

DONORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YOUR IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY



This edition is full of stories of transformed lives.
Your support makes it possible.

Thank you!



Coronavirus Forced Seniors to be Isolated

You delivered nutritious meals to home-bound seniors throughout the Pandemic

When the challenges brought on by COVID-19 became a reality for the entire community, CRT's Elderly Nutrition Program was hit with an additional complication. At the end of March 2020, one of our Meals on Wheels trucks was totaled in an accident, reducing the capacity of our delivery fleet. But the needs for the program among homebound seniors continued to increase, and the entire team searched for a solution to deliver 2,500 meals per day without one of their largest delivery vehicles. Thankfully, you stepped up to help solve the problem!

YOU donated enough money to help us replace that truck!

You and CRT's Elderly Nutrition Program ensured the health and safety of both our staff and the seniors we serve. Because of your support, 3,800 shelf-stable meals were quickly and efficiently delivered during the early days of the pandemic - a three-week supply of food - to the seniors in our Meals on Wheels program. If for some reason the program could not make scheduled deliveries, no one would go hungry!

We are grateful for the tremendous outpouring of support from donors like you!

Your generosity means families know that their senior loved ones, like Sal, will not

remain isolated and will have the food they need during these challenging times.

Sal is one of only two veterans throughout the state of Connecticut who can perform military funerals for his fellow Vets. He is visually impaired with macular degeneration. With no money to spend on food, he depends on CRT for maintaining vital nutrition.

Thanks to you, Sal picks up CRT Grab-and-Go meals from his local senior center in Cromwell and he has told us that he is overflowing with appreciation for your kindness.

FROM THE CEO

You give the ultimate gift!



What does a person, a mom, or a dad want for themselves or their family? Health, safety, stability, and love. This truth has not changed. It may be the only thing that has not changed during the past year.

You see that more and more people are having financial troubles caused by the Coronavirus crisis. And it continues to be scary to see the increase in mental health problems and addiction among some of our closest neighbors – even those who seem to be doing fine.

There are some that are wishing for a warm bed to sleep in at night. While others wish for their children to be free from hunger or to see the day when their loved ones are no longer battling addiction. You know that CRT doesn't have unlimited resources, but I'm truly thankful that you empower us to help as many people as you do.

You also know that it takes more than a warm bed or a bag of groceries to be immune to the effects of poverty. But shelter and caring support are the first steps. People who need case management and access to programs like Behavioral Health Services find exactly what they need at CRT, thanks to you.

Your generosity gives the people we serve the opportunity to access what they need to build and sustain better lives for themselves and the people they love. This is your ultimate gift.

Thank you for all that you do to make the community a better place for everyone.



You gave back to Shacoya the positive energy she had, and you put a bright smile back on her daughter's face.

You Rescued Shacoya and Saroya from Homelessness!

You gave them shelter and the opportunities a single mom needs for a financially secure future!

Shacoya is a single mom living in Hartford with her five-year-old daughter Saroya. Unfortunately, when gastritis put Shacoya in the hospital, she lost her job, and of course her income. When she couldn't afford the rent, she and her daughter were on the brink of homelessness - until you stepped in to help!

Shacoya and Saroya were saved by your generosity and our Supportive Housing and Shelter Programs.

They were provided a safe place to live at CRT's East Hartford Family Shelter, where families experiencing homelessness learn how to overcome daily struggles, find permanent housing, and truly improve their quality of life.

Thanks to your kindheartedness, Shacoya and her daughter now have permanent housing. Additionally, Shacoya graduated from CRT's Financial Literacy Institute and she is using what she learned to save for the future and

purchase a home for her and her daughter. You – and donors like you – are saving struggling families, especially now during the Coronavirus pandemic. You're helping the community recover, creating real opportunities for everyone.



John was hopeless and likely to overdose

You Gave Him What He Needed to Succeed!



John grew up surrounded by crime, substance abuse, and other challenges of living in poverty.

At the beginning of March, John was making steady progress and recovering from a horrific drug addiction when he learned that the treatment center where he was staying was set to close at the end of April due to the Coronavirus crisis.

Cut off from his family, with nowhere to go but to the streets, he was feeling hopeless and ended up using heroin for the first time in a long time. He was feeling like all the walls were closing in on him. But you came to the rescue!

Thanks to your generosity, and the intervention of CRT's Behavioral Health Services, John got everything he needed to ensure he had his medications along with transportation to an inpatient treatment program.

You gave John another chance at life. Thank you so much for giving him everything he needed to remain in recovery and have a safe place to stay.

Our Real Heroes

are serving the homeless in Hartford

One year ago, ensuring the residents' and staff's health and safety was just part of the team's job at CRT's McKinney Shelter as the Coronavirus pandemic changed our lives.

No one could have predicted that this would become their primary duty.

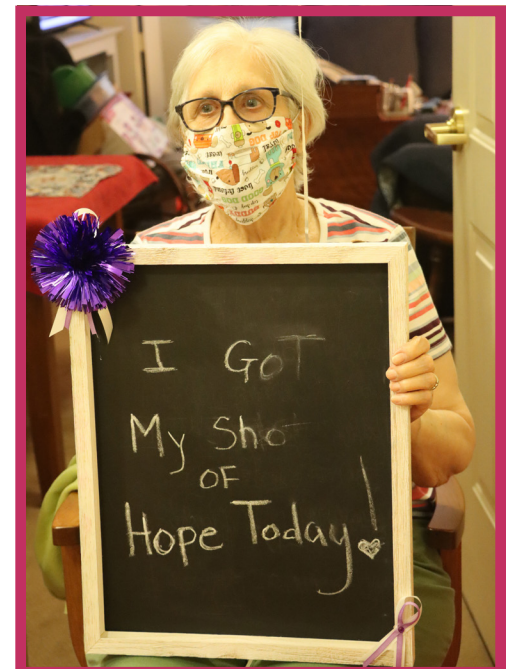
We are all so grateful to those serving the homeless in Hartford's shelters who come to work every day with no complaints. They are all the real heroes.

April 2020 was a very stressful time because no one knew much about the Coronavirus, but the staff was eager to help everybody.

First, all the shelter residents moved to an area hotel to stay appropriately physically distanced. They tested the residents monthly, and then, as a few positive cases were detected, testing was completed weekly. Clients and staff were placed in quarantine when needed.

Thanks to our heroes, there have been no positive cases in the past few months, and our clients had three vaccination clinics.

Thank you to the donors who have brought both financial contributions and donations of food, masks, and PPE for our clients and our staff. During this challenging year, your support and caring about our staff, families, and clients have made our heroes' job infinitely more manageable. These real heroes are our role models to keep doing what we can to keep us healthy and safe.



"Shots of Hope" administered at The Retreat assisted living in Hartford, where staff and senior residents received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine on January 15, 2021!

The Promise of Community Action: Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Get a 15% bonus when you donate today!

Your gift to CRT will help even more people with Birdies for Charity.

Donate Online: bit.ly/CRTbfc21

With the Pandemic came a renewed sense of urgency from donors like you.

Even before COVID-19, and still today, people and families rely on your support to urgently get the help they need from CRT's programs and services.

Your support is *urgent* every day - please donate today.

100% of every donation collected through the program, PLUS a 15% bonus will go to help struggling families during this public health crisis with emergency financial assistance to meet their basic needs for food, housing and shelter.



Sponsored by



The Deadline is June 27 to donate through Birdies for Charity and get an extra 15% added to your donation, thanks to the support of Webster Bank!

Your donation to CRT will go farther with the 2021 Travelers Championship Birdies for Charity program.

Donate Online: bit.ly/CRTbfc21



As the designated community action agency for both Hartford and Middlesex Counties, CRT is dedicated to helping people take steps toward healthy and economically stable futures.

Our Mission "Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges." We help everyone who comes to our door with resources for both immediate needs and longer-term goals.

Our History We were founded in 1963 through a grassroots movement to support Hartford communities impacted by poverty. In 1999, we expanded into Middlesex County.

Our Stewardship Independent audits demonstrate that for every dollar CRT receives, 92.2 cents goes directly to programs and services that support people in our community.

