

# COMMUNITY



**Community Renewal Team**  
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!

2014  
ANNUAL REPORT

## Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges

On front:

Children from **CRT's Early Care and Education** program grew herbs and vegetables near their playground this summer, as part of the '*I am Healthy!*' campaign. In addition to preschool students, the program reaches grandparents raising grandchildren, dads, veterans and many others.

Opposite:

Graduates of the **Middlesex Jobs First Employment Service** take their oath as Certified Nursing Assistants. Parents who receive TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) get career counseling, job training at Middlesex Community College and job placement services.



**Community Renewal Team**  
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!

# IN THE



For our customers, we:

Treat all people with dignity and respect

Act with integrity, accountability and responsibility

Deliver quality programs and services

Pursue excellence and innovation

CRT has built specialized housing for families, grandparents raising grandchildren and seniors. Residents of **St. Michael's Place** in Hartford (shown opposite) enjoy large apartments in a renovated historic school and have planted extensive flower and vegetable gardens.



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# ROOTED





CRT services reached

114,563

people last year

45,253

families

VETERANS PROGRAMS

- Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Veterans Housing
- Veterans Landing Assisted Living

ENERGY AND WEATHERIZATION

- Energy Assistance
- Weatherization

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

- Alternatives in the Community
- Fresh Start
- Transitional Case Management

SENIOR SERVICES

- Gatekeeper
- Meals on Wheels
- Retreat Assisted Living
- Retired and Senior Volunteers
- Senior Affordable Housing
- Senior Cafés

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

- Capital City YouthBuild
- Fatherhood
- Jobs First Employment Services
- Middlesex Youth Development
- SNAP Employment & Training
- Summer Youth Employment

HOUSING AND SHELTERS

- Affordable Housing
- CHAP
- Family Shelter
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- Men's Shelter
- Supportive Housing

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

- Infant/Toddler Day Care
- Head Start and Preschool
- Day Care Nutrition
- Promoting Healthy Teens
- Summer Food

MENTAL HEALTH/WELLNESS

- Asian Family Services
- Behavioral Health Services
- HIV Counseling Services
- Homeless Outreach
- Re-Entry Recovery Services

MONEY MANAGEMENT

- Eviction & Foreclosure Prevention
- IDA Savings Program
- VITA Tax Filing
- Your Money

BASIC NEEDS

- Resource Centers
- Food Assistance

CRT



27,452

children 6-17 years

21,950

seniors

13,120

children 0-5 years

# Changing Lives... Creating Opportunities

## In the past year...

1,744

children thrive in CRT Early Care

A new summer program got the youngest preschoolers off to a great start in school.

Story page 3



760

seniors volunteer at CRT

Volunteers find meaning through service in schools, hospitals and the Bradley Airport.

Story page 9



6,170

CRT dads live with their kids

Men work on relationships, parenting and handling conflict at CRT's Fatherhood Initiative.

Story page 7



Veterans who are unemployed, homeless or about to be evicted turn to CRT.

Story page 11

280

vets served by CRT Veteran Services



Teens and young adults gain skills they will need to succeed in the workplace.

Story page 5

202

youth get work experience at CRT

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# Message from the Chairman

"Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges"

Mission Statement



A half-century ago, President Lyndon B. Johnson announced that his Administration was declaring a War on Poverty and creating the Office of Economic Opportunity to lead a multi-front assault "on the barriers to prosperity that face far too many of our citizens."

In a message to Congress in March 1964, Pres. Johnson said: "Through a new Community Action program we intend to strike at poverty at its source - in the streets of our cities and on the farms of our countryside, among the very young and the impoverished old. This program asks men and women throughout the country to prepare long-range plans for the attack on poverty in their own local communities."

From this declaration grew a network of Community Action Partners stretching across the nation. Already active in the areas of housing and employment, the one-year-old Community Renewal Team of Greater Hartford became one of the first certified CAPs in the country.

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees at CRT, I am grateful to the visionaries who saw the power of public-private partnerships to address the causes and conditions of poverty. Fifty years later, I am proud that Community Action is still playing such a vital role in three phases: assessing community-wide concerns; addressing immediate needs; and providing tools so people can make long term change in their lives.

Working within our community, I meet people who are familiar with many of CRT's programs. They may know of YouthBuild, Head Start, Energy Assistance, or Meals on Wheels. These are what you might call the "brand name" programs, which have made a tremendous impact over the years.

But my neighbors are less familiar with CRT as an incubator for new and innovative ideas. They may not know that this organization has pioneered affordable assisted living and multi-generational housing for grandparents raising their grandchildren. They will never see the Veteran Services Job Fair or the YouthBuild Employer Council meetings that lead to job offers for youth, Veterans and others whose criminal past makes it hard to find work.

And they are certainly unaware of the work being done throughout the Agency to reduce childhood obesity and improve senior health with nutrition, exercise and education for participants from the age of three to 83.

I have often said how proud I am to be part of this energetic and innovative organization. A special thanks to the dedicated employees who have served CRT for more than fifty years. Without them, this work would not have been accomplished.

At the close of this commemorative year for the Community Action movement, we are all aware that it is not a "Golden" anniversary for the people we serve. As we look to the future, we must redouble our efforts to close the income gap ... the achievement gap ... the affordable housing gap ... which will benefit all residents of Central Connecticut.

Please join us in this important work.

**Fernando Betancourt**  
Chair of CRT Board of Trustees

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*Hartford*



# Message from the President

From the early grassroots organization that addressed basic needs in a half-dozen communities, CRT has evolved into a multi-faceted agency with more than 60 programs which address a continuum of concerns.

Our broad-based network of innovative, high-quality programs and services assists people in more than 100 communities. In the past year, we provided services and support to more than 114,000 people, many of whom have not previously sought help from a social service agency.

While the needs continue, the resources to meet them are flat or diminishing. Like many agencies, we must create efficiencies without diminishing the outcomes for participants. Last year, CRT created a one-stop Multi-Service Center in Hartford (pictured below) where we have grouped more than 20 of CRT's programs – from addiction services to weatherization – under one roof. Staff from one program can walk a client across the hall to a specialist in another program, ensuring a personal referral and a smooth transition.

The first floor of that building is the primary location for our Behavioral Health Service, an accredited clinic which offers affordable mental health and substance abuse services. We provide individual and group counseling to hundreds of people each year, and yet we know there are still many unmet needs in the community. As CRT Behavioral Health passes its 10-year anniversary, we continue to design services to assist under-served groups.

Clinical services are a vital component of CRT's scattered-site Supportive Housing program, which provides rental subsidies and wrap-around services to 144 families. By ensuring that mental health and substance abuse issues are addressed, CRT increases the stability and success of these families.

CRT leverages its partnerships and resources, finding ways to meet unfunded community needs. A perfect example is our Financial Literacy Institute. This is a free 14-week course that covers budgets and savings, credit repair, home ownership, retirement and more, designed and taught by our staff and experts from the community. Starting this year, graduates of this course will earn three credits from Goodwin College.

This year's report features other high-impact programming created to address community concerns. One of these is our Fatherhood Initiative, where discussions delve into sensitive topics including personal values, child development and anger management. We are now providing four sessions per week (day and evening) at three different locations to accommodate all of the men who are interested.

You will also read about our new Jumpstart program, a 10-week introduction to preschool for children who are just turning three. One way to close the achievement gap is to empower parents as educational partners in their children's academic success. By alternating days at school with teachers' home visits and group activities, Jumpstart staff formed deeper relationships with the families.

The participants who tell their stories here are just a few examples of the people whose lives have been changed through their work with the dedicated CRT staff. Our organization created an opportunity – but it was these determined individuals and families who seized that opportunity and made it their own.

With your support, CRT can continue to present our fellow citizens with these opportunities. Through training and education, employment counseling, access to medical and mental health services, keeping families secure and warm in their homes, caring for our elders and giving hope to the homeless, CRT will keep the promise of community action: helping people and changing lives.



**Lena Rodriguez**  
President and CEO





**1,390** children in CRT preschool each day

**4,170** meals and snacks served daily in CRT classrooms

Troy Seay has made tremendous progress since his mom, Tomika Young, brought him to CRT's Jumpstart program.

# Jumpstart Education

# Gentle start brings rapid gains

“With home visits and smaller classes, the children and their parents get really comfortable. You’re establishing a real partnership, where parents are allies.”

Troy Seay loves to bounce along with music and cruise the classroom, holding onto furniture. He sits down for lunch or a story – but only if his friends do it first.

These are all new skills for three-year-old Troy. Born a “micro-preemie” at 1 pound 7 ounces, he left the hospital with 24-hour in-home nursing care, a ventilator and a feeding tube. Specialists have worked with Troy and his mother, Tomika Young, since early in the pregnancy. Recently they determined that Troy has autism, among other challenges.

This summer, Troy enrolled in CRT’s new Jumpstart program – a 10-week introduction to preschool for children just turning three. It’s a hybrid between center-based and in-home programs: classes meet three days a week; on alternate days, teachers visit families’ homes and organize group activities. In 2014, Jumpstart enrolled 163 youngsters, helping them separate from their parents, follow directions, share and anticipate transitions.

The idea is to reach families early and introduce school gradually. “With home visits and smaller classes, the children and their parents get really comfortable,” says Emilie Montgomery, CRT’s Director of Early Care and Education. “You’re establishing a real partnership, where parents are allies.” Alternating home and school days lets parents reinforce what’s learned at school. In the fall, the children move to a five-day schedule.

The program is not explicitly for children with disabilities. But like all Headstart programs, Jumpstart serves at least 10% children with special needs.

Young is grateful for the ways CRT staff have helped Troy blossom. Both his speech and mobility were significantly delayed by spending 19 months on ventilators. Initially he was bed-bound with a huge machine; then he transitioned to a mobile (but cumbersome) alternative, which allowed some limited movement.



But the tube in his throat still prevented any vocalization. “These children are called ‘silent babies’ because they can’t talk with a trach,” said his mother. “He was more than two before he started to put sounds together.”

Young tears up when she describes her son’s recent

advances. “His progress was absolutely remarkable,” she says. “He was communicating with me, having fewer tantrums and settling into activities.” Best of all, Troy loves going to school – he wakes up eager to put on clothes and get out the door.

The program also gives Young time to return to school herself. She left a managerial position

with a copier company so she could care for Troy full time. Now her sights are set on nursing, to help families like hers. While Troy attended the summer program, Young enrolled in her first three courses, and she’s taking three more this fall.

Connecticut’s achievement gap is still the largest in the nation. But Montgomery, the Early Care Director, says that the Jumpstart model may help to close that gap. “This encourages earlier enrollment of children and supports parents as partner-educators,” she said. “If it means parents like Tomika can go to school and improve their job prospects, you’re seeing two-generation gains that will help us close the achievement gap, one child at a time.”

**163** children in Jumpstart

**493** graduated to kindergarten in 2014

**100%** children receive vision and dental screenings



# Youth Employment

Ta'Kyra Greene  
loves her job  
in the after-school  
program at  
Spencer School  
in Middletown.

202 enrolled in  
youth employment  
programs

100% earn stipends and  
learn to budget

# Conquering doubt, moving ahead

High school students who define career goals are more likely to stay in school, continue into post-secondary education and have more stable careers.

Ta'Kyra Greene was confused. The Middletown High senior had always been a motivated student who knew her path to success: Get to class on time, earn good grades, and work after school to help with the bills.

But suddenly she had no clue about the next steps on that path. "I kind of let high school define me, I depended on the structure," says Ta'Kyra, who is now 19. "When I thought about making my own choices, that was scary." She started skipping classes, let her grades drop, and talked about feeling lost.



Many youth go through a period of "school disconnection," which may spiral into academic disaster. They cut classes, fall behind and lose credits they need to graduate. Without intervention, these discouraged students often drop out of school.

Fortunately, Ta'Kyra learned about Middlesex Youth Career Development Service, a CRT program that targets students at risk of dropping out. Partnering with three Middlesex high schools, MYCDS provides each youth an individualized combination of college and career counseling, employment and life skills.

It's built on research showing that high school students who define specific career goals are more likely to stay in school, continue into post-secondary education and have more stable careers.

Ta'Kyra worked with program manager Julie Sapia-Bryant to envision her adult life as a minister helping troubled youth. Using elements from the Adkins Life Skills curriculum, Ta'Kyra and her peers drafted resumes, practiced job interviews and drew up budgets. They filled out college applications and financial aid forms, and read about the schools they might attend.

Still she would fluctuate between aspirations and doubt. "I was raised by a single mom, in a family of five with no regular income," Ta'Kyra says. She was determined to earn a steady paycheck but questioned whether college and a professional life were realistic goals.

Through MYCDS she lined up a summer job that boosted her self-confidence and opened some professional doors. As a YMCA camp counselor, she learned to swim, ride a horse, build a fire and shoot archery alongside the children. "I was a girl who lived in apartment buildings all my life. I'd never spent time in the outdoors. When I realized I could do all these things, I was amazed!"

Her supervisors asked Ta'Kyra to continue in the before- and after-school program for elementary school children. At the same time, she received confirmation of her financial aid package for college: full tuition; a book allowance; and a free laptop computer.

Today, Ta'Kyra attends Middlesex Community College, works for the "Y" and volunteers as



a cheerleading coach for 9- and 10-year-olds. She recently organized a youth music showcase at her church and hopes to see it grow into a gospel program.

"I can tell you, I wouldn't be here if it weren't for God's grace and the blessing of working with CRT," Ta'Kyra says. "I'm grateful to the people who pushed me. Julie always believed in me, was my teacher, career coach and mentor. In a few more years, that's where I want to be – helping other kids when they start feeling lost."

In-school youth:  
**93%**  
go into job/post-secondary  
education after graduation

Out-of-school youth:  
**100%**  
re-engage in high  
school classes



**167** participants enrolled every year

**91%** participate in other CRT counseling



Jose Lugo shows off his kids and talks proudly of their achievements. Dennis Tomczak enjoys such moments with his clients.

**27%**

participants referred for CRT non-clinical programs

# Fatherhood Program



# A second chance with my kids

It's a rainy Friday night, and Jose Lugo is at Notre Dame High School in West Haven, tailgating with his family before his son's football game. The proud dad says he gets to every game, no matter the weather. Yet he missed many of the key victories that led up to this season while serving a federal sentence for drug sales.

"I lost at least five years of my kids' lives" he says. Although his wife took the children to Virginia to visit him in prison, "that's not a substitute for having a real father. When I got out, the little one barely knew me. The two older ones, they couldn't trust that I'd be there for them." More than a year after his release, his middle school daughter still wants him to call to "check in" whenever he travels.

All of this is perfectly normal according to Dennis Tomczak, who runs the CRT Fatherhood Initiative that helped Lugo readjust to family life. Dads and their children need time to re-establish bonds – regardless of what issues have kept them apart.

The children may act out, be hyper-clingy or look for inappropriate ways to get their father's approval and attention. "For some men, this can be an irritant," Tomczak says. "But the dads need to see it from the children's point of view. They're showing their needs and affection."

That's one of the topics covered in the weekly sessions Tomczak runs. Certified by the CT Department of Social Services, the CRT Fatherhood Initiative delves into topics ranging from core values to communication to conflict and control. Men can be referred from the court and correctional systems, or may voluntarily seek support with relationships in their homes, family and workplace.

Research confirms the importance of supportive, involved fathers in the lives of their children, their partners and their communities. Reconnecting with these pro-social networks is a strong predictor of successful reintegration for those returning from incarceration. "But many men had no role models or only negative ones. They need education and support to make the right choices, and then they need a chance to practice new skills," says Tomczak, who is a clinician and Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor.

"Many men had no role models or only negative ones. They need education and support to make the right choices, and then they need a chance to practice new skills..."

Many participants receive additional counseling within CRT's Behavioral Health Service. The dads and their families can address challenges of employment, housing, food and other basic needs through referrals to other CRT resources, co-located in the Multi-Service Center in Hartford.

Lugo thinks the multi-pronged CRT approach is tremendous. He had taken a nine-month intensive treatment program in prison, but the stresses outside the prison walls are very different. "My addiction was always the money, the fast life," Lugo says. "I had my own business, a used car lot, but that wasn't enough. I had to be bigger, flashier, and that's what got me in trouble."

At age 37, things are falling into place for Lugo. While still in the halfway house he returned to the car business, and is now one of the top sales specialists at a dealership along the shoreline. He gets home for dinner with the family every night and helps with homework or chores. "I think about being my son's age and already being out on the streets," says Lugo, who was first sentenced to prison at age 17. "I'm determined that's not happening again."

**45%** earn the right to request a 20% reduction in back child support debt

**100%** participants complete a family budget



# This year CATCH had

26

volunteer coaches

415

children

10

locations in Manchester,  
Vernon and Hartford

Cheryl St. Cyr Bellisle  
ends every session  
with a hands-in-the-  
center cheer.



24

pounds of yogurt  
served in a week

# Senior Volunteers

# I get so much more than I give...

Twelve children clutch the edges of a huge colorful parachute. Full of barely-restrained energy, they shift from one foot to the other. Then Cheryl St. Cyr-Bellisle shouts the word “Red!” and four youngsters run under the cloth while the others hold it high overhead. The gym fills with laughter, and one boy asks, “Miss Cheryl, can we play this again next week?” ‘Miss Cheryl’ smiles broadly.



She is a volunteer with CRT’s Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), part of a national program that trains and matches adults over 55 with opportunities to help. “I know I’m here to teach the kids about health and nutrition,” she says later. “But really, I get more than I give. The light in their eyes when they see you, the smile when they are engaged – it’s definitely the best part of my week.”

Last year, CRT RSVP had 171 volunteers who assisted in hospital emergency departments, helped travelers at Bradley Airport, solved consumer complaints in the Attorney General’s office, distributed food to families, tended vegetable gardens and improved their communities in many other ways.

Bellisle, 66, participates in two signature programs. Her parachute exercise was part of CATCH Healthy Habits, a team that introduces nutrition and exercise to elementary students. She also tutors with RSVP READS, working one-on-one for a full school year to build a child’s reading skills and confidence. Some weeks, she is in three different schools, looking like the very definition of healthy energy.

“I tell everybody that my life is more full, more rich, more rewarding than it’s ever been.”

But this “second act” as an education volunteer is nothing short of a miracle. Eight years ago, she was unable to walk, drive or function in a workplace. After two years of tests, she was finally diagnosed with a rare form of blood cancer. She went through a medical trial, aggressive chemotherapy, radiation and a stem cell transplant followed by six weeks in the hospital. The ordeal spanned several years.

Today, Bellisle is cancer-free – a result she celebrated by running Manchester’s five-mile Thanksgiving Road Race with her son. Monthly immune treatments still knock her out for a few days. “But I plan them around RSVP, so I won’t miss time with the children,” she says.

Studies show that retirees who engage in social and civic efforts improve their own physical and mental health. In the next two

decades, the number of Baby Boomers will swell to 110 million. Keeping them healthy is important for the entire society. The longer they live independently, the lower the community’s social and medical costs.

RSVP helps these seniors find connections – with community projects and with each other. “I tell everybody that my life is more full, more rich, more rewarding than it’s ever been,” says Bellisle. “A friend who’s known me more than 25 years says, ‘I can’t believe you’re the same person.’ Even before the cancer, I didn’t have this much focus or self-confidence.”

The effervescent Bellisle is now recruiting other seniors for RSVP. “The message I want to convey is that people should be brave enough to try it once. Get outside your comfort zone. You’ll never regret it.”

RSVP:

36

locations

171

volunteers

97 age of oldest volunteer, an emergency room attendant in a community hospital

19,045 hours annually



**280** vets served by  
CRT Veteran  
Services last year

**138** homeless vets  
moved to stable  
housing

David Wyant is settling  
into his new apartment  
in a complex with other  
Veterans

# Veteran Services



# Getting on the right track

When an island paradise turned into a nightmare for David Wyant, his life spiraled into a mess of alcohol and drug abuse.

Wyant, 61, a U.S. Air Force Veteran and building contractor, has spent the past year addressing his health and financial issues at Veterans Crossing, CRT's transitional residence for homeless vets. With help from Support Services for Veteran Families, he's settling into a new apartment in a Veterans' housing complex.

The journey to this Hartford apartment began 25 years ago. After Hurricane Hugo ravaged the U.S. Virgin Islands in 1989, Wyant moved there to help with rebuilding. Always industrious, he became well known and was seen by government officials as a problem solver. "If they needed something done right, needed advice on anything, they came to me," Wyant recalls.

Things went very well until 2004, when he was injured while building a casino. His back is damaged and he has pins in his shoulders, hands and knees. With an 85 percent disability rating, he could no longer work in construction, he says.

Fortunately, Wyant had built more than resorts in his first 15 years on the island. He had built a life. He married and in 1999, the couple had a daughter. The family stayed strong through Wyant's injuries and rehabilitation. But after losing his stepson in a tragic incident in 2011, Wyant began drinking. After experiencing bullying, his daughter started failing in school. When his wife moved with their daughter to Miami, Wyant knew things had to change.

A friend on the island was moving back to Hartford, and urged Wyant to join him. But Connecticut didn't change his luck immediately. Soon after he checked into a motel, he was robbed of his last few dollars. Two months later, he suffered a heart attack.

After multiple hospitalizations, Wyant was referred to Veterans Crossing, CRT's 12-room transitional

"The goal for every Veteran here is to move into independent housing and be successful."

21 residents in the past year

residence in East Hartford. There he had the privacy, cleanliness and peace to heal, and intensive case management to get his life back on track.

Patrice Moulton, the Program Manager, helped guide him through the web of state and federal services. "The goal for every Veteran here is to move into independent housing and be successful," Moulton said.

CRT helped Wyant obtain disability payments, open a savings account and develop a budget that includes support for his daughter. "Once he was able to send her money and provide for her, it gave him a sense of relief," Moulton says. As Wyant continued to struggle with his health, Moulton helped him obtain VA medical care, and CRT's Nutrition Department provided modified meals that he could digest.

Today, Wyant sits in the warmth and comfort of his new apartment at Cosgrove Commons, a housing complex for low-income Veterans. He says he's happy and plans to improve his health and continue to Skype with his daughter, who is now 15. In the corner sit his Calloway golf clubs, a reminder that he hopes one day to return to his favorite sport.

"When I got in here it really motivated me to keep fighting, address my health issues and retain a good relationship with my daughter and my wife," Wyant said. "This is the best I've lived in a couple years."

## Veterans Crossing:

100% of employable men either seeking jobs or working

86% move into permanent housing upon discharge

100% receive medical care and treatment from the VA



# 2013 Financials

## Operating Support and Revenue

### Grants and Contracts

Federal	\$39,666,139
State	11,081,301
Private Weatherization Program	2,357,255

### Contributions

In-Kind	2,135,857
Elderly Nutrition Program Contributions	202,433
Fundraising	455,766
Supportive Housing Contributions	166,520

### Other Revenue

Education: Parent Fees and Subsidies	1,925,797
Elderly Nutrition Program Fees	367,583
Catering	1,230,532
Child and Adult Care Food Program Subsidies	549,725
Patient Fees	947,798
Rent Income Proceeds	604,993
CHEFA Debt Service	191,930

**Other Income** 640,095

**Total Operating Support and Revenue** \$62,523,724

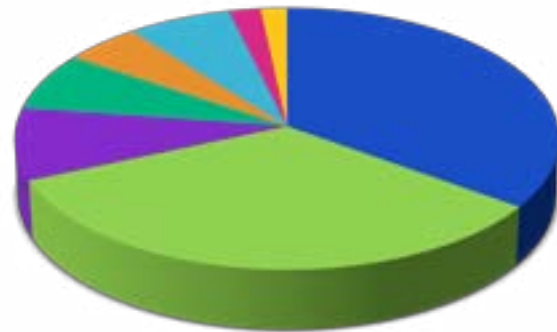
## Operating Expenses

Salaries and Benefits	\$26,868,407
Client Assistance	18,822,589
Materials and Supplies	4,995,109
Professional Fees and Contractual Services	3,832,210
Occupancy	2,768,158
Delegate Agencies	2,656,847
Other Expenses	910,830
Depreciation and Amortization	1,136,698
Travel and Transportation	671,120
Interest Expense	133,093

**Total Operating Expenses** 62,795,061

**Change in Net Assets** (\$271,337)

## Expenses by Function



Energy Related Services	22,012,311	35%
Children's Services, including Head Start and Child Care	20,979,189	33%
Housing and Shelter Services	4,524,807	7%
Elderly Nutrition Services	3,118,502	5%
Other Community Services	4,296,840	7%
Alternative Incarceration Services	1,288,484	2%
Job Training and Placement	1,079,031	2%
Supportive Services (Management and General)	5,495,897	9%

Source: CRT and affiliates combined financial statements as of December 31, 2013.



# Funders and Donors

CRT gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, organizations and public agencies for investing in our communities and families.

By funding CRT programs, each of those mentioned here supports the region's efforts to eliminate poverty.

## Federal Funding Sources

- Corporation for National and Community Service
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- U. S. Department of Justice
- U. S. Department of Labor
- U.S. Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Service
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services

## State Funding Sources

- CT Airport Authority
- CT Department of Children and Families
- CT Department of Correction
- CT Department of Economic and Community Development
- CT Department of Education
- CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
- CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
- CT Department of Housing
- CT Department of Labor
- CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- CT Department of Public Health
- CT Department of Social Services
- CT Department of Transportation
- CT Health and Education Facilities Authority
- CT Health Insurance Exchange
- CT Housing and Finance Authority
- CT Judicial Branch/ Court Support Services
- CT Office of Policy and Management
- State Education Resource Center

## Municipalities of

- Avon
- Bloomfield
- Bolton
- Canton
- Clinton
- Cromwell
- Deep River
- Durham
- East Haddam
- East Hampton
- East Hartford
- Enfield
- Essex
- Haddam
- Hartford
- Hebron
- Killingworth
- Manchester
- Middlefield
- Middletown
- Newington
- North Branford
- Portland
- West Hartford
- Westbrook
- Wethersfield
- Windsor
- Windsor Locks

## Foundations, Businesses and Organizations

- 3D Bail Bonds
- ADP
- Advanced Behavioral Health
- Aetna Foundation
- All Waste
- American Legion
- Department of Connecticut
- Atlanta Psychological Associates, Inc.
- Autumn Field Associates of Enfield
- Avon High School
- Booster Club
- Berkshire Bank Foundation
- Bobby V's
- Bob's Discount Furniture
- Boston Financial Investment Management
- Braman Chemical
- Brickman Group
- Brother's Oil
- Brown Rudnick LLP
- Burton and Phyllis Hoffman Foundation
- Canon Solutions America
- Law Offices of Nicholas P. Cardwell, Esq.
- Central Connecticut Communications
- Chef Jay Enterprises, LLC
- CLSJ Foundation
- Community Mediation, Inc.
- Connecticut Association for Community Action



Community Renewal Team's **McKinney Shelter** received some TLC thanks to volunteers from the Church of Saint Ann in Avon. Members gave their time, talent and elbow grease to repair, paint, build and renovate throughout the men's homeless shelter. Volunteers even built custom-made shelving for the food pantry and completed other needed renovations. Among the volunteers were Marisa Walls CRT's Executive Assistant, and Joe Zone WFSB - Channel 3 Eyewitness News Sports Director.

- Connecticut Community Care, Inc.
- Connecticut Health Foundation
- Connecticut Light and Power
- Connecticut No Kid Hungry
- Constitution Advisory Group
- CT African American Affairs Commission
- CT Association of Latinos in Higher Education
- CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Diane Alverio and Company
- Digital/Ovation Benefits Group
- Diversified Business Holdings
- Diversified Telecom
- Dixon Challenge
- Eagle Rivet Roofing Services
- East Granby Congregational Church
- Eastern CT State University Foundation
- End Hunger CT!
- Max Bibo's
- Ensworth Charitable Trust
- Enterprise Builders
- Essex Newberry North
- Express Kitchens/Star Hardware
- F & S Ironworks
- Farmington Bank
- Community Foundation
- Finn Dixon and Herling LLP
- Fisher Foundation

- Freeman Companies
- Fresh Point Connecticut
- Gallagher Buick
- Geissler's Supermarket
- Gilberto, Inc.
- Golf Technology Distributors
- Goodwin College
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- Greater Hartford Community Foundation
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- Harry E. Goldfarb Family Foundation
- Hartford Assisted Living Partnership
- Hartford County Bar Foundation
- Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
- Hartford Hospital
- Hartford Municipal Employees Federal Credit Union
- Hartford Provision
- Hartford Steam Boiler
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- HIMCO
- Imagineers
- ING/VOYA
- Interval House
- Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, Inc.
- Journey Home
- Knights of Columbus, Southington
- La Boca Mexican Cantina
- M.P. Guinan Associates

- Macca Plumbing
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- Mansfield Paper Company
- Manzini, Provenzano and Futtner
- Maple Hill Farms
- Mayo Crowe LLC
- MBH Architecture, LLC
- Meals on Wheels
- Association of America
- Metzger, Lazarek and Plumb LLC
- Middletown VFW
- Post 1840, Inc.
- Mike Riccio Sports
- Mitchell Fuel
- Murphy, Laudati, Kiel, Buttler and Rattigan
- National Arts Program Foundation
- Naugatuck Lodge of Elks No. 967
- New Britain Rock Cats
- New England Conservation Services
- New Opportunities
- Northeast Utilities
- Oak Management Corp.
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- Community Foundation
- Performance Food Group
- Philadelphia Insurance
- Preferred Services, Inc.
- Premier Property Management
- Price Chopper's Golub Foundation
- Pronto Printer of Newington
- Prudential Retirement
- Quail Hollow Condominium Association
- Reid and Riege
- Research Services LLC
- Robinson and Cole
- Rockville Bank Foundation
- Ruane Attorneys
- Ruddell Fund
- Sandler & Mara PC
- SBM Charitable Foundation
- Scotts Property Service
- Sena Brothers, LLC
- Share Our Strength
- Sisters of Providence
- South Congregational Church of East Hartford
- Southeast Agency
- Sportech
- SS & C Human Resources
- St. John's Episcopal Church
- Stanley Black and Decker
- Star Hardware Corporation
- Stonewall Kitchens
- TD Bank
- TEAM, Inc.
- Thomas Atkins Memorial Fund
- ThoroughClean
- Thurston Foods, Inc.
- Travelers Championship



# Donors continued

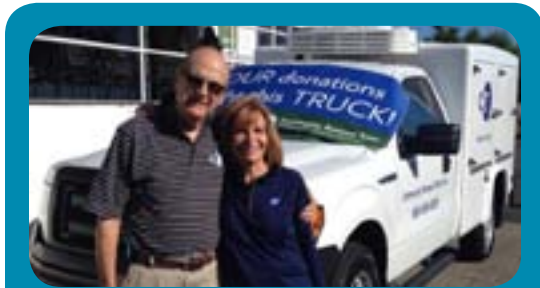
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Truist  
Unitarian Universalist  
Society: East  
United Cleaning and  
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Joan Saffo  
Myriam Pilar Salazar  
Jessica Samios  
Larry Samuelson and  
Barbara Connell  
Yashira Sanchez



**Meals on Wheels** volunteer Victor Desjardins and CRT's Development Director Nancy Shapiro are thrilled with the hot/cold food truck purchased with proceeds from CRT's September Golf Classic. In July, Tee Off With Women benefitted programs that help domestic violence victims. In 2014, the two tournaments attracted more than 225 golfers and brought in \$86,000.

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Vernon Republican Town  
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Village for Families and  
Children  
Walmart Foundation  
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Bradford Photo Studio  
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Association  
Cheese Cake Factory  
Chowder Pot  
Chris Cote's Golf Shop  
City Steam Brewery  
Connecticut Church Ushers  
Association  
CRIS Radio  
Crown Supermarket  
Eastbury School  
Excel Fitness  
Feed the Children  
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse  
Foundation for Wellness  
Professionals  
Hartford Club  
Hartford Public Schools  
Hartford Restaurant Group  
Heads Up Hartford  
Highland Park Market  
Home Depot  
House of the Good Shepherd  
Husky Nutrition  
HUSKY Reads  
HUSKY Sport  
Indian Hill Country Club  
Interval House  
Joseph Family  
Julie Lang Studio of Dance  
Kevin Ollie and UCONN Huskies  
Lincoln Culinary Institute  
Main St. Sweet Shoppe-Deep  
River  
Manchester Community College  
Metropolitan Community Church  
Morton's Steak House  
Nexus Technology  
Omar Coffee  
Panera Bread  
Pepsico  
Pilgrim Way  
Portland High School  
Pratt and Whitney  
Price Rite  
Sacred Heart Church  
Safari Micro  
Saint Ann's Church, Avon  
Sakura Japanese Steak House  
Season's Buffet at Mohegan Sun  
Showcase Cinemas  
Sisters of Grace  
Six Flags  
Sysco  
Thomas Hooker Brewery  
Toys for Tots  
Two Rivers Magnet School  
Verizon Wireless  
We Care Computers  
Wendy's Cedar New England  
Wesleyan University  
Xavier High School

# Veterans Serving Veterans



Commander Harry "Butch" Hansen of the American Legion Connecticut Department has named CRT's **Veterans Landing** as his Commander's Project for the 2014-15 year. Veterans Landing will be the country's first affordable assisted living residence for Veterans and their spouses when it opens on the VA Newington campus. Comm. Hansen (center) is asking the 27,000 members of the American Legion, the Auxiliary and the Sons of American Legion in Connecticut to raise money and advocate for this project. "This is a way for all of us to give back to our brothers or sisters who need help," Hansen said.



# Celebrating Educational Accomplishments



CRT's **Financial Literacy Institute** celebrated its fourth graduating class. Completing the 14-week intensive course, community members gained knowledge to navigate the financial world and enable them to build a more stable future. They learned about budgeting, credit, mortgages, investment planning and how to deal with the financial stress of underemployment and unemployment. As one graduate said, "Taking care of my family's financial health is just as important as their physical health."



There were 150 happy participants at the job fair for the **Summer Youth Employment and Learning Program**. Students created resumes, submitted them to potential supervisors and practiced their interview skills. Summer Youth is one of CRT's longest-running employment programs for teens, who may work in retail, health care, computer repair, an industrial kitchen or in office positions.



More than 1,000 preschool children, parents and staff from our Early Care and Education programs were part of our annual **Head Start Parade** in Bushnell Park. The celebration had everyone smiling with face painting, clowns, stilt walkers, and African drummers. Last year, CRT ECE programs served more than 1,700 students in Hartford, Middletown, Bloomfield, Clinton, Portland and Windsor, with delegates in East Hartford and Bristol.





# Advocating for Our Community



Policy makers and staff flocked to the Old Judiciary Chamber at the Capitol for CRT's first **Legislative Ice Cream and Cookie Social**. The sweets were great but the real treat was the chance to show the scope and impact of CRT's work. Visitors included OPM Secretary Ben Barnes, Rep. Peter Terczyak and Rep. Arthur O'Neill.

Senator Chris Murphy toured CRT's Multi-Service Center on Market Street in Hartford to highlight the importance of the **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance** program. This year, CRT's 14 volunteers brought \$6,488,039 back to the community in refunds, credits and savings.



In observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, volunteers visited CRT **Early Care and Education** classrooms to read the age-appropriate book, "Your Body Belongs to You". UConn Huskies star Stefanie Dolson, Hartford Fire Chief Carlos M. Huertas, State Child Advocate Sarah Eagan, and Jody L. Terranova, Windsor's Deputy Mayor, were among visitors who read to the children. Every year, a few ECE children disclose an abusive encounter after hearing the child abuse prevention story.





# CRT Goes Green

## Capital City YouthBuild

students built and filled beds for a garden at Coventry Place., a CRT senior residence. Youth-Build offers education, life skills and training for a career in construction, food service or health care. Students had an immense sense of pride and accomplishment from assisting the seniors.



A volunteer Master Gardener helped **RSVP volunteers** from the Retreat Assisted Living and Coventry Place plant and tend community gardens during the summer. According to research, gardening can reduce stress and improve mental health while promoting physical health.

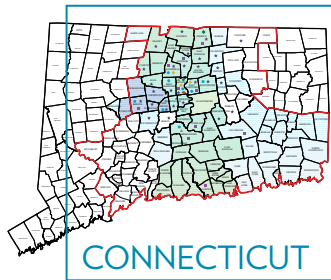
Students from the CT River Academy at Goodwin College came to the **East Hartford Family Shelter** to beautify the building and prepare a community garden. The school provided the tools, paint and gardening supplies. Home Depot donated all the lumber and plants to the project. For the last five years, the Academy has worked with CRT, completing many different projects in our community.



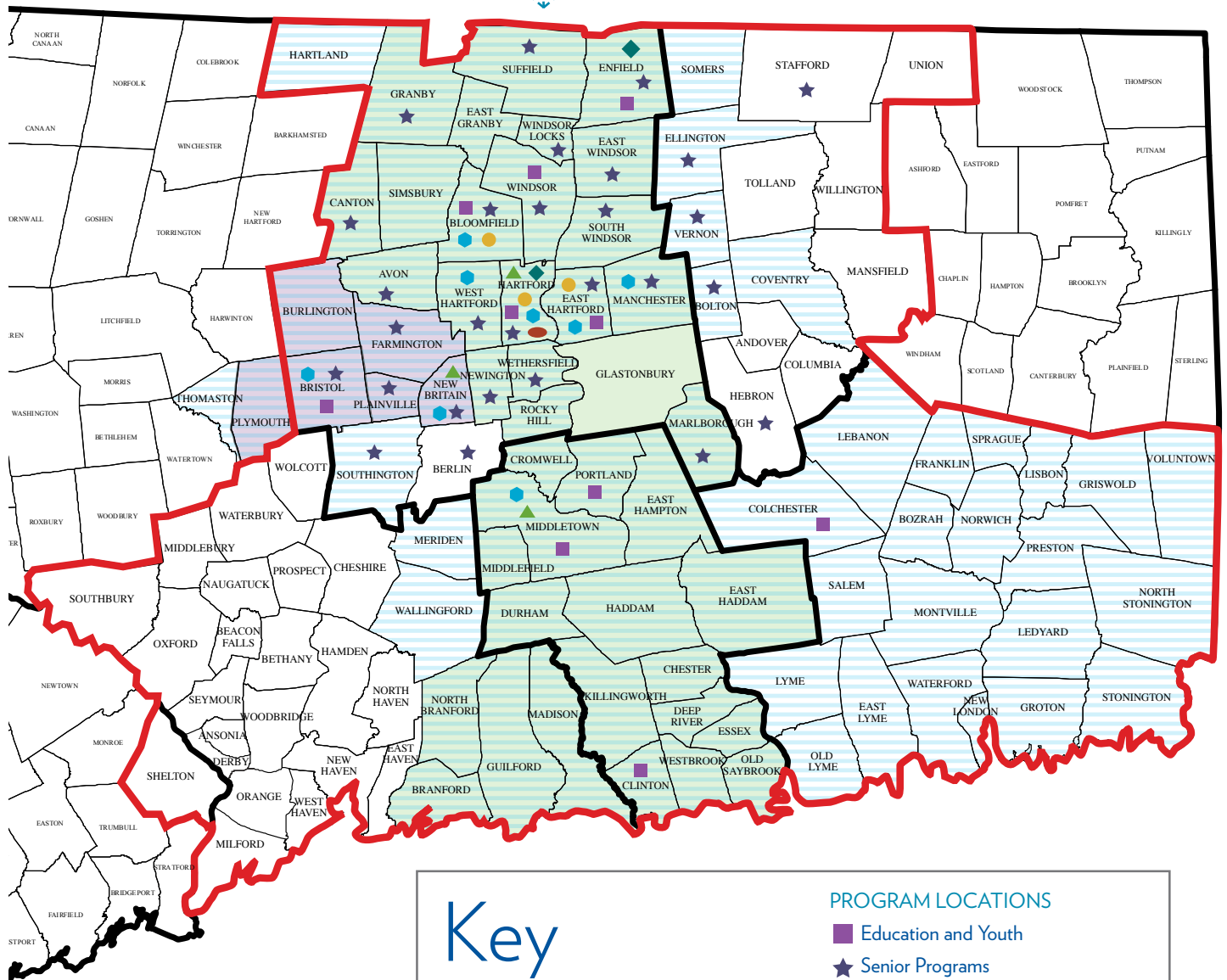
CRT's **"I Am Healthy!"** campaign uses hands-on activities to teach the importance of exercise and good nutrition. Children at the Generations campus (left) and in preschool centers enjoy gardens, cooking classes, African dance, zumba and more. Thanks to our funders: Aetna Foundation, Walmart Foundation and Price Chopper's Golub Foundation.



# Serving Our Community



107  
towns where CRT  
offers services



## Key

<b>SERVICE AREAS</b>		<b>PROGRAM LOCATIONS</b>	
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#c8e6c9; border:1px solid #000;"></span>	All CRT Core Services	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#9c27b0; border:1px solid #000;"></span>	Education and Youth
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#c8e6c9; border:1px solid #000;"></span> & <span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#e1bee7; border:1px solid #000;"></span>	Eviction/Foreclosure Prevention	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#4a69bd; border:1px solid #000;"></span>	Senior Programs
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background: repeating-linear-gradient(45deg, transparent, transparent 2px, #00bcd4 2px, #00bcd4 4px); border:1px solid #000;"></span>	Daycare Homes	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#ffc107; border:1px solid #000;"></span>	Housing and Shelters
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; border:2px solid #f44336; border-radius:50%;"></span>	Veterans Services	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#795548; border:1px solid #000;"></span>	Health and Wellness
		<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#00bcd4; border:1px solid #000; border-radius:50%;"></span>	Family Service & Case Management
		<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#00897b; border:1px solid #000; border-radius:50%;"></span>	Community Corrections & Re-Entry
		<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:#8bc34a; border:1px solid #000; border-radius:50%;"></span>	Employment and Training



# Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges



**Community Renewal Team**  
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!



“... through a new Community Action program we intend to strike at poverty at its source--in the streets of our cities and on the farms of our countryside, among the very young and the impoverished old.”

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
1964



[crtct.org](http://crtct.org)