

# Dream Homes Community Center

**To:** Mayor Mark Boughton and the City Council

**From:** Nikki Singer, Homeless and Housing Advocate

**Re:** August 2012 Monthly Report

**cc:** ARC Executive Director & ARC Board of Directors

## I. Program Synopsis

Per the proposal endorsed by Mayor Boughton and the City Council, Dream Homes Community Center (DHCC) was established at ARC 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, 2012 until August 27, 2012, DHCC has provided services to **164 people (33 families with children and 46 single adults)** through the Point of Entry at ARC. The following is a breakdown of people served, by towns within the Greater Danbury Area:

<b>Town</b>	<b>July 2010 - June 2011</b>	<b>July 2011 - June 2012</b>	<b>July 1, 2012 - August 27, 2012</b>
<b>Danbury</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>115</b>
Bethel	39	26	10
Brookfield	38	33	1
New Fairfield	25	34	5
New Milford	81	77	21
Newtown	17	4	5
Redding	6	7	0
Ridgefield	9	8	0
Sherman	6	2	0
Other Towns	78	45	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>164</b>

### III. \*NEW\* Emergency Security Deposit & Rent Assistance Grants

Dream Homes Community Center wrapped up the Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program in April 2012. The program provided emergency financial assistance with security deposits and back rent payments. This was extremely effective – ending and preventing homelessness for **75 single adults and 66 families** in our region. The ARC Board has allocated funds for Dream Homes Community Center to continue providing emergency assistance with security deposits during the current fiscal year. The new funds will target families and individuals who meet the HUD definition of homeless.

In August 2012 we awarded:

- **\$400 toward a Security Deposit:** A single woman, living in her car after her landlord lost the apartment she was living in to foreclosure.
- **\$400 toward a Security Deposit:** A family of 4, who were doubled up at a friends house and had to move August 15.

### IV. Program Highlights—Story of 1 family we worked with this month (*names changed*)

Maria, Tony and their 2 children were sharing a room in her cousin's home. Their cousin told them they needed to move out August 1, as family from out of state was coming to live with them and there was not room for everyone to stay there. Maria heard about Dream Homes from a friend and made an appointment to come in and talk to the Homeless & Housing Advocate.

When Maria came in, the family had moved in with a friend who offered them a room for a couple of weeks so the family would have time to find an apartment. The friend's landlord would only allow the family to stay there for a few weeks. Tony was working full time, but Maria was starting her new job the same day as her appointment. The family would be able to afford an apartment, but had no money saved up to help with a security deposit. In addition to having limited resources for the deposit, neither had ever rented an apartment in their own name.

The Homeless & Housing Advocate completed an application for assistance with a security deposit with Maria. She connected the couple to two other security deposit programs – Off the Streets and TBICO – to come up with additional funds to cover the full deposit. The couple also received a list of landlords who have relationships with Dream Homes, and would be more willing to accept a family with limited rental history and low credit.

Maria followed up on the apartment search and found an apartment a 3 bedroom apartment that she and Tony would be able to afford. The deposit would be 2 months rent, and they were able to borrow half of it from family. Dream Homes approved the family for \$400 toward the deposit and Off the Streets agreed to match that amount. Given the family's situation and Dream Homes' on-going involvement with the family through case management, the landlord agreed to let the family move in August 15 with a commitment letter from Dream Homes for the deposit.

Maria and Tony are now in their first own apartment with their children, a big step for this family. Dream Homes will continue to work with the family to help them become successful and self-sustaining in their new home.

**v. HMIS Report – Dream Homes Community Center July 1, 2012 – August 27, 2012**

<b>2. Persons Served during the operating year.</b>	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.	5	1	5	2
b. Number entering program during the operating year.	12	2	1	1
c. Number who left the program during the operating year.	6	0	0	0
d. Number in the program on the last day of the operating year. (a+b-c=d)	11	3	6	3
<b>3. Project Capacity.</b>	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)	11			3
<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?				19
<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>				
	Age	Male	Female	Other/Not given
<b>Single Persons (from 2b, column 1)</b>	a. 62 and over	2	0	0
	b. 51 - 61	1	0	0
	c. 31 - 50	4	1	0
	d. 18 - 30	3	1	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	0	0	0
	i. 18 - 30	1	1	0
	j. 13 - 17	0	0	0
	k. 6 - 12	0	0	0
	l. 1 - 5	0	1	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.				5
<b>6b. Chronically Homeless.</b>				

How many participants were chronically homeless individuals?			4
<b>7. Ethnicity.</b>			
a. Hispanic or Latino			1
b. Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino			13
<b>8. Race.</b>			
a. American Indian or Alaskan Native			1
b. Asian			0
c. Black or African American			6
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander			0
e. White			7
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)			0
<b>9a. Special Needs.</b>			
	All	Chronic	
a. Mental illness	4	1	
b. Alcohol abuse	1	0	
c. Drug abuse	0	0	
d. HIV/AIDS or related diseases	0	0	
e. Developmental disability	0	0	
f. Physical disability	6	4	
g. Domestic violence	2	1	
h. Other (please specify)	0	0	
<b>9b. Disabled.</b>			
How many of the participants are disabled?			8
<b>10. Prior Living Situation. Participants slept in the following places the week prior to entering.</b>			
	All	Chronic	
a. Non-housing (street, park, car, bus station, etc.)	3	2	
b. Emergency shelter	3	1	
c. Transitional housing for homeless persons	0		
d. Psychiatric facility	0		
e. Substance abuse treatment facility	3		
f. Hospital	0		
g. Jail/prison	0		
h. Domestic violence situation	0		
i. Living with relatives/friends	2		
j. Rental housing	2		

k. Other (please specify)	1	
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**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	0	0	0	0
b. \$1-150	0	0	0	0
c. \$151 - \$250	3	0	3	0
d. \$251 - \$500	0	0	0	0
e. \$501 - \$1000	2	1	1	1
f. \$1001 - \$1500	1	1	1	1
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)	1	1	1	1
b. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	1	1	1	1
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	0	0	0	0
i. Unemployment Benefits	0	0	0	0
j. Veteran's Health Care	3	1	3	1
k. Medicaid	2	0	2	0
l. Food Stamps	4	1	5	2
m. Other (please specify)	2	1	1	1
n. No financial resources	2	0	2	0

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

	All	Chronic
a. Less than 1 month	4	1
b. 1 to 2 months	1	1
c. 3 - 6 months	1	0
d. 7 months - 12 months	0	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
<b>12b. Length of Stay in Program. Participants who did not leave during the operating year.</b>		
	All	Chronic
a. Less than 1 month	9	3
b. 1 to 2 months	3	0
c. 3 - 6 months	2	0
d. 7 months - 12 months	0	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
<b>13. Reasons for Leaving. Participants who left during the operating year.</b>		
	All	Chronic
a. Left for a housing opportunity before completing program	0	0
b. Completed program	6	2
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	0	0
h. Disagreement with rules/persons	0	0
i. Death	0	0
j. Other (please specify)	0	0
k. Unknown/disappeared	0	0
<b>14. Destination. Participants who left during the operating year.</b>		
	All	Chronic
<b>PERMANENT</b> (a - h)		
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	1	1
g. Homeownership	0	0
h. Moved in with family or friends	0	0
<b>TRANSITIONAL</b> (i - j)		
i. Transitional housing for homeless persons	4	1
j. Moved in with family or friends	1	0
<b>INSTITUTION</b> (k - m)		
k. Psychiatric hospital	0	0
l. Inpatient alcohol/drug treatment facility	0	0

	<b>m. Jail/prison</b>	0	0
<b>EMERGENCY SHELTER (n)</b>	<b>n. Emergency shelter</b>	0	0
<b>OTHER (o - q)</b>	<b>o. Other supportive housing</b>	0	0
	<b>p. Places not meant for human habitation (e.g. street)</b>	0	0
	<b>q. Other (please specify)</b>	0	0
<b>UNKNOWN</b>	<b>r. Unknown</b>	0	0

**15. Supportive Services. Participants who left during the operating year.**

**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.

	Service	Service Code	All	Chronic
1.	Identification Card Fee Payment Assistance	DF-7020.3300	1	0