>34</u>	<u>9</u>
c. Transitional housing for homeless persons	<u>5</u>	
d. Psychiatric facility	0	
e. Substance abuse treatment facility	<u>1</u>	
f. Hospital	<u>1</u>	
g. Jail/prison	<u>2</u>	
h. Domestic violence situation	0	
i. Living with relatives/friends	<u>56</u>	
j. Rental housing	<u>7</u>	
k. Other (please specify)	<u>39</u>	

**11. Amount and Source of Monthly Income at Entry and Exit. Participants who left during the operating year.**

Amount	A. Monthly Income at Entry		B. Monthly Income at Exit	
	All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. No Income	<u>63</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>9</u>
b. \$1-150	0	0	0	0
c. \$151 - \$250	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>
d. \$251 - \$500	<u>3</u>	0	<u>1</u>	0
e. \$501 - \$1000	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>
f. \$1001 - \$1500	<u>10</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>
g. \$1501 - \$2000	<u>2</u>	0	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
h. \$2000 +	<u>3</u>	0	<u>3</u>	0
Source	C. Income Sources at Entry		D. Income Sources at Exit	
	All	Chronic	All	Chronic
a. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
b. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>
c. Social Security	<u>2</u>	0	<u>2</u>	0
d. General Public Assistance	0	0	0	0
e. Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)	<u>2</u>	0	<u>2</u>	0
f. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	0	0	0	0
g. Veterans benefits	<u>1</u>	0	<u>1</u>	0
h. Employment Income	<u>16</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>2</u>
i. Unemployment Benefits	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>
j. Veteran's Health Care	0	0	0	0
k. Medicaid	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
l. Food Stamps	<u>22</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>5</u>
m. Other (please specify)	<u>13</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>1</u>
n. No financial resources	<u>66</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>10</u>

**12a. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who left during the operating year.**

	All	Chronic
a. Less than 1 month	<u>75</u>	<u>10</u>

b. 1 to 2 months	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>	
c. 3 - 6 months	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>	
d. 7 months - 12 months	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	
e. 13 months - 24 months	<u>2</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>12b. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who did not leave during the operating year.</b>			
	<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>	
a. Less than 1 month	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>	
b. 1 to 2 months	<u>39</u>	<u>3</u>	
c. 3 - 6 months	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	
d. 7 months - 12 months	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	
e. 13 months - 24 months	<u>2</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>			
	<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>	
a. Left for a housing opportunity before completing program	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	
b. Completed program	<u>75</u>	<u>12</u>	
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>11</u>	<u>1</u>	
h. Disagreement with rules/persons	0	0	
i. Death	0	0	
j. Other (please specify)	0	0	
k. Unknown/disappeared	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>	
<b>14. Destination. Participants who left during the operating year.</b>			
		<b>All</b>	<b>Chronic</b>
<b>PERMANENT (a - h)</b>	a. Rental house or apartment (no subsidy)	0	0
	b. Public Housing	0	0
	c. Section 8	<u>1</u>	0
	d. Shelter Plus Care	0	0
	e. HOME subsidized house or apartment	0	0
	f. Other subsidized house or apartment	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

	<b>g.</b> Homeownership	0	0	
	<b>h.</b> Moved in with family or friends	0	0	
<b>TRANSITIONAL (i - j)</b>	<b>i.</b> Transitional housing for homeless persons	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	
	<b>j.</b> Moved in with family or friends	0	0	
<b>INSTITUTION (k - m)</b>	<b>k.</b> Psychiatric hospital	0	0	
	<b>l.</b> Inpatient alcohol/drug treatment facility	<a href="#">1</a>	0	
	<b>m.</b> Jail/prison	0	0	
<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER (n)</b>	<b>n.</b> Emergency shelter	0	0	
<b>OTHER (o - q)</b>	<b>o.</b> Other supportive housing	0	0	
	<b>p.</b> Places not meant for human habitation (e.g. street)	0	0	
	<b>q.</b> Other (please specify)	<a href="#">69</a>	<a href="#">11</a>	
<b>UNKNOWN</b>	<b>r.</b> Unknown	<a href="#">27</a>	<a href="#">7</a>	
<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.	Basic Needs	B	<a href="#">1</a>	0
2.	Housing Counseling	BH-3700	<a href="#">1</a>	0
3.	Rental Deposit Assistance	BH-3800.7250	<a href="#">1</a>	0
4.	Single Room Occupancy Housing	BH-7000.4600-800	<a href="#">1</a>	0
5.	Transitional Housing/Shelter	BH-8600	<a href="#">1</a>	0