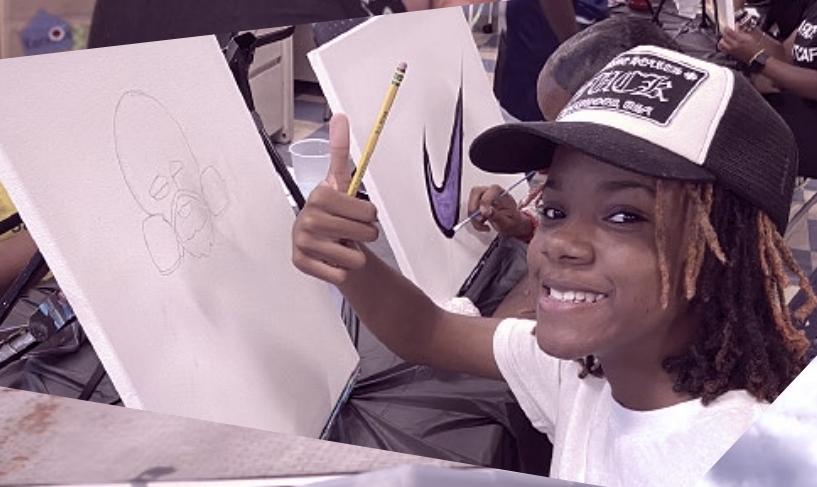




MISSION STRONG





Lena Rodriguez,
President and CEO of CRT

PURPOSE

In addition to our enhanced mental health and behavioral services, we are opening a 78-bed men’s homeless facility – to be called “The McKinney” – next year in a former Days Inn Hotel in Hartford. This new location, replacing a CRT shelter located in a nearby former firehouse, has the potential to be a national model for how to provide services for the homeless.

Another example of CRT’s forward-thinking was the launch this year of a promising substance-abuse treatment alternative, known as sublocade.

There are other new programs, which you will read more about in this Annual Report, that address housing assistance, workforce

As we enter our 60th year of service, the one thing that has defined the Community Renewal Team is its clear sense of purpose. We have remained focused on our mission to “Prepare Our Community to Meet Life’s Challenges.”

CRT continues to evolve and strives each year to identify and respond to the increasing needs of the community. As the state’s oldest community action agency, we try to seize on opportunities that can make a meaningful difference in the lives of women, men, children, senior citizens and families.

Our employees understand the organization is about serving people – and seeing people in-person. During these past two-and-a-half years of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to pivot and provide services remotely to serve our clients. With all of our programs, we had to figure out a new way to do business. Now, as the pandemic recedes, we are pivoting again – and moving forward.

Without question, COVID contributed to the growing urgency for comprehensive mental health behavioral services – particularly among youth. I’m really proud of how CRT has improved our behavioral health model. We’ve added medical services, a pharmacy, strengthened our case management and support services, including a new program for adolescents.

CRT prides itself on being a forward-thinking organization. We do a community assessment every year and a 360-degree community-assessment every three years. This gives us a strong pulse on the emerging needs of our 40,500 clients and approximately 20,000 families – and gives us the ability to respond accordingly.



development and mental health issues. You will also read about a new change in leadership on CRT's Board of Trustees. Thank you to Fernando Betancourt, who retired in May. The trustees elected fellow member Dr. Wilfredo Nieves, the former president of Capital Community College, as chair.

Over the years, CRT has become recognized as an organization that provides high quality programs and services for people throughout Central Connecticut. We will continue to develop and implement services that change lives and create opportunities.



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President Lyndon Johnson talks with civil rights leaders in the White House office on January, 1964. From left to right are, Roy Wilkins, James Farmer, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and Whitney Young.



Dr. Wilfredo Nieves,
Chairperson, CRT Board of Trustees

As a former community-college president, I value the importance of having access to high quality education. I will continue to be an education-advocate. Through my wide range of impactful community-leadership roles, I fully understand that an effective board is essential to sustaining such a vibrant organization as CRT.

I hope you will join us in helping this venerable community-action agency stay true to its mission.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wilfredo Nieves

I am excited to serve in this new role as chairperson of the board of trustees.

The recently retired Fernando Betancourt led this board with integrity and compassion. Our role as trustees is to set policy and serve as the governing body of the organization.

Having served on the board, I can attest to our organization's strong and visionary leadership. The CRT Team is committed to serving and strengthening the community. CRT is not only an excellent organization, but an exemplary one because it is proactive – and not reactive – in responding to community needs.

For example, we use community data and feedback from our families to craft and implement a dynamic strategic plan that will better serve our constituents. We will continue to use this collaborative approach to assess and guide our future.

New partnerships have been forged, and continue to emerge, to assist our clients in growing and leading successful lives. CRT's purpose is to eradicate poverty and help people reach their full potential. We have an eclectic mix of integrated services, including programs to address housing and rental assistance, mental health, medical needs, substance addiction, homelessness, food shortages and financial literacy.

In my role as chair, I will continue to work collaboratively with the board in setting high expectations and holding our organization accountable for achieving its ambitious mission to transform lives.

ERADICATE POVERTY



**“Not everybody can
be famous but everybody
can be great, because
greatness is determined
by service.”**

Martin Luther King Jr.

Adrienne Trice's life was in turmoil last year.

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the loss of her day-care job with West Hartford schools. At the same time, Trice was dealing with a serious illness that prevented her from applying for jobs that were not remote.

The bills were backing up. In December, she received a shut-off notice from the electric company. The \$650-a-month rent on Trice's one-bedroom Hartford apartment was two-months past due.

“I could not pay,” said Trice, 57, the single-parent of a teenage daughter. “I tried to reach out to so many organizations for help. I happened to hear about CRT – and gave them a call.”

She was able to connect with case manager Brittany Vaughn in the Community Renewal Team's Wethersfield office. Vaughn assessed the situation and, after some research, came up with an action plan. Trice recalled Vaughn's exact words on the telephone: “She said, ‘Ms Trice, I have some good news.’”

Vaughn determined Trice was eligible for federal and state fuel-assistance programs and federal CARES funding assistance. Through Vaughn's assistance, Trice's electricity account was immediately coded for “Hardship” and protected from disconnection. She was also enrolled in Eversource's Matching Payment Program, which allowed her to catch up on the electricity bills.

CARES dollars, totaling \$1,300, were also secured to address Trice's delinquent rent and help her avoid possible eviction. In total, about \$3,100 in CARES funds were secured to assist Trice with rent, heating and electricity.

“With everything I was going through, my back was against the wall,” she said. “I was totally stressed. I couldn't sleep. I was looking for jobs constantly. So, when Brittany and CRT stepped in that was a relief for me. I was able to focus on things I needed to focus on. I was able to keep my place warm and a roof over my head.”

Trice is now working in a seasonal job at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP).

Though still recovering from her illness, Trice is getting stronger each day and is optimistic about the future. She is thankful that on this day she is healthy, working and has a place to live.

CARES



“I'm still on my grind, but I can breathe again,” Trice said, reflecting on her struggles. “I can exhale because I got the help that I needed so I can move forward. Now, I'm just looking for something bigger and better. If it wasn't for CRT, I don't think I would be in the position that I'm in right now.”

On the Road to Recover after Illness, Foreclosure Attempt

A year ago, Steven Ofsuryk's life was unraveling. The 55-year-old West Suffield resident – owner of a stone and mason company in East Granby – was sick and needed a kidney transplant.

His weight dropped from 210 lbs. to 130 lbs. and he was unable to walk without a cane or walker. Ofsuryk was a patient for several months at Hartford Hospital not sure if he would survive. While hospitalized, his business suffered and COVID-19 was raging.

Monthly mortgage bills (\$2,400 a month) went unpaid; delinquent notices went unanswered. After leaving the hospital with a new kidney in March 2021, Ofsuryk stayed for several months at his mother's house because doctors advised him not to be alone.

He learned the masonry business from his father and 20 years ago built a sprawling four-bedroom, four-bath cape that encompasses 4,330 square feet. A recent marriage resulted in divorce. He lives at the home with his 20-year-old son.

Ofsuryk was directed to the Community Renewal Team's Foreclosure Prevention Counselor Herman Gibson.

Gibson negotiates with the banks, the courts and families to come up with an affordable solution that keeps CRT clients in their home. In his negotiation tool belt are strategies such as crafting loan modifications, with more favorable interest rates and terms; reducing utility debt and leveraging federal dollars to clear delinquent mortgages and liens.

The first thing Gibson did was file a motion with the court to put a stay on Ofsuryk's foreclosure and seek mediation. The foreclosure was later vacated. The account – about \$16,000 in arrears – was brought current by a mix of financial-assistance programs, including \$7,500 CRT provided via the \$1.6 million it was allocated by the federal CSBG CARES Client Assistance program. Gibson was also able to modify Ofsuryk's mortgage agreement with a more affordable interest rate and term.



This is another example of how CRT last year was able to leverage the CSBG CARES program. The funds were used to assist about 1,000 other CRT households in financial distress, due to COVID.

“Herman was extremely responsive and helpful,” Ofsuryk said. “He is very astute and seems to actually care about his job. I really appreciate CRT. The organization helped me out tremendously.”

When strong enough to finally return home, he was greeted by a Foreclosure/Auction sign in the yard. “I was (ticked) off.” Ofsuryk said “I was already under a lot of mental stress. This was not a house I bought from someone. I built it.”

Program Frees Police to Respond to 911 Calls/Crime

HEART

The call comes from the Hartford Police Department (HPD) dispatcher at 3:50 p.m.

She is asking CRT's new Hartford Emergency Assistance Response Team, known as HEART, to conduct a wellness check on a 90-year-old Hartford man. He suffers with dementia.

The man's neighbor is concerned. She has not seen him in a few days and his lights have been off. Under a new City of Hartford Community Responders program, launched last year with the Community Renewal Team and others, HEART can respond and assess the situations deemed as a "non-emergency, community-health issue." HEART can then make the necessary referrals to CRT programs or other community resources.

The idea is to keep the police focused on responding to emergency calls and crime.

A two-person responding HEART team is comprised of a clinician and a "peer-supporter" – someone with a shared experience of substance use or mental health.

In the case of the 90-year-old man, HEART arrived within 10 minutes after the call. The property manager opened the door to the man's apartment. He was hungry, displayed repetition of speech and seemed disoriented. The neighbor who called the police gave him some food.

HEART called in Elderly Protective Services to provide the appropriate support services. The man was also reconnected with family to make sure they helped him to follow up with the programs. HEART stayed connected with several weekly calls to make sure he was in good condition.

There are times, however, when it is necessary for HEART to ask for police, ambulance or other emergency assistance.

The Community Responders program, funded by The City of Hartford, addresses nationwide concerns about police departments being overwhelmed by calls that are not really criminal matters, but non-violent, mental and emotional-health-related.

Two of HEART's members – there is funding for up to 14 – Community Health Worker Stephanie Perez and peer-supporter Zoraida Martinez said displaying empathy and building trust are important aspects of their job.

"This is the most rewarding thing I have ever done," said Perez. "To be that first person to say: 'everything is going to be OK. We're not here to judge you. We're here to support you on your road to recovery.' It gives my life purpose."

Once the client is comfortable "they'll tell you what's going on," Martinez said, adding that some may be off their medication, having a mental health or drug-addiction episode – or simply walking the street because they are homeless or intoxicated.

So far, HEART has responded to more than 350 service calls in its CRT-branded vehicles.

When the HPD dispatcher calls HEART, a member fills out a response-log. After the on-site visit is complete, another form is filled out, capturing such things as demographic-information of the client, contact information and where the client was referred.

Often times, CRT programs are able to help the people in distress.



SUBLOCADE

As Angel Martinez tells it, the turning point for him in his long struggle with drug addiction came when he purchased heroin from his pal Manny five years ago. The two were residents at a Hartford Halfway house, for those recently released from prison.

Angel and Manny went to their separate rooms and sniffed. Hours later, paramedics were on the scene. Manny had overdosed and died. Angel was high, distraught and wondering if he was next.

“I knew I needed help; that I was hooked and couldn’t stop,” said Martinez, 43.

From the time he arrived in Hartford from Ponce, Puerto Rico at age 11, Martinez battled with drug use and staying out of prison. He is one of 14 children – eight brothers and five sisters – raised in the Stowe Village projects.

Martinez describes his first high – from crack – as euphoric. “My eyes were wide open,” he said. “I felt like I wanted to conquer the world. It was a good feeling – at the time.”

Within hours after that first experience, Martinez would be chasing that high again. He started a daily routine of breaking into bodegas at night to steal money and buy more crack. It resulted in him being incarcerated multiple times, including a seven-year stint in his 20s for burglary.

Martinez has been with The Community Renewal Team since his release from prison in October of 2014, mostly engaged in CRT’s behavior health services, including a medically- assisted treatment program. Under the programs, clients with alcohol and opiod addiction – and/or mental health challenges – undergo screening and assessment, education, medication-management and coaching to help make the transition to a better life. Intensive counseling and support groups are also available to help develop coping and goal-setting skills.

A year ago, after some relapses, Martinez was prescribed an opioid treatment called suboxone. He took two oral doses a day and was starting to feel better.

The cravings for drugs subsided – but began coming back again after seven months. Angel’s doctor then prescribed a promising new treatment known as sublocade. It is recognized in the medical field as a highly productive remedy for opioid addiction because it only requires an injection in the abdomen once a month, as opposed to the daily regimen of other alternatives. It also has an extended-release that sends medication to the body over a 30-day period. In addition, remission signs can be detected much earlier.

CRT launched its sublocade program in the summer and set up separate clinical space in its 330 Market Street clinic to administer the medication. The University of Connecticut is collaborating by providing research on patient outcomes. CRT expects to treat about 25 patients this year.

“I feel like a normal person,” he said. “It works fantastic. Better than suboxone. In the program that I’m in, I’m in the community by myself three times a week. And I see people using drugs. They try give me some weed, try to give me crack and I have the mind to say ‘No’. ... I can walk away.”

His urine is still tested regularly, Martinez has been clean and sober for a little over a year. He is taking better care of himself by drinking tea, instead of coffee. Exercise consists of long walks four days a week. His one vice these days is cigarettes.

After just three months on sublocade, Martinez said he is feeling terrific.



New Program Makes Homeless-to-Housing a Reality

CHESS

Nine months ago, Ramon Calderon was sleeping nights in a roof-stairwell at an East Hartford apartment complex. He was homeless, suffering with significant physical and mental health challenges – and not sure about his future.

In a recent one-year period, Calderon said he suffered multiple strokes. These days, he has problems with his heart, hearing, eyesight, movement on his left side, depression and overall physical strength.

“I never took care of myself,” said Calderon, 53, through his Community Renewal Team case worker (and Spanish-interpreter) Ida Cuevas. “I am not the same person anymore because I abused my body a lot with the drugs and stuff.

Born and raised in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, Calderon struggled with addiction – mostly heroin and alcohol – at an early age. He worked in construction before his family came to the United States in his mid-30s.

Six months after sleeping in that cold stairwell and taking showers at a relative’s home, Calderon is living comfortably in a one-bedroom, one-bath apartment in Hartford. He has a kitchen and living room; and has been clean and sober for about a year.

This housing remedy came about through a partnership forged last year with CRT and the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services. Known as CHESS, the Connecticut Housing Engagement and Support Services initiative helps state residents struggling with homelessness and chronic health problems. Since its January 2022 start, the partnership has assisted 204 residents.

Leveraging CHESS resources and Cuevas’ connection to a property manager and real estate agent, she was able to engage a wide variety of programs that assisted with Calderon’s security deposit, rent, health, furniture and other challenges. As a result, he pays only \$89 a month of the \$1,200 rent, which includes utilities. A single-father, Calderon’s eight-year-old son – Jeremiah- comes to visit on the weekends.



“This is a miracle,” Calderon said. “I am still in disbelief over how far I’ve gotten. I feel happy and thankful that I’m in my own home after three years of being homeless. I have been fighting this addiction because I knew I could have a better life if I could stay off drugs. So, I was focused on that – having a better life.”

CHESS’ goal is to coordinate affordable, safe housing, increase access to health care and assist in managing chronic illness.

Calderon’s weekly routine consists now of regular walks, eating healthy, seeing his medical doctor and therapist, and checking in with his drug-treatment program.

“His motivation is his son,” said Cuevas. “Whenever I talked to him it was always ‘my son, my son, my son. I can’t wait to have my son on the weekends.’ That touched me. And I always remind him of that – everything we’re doing is for your son.”



LEO OUTPATIENT CLINIC

For the first time in its near 60-year history, The Community Renewal Team – in partnership with LEO Outpatient Clinic – will be providing on-site primary care services for CRT clients.

CRT currently provides a wide array of services for approximately 40,500 people, including mental health and substance-use programs. However, in the past, if CRT's clients required medical or dental attention, they would have to seek those services elsewhere.

LEO's primary care clinic opened recently at CRT's 330 Market Street location. With its evolving integrated services for clients – case management, substance-use treatment, mental health and medical services – CRT can now offer a variety of programs under one roof.

“We want to continue with our wrap-around, holistic and innovative approach in taking care of our community,” said Heidi Lubetkin, CRT's vice president of Clinical Support Services. “Primary medical care with Leo Clinic will allow for clients to receive medical services at a location that they already frequent, trust and feel safe in.”

Many of CRT's clients struggle with sobriety, homelessness or unemployment.

“They don't always think about looking for medical services,” Lubetkin said, noting those services can include dental care, hypertension medication, physical exams and vaccines.



The organization's addition of medical services coincides with other launches this year that speak to CRT's focus on expanding integrated services. For example:

- **A sublocade-treatment program** – Sublocade is recognized in the medical field as a very productive approach for opioid addiction because it only requires an injection in the abdomen once a month. Other options have a daily regimen. The sublocade clinic is located at CRT's 330 Market Street office.
- **The Center for Healthy Families** – soon to be open on the first floor of CRT's 555 Windsor Street facility. It expects to serve children age 5 to 17 – and their families – with clinical and behavior health counseling and services. Fifty families are projected to be served in year one and up to 125 by year three.

New McKinney Facility to House and Serve Homeless Men

The Community Renewal Team is near completion of a reconstruction project that will convert a former Hartford hotel into a sparkling new facility to provide services for homeless men.

CRT has been providing shelter for the homeless for 35 years. Its new three-story, 30,000-square-foot facility on Brainard Road will replace a structure located in an aging former city firehouse.

The Brainard Road building will be known now simply as “The McKinney,” instead of the McKinney Shelter. It was named years ago after former Connecticut Congressman, the late Stewart B. McKinney, an ardent advocate for leveraging government funds to address the nation’s homelessness problem.

The McKinney, the first facility of its kind in Connecticut, presents a newer paradigm for how to deal with homelessness. Instead of congregate living, where people lived cramped in shared living and sleeping quarters, The McKinney will house up to 78 men in single and double-occupancy rooms.

There will also be an array of vital on-site services to promote self-sufficiency – something more-traditional homeless facilities do not offer. Those programs include clinical and medical services, education and job training, financial literacy, and housing-navigation services. Also available will be a health/fitness room.

“We see The McKinney as a national model in helping people and families become more self-sufficient,” said Lena Rodriguez, CRT’s president and chief executive officer. “This is an ambitious undertaking and CRT is honored and excited to play such a crucial leadership role.”

State Department of Housing Commissioner Selia Mosquera-Bruno called CRT “our valued partner in this meaningful work.” She said the diversity of services offered inside The McKinney is an important distinction that will allow the men “to work on a path to permanent housing.”

The property was purchased with funding provided by the Connecticut Department of Housing in January 2022. The first phase of the project, which involved replacing several steel structural beams under the building, is complete. Phase two involves installing a commercial kitchen and making the building ADA compliant. The projected date to open is January 2023.

Former Connecticut State Rep. John McKinney (R-Fairfield) attended a September ceremony on the property, along with Gov. Ned Lamont and other distinguished state and municipal leaders. They heralded the collaboration, cooperation and the concept of re-purposing a hotel.

McKinney is the son of Stewart B. McKinney. The son said his father would be proud to see this evolution in services for homeless men.



THE MCKINNEY



“This project right here is really everything that he would have dreamed of – because this is not just a shelter,” McKinney said. “We all know now that supportive housing – connecting services with the homeless– is the (beginning of the) end of homelessness and the beginning of permanent housing. It is also the beginning of a stable life.”

CRT Growing its Own Workforce Via Internships

Yaitza Nieves has always had a love for children. She will soon fulfill that passion in a new position as a certified teachers'-aide at the Community Renewal Team's Child Development program.

Sarah Tolo is in her third semester at Manchester Community College. She aspires to be a social worker or counselor. Twice a week, Tolo gets practical experience as an intern with CRT's Clinical Support Services, specifically the Hartford Emergency Assistance Response Team (HEART).

Special training and leveraging internships are examples of innovative approaches CRT is taking to develop their own workforce. These strategies come at a time when the country is experiencing a significant workforce shortage.

"We are thinking out of the box to bring new educators to the field," said Leslie Giordano, CRT's director of education services. She started a program last October that provides people – such as Nieves – a pathway to certification as a Child Development Associate.

Funded by the State Office of Early Childhood, the early childhood program works with interested candidates to earn their credential as Child Development Associates.

Like Nieves, Tolo gets satisfaction and fulfillment by helping others – particularly those who are struggling with drug addiction. The Manchester resident is enrolled in MCC's Drug Alcohol Recovery Counseling program. Her unpaid internship allows for meaningful work experience in her career field. Tolo said she would like to renew her internship with HEART because the apprenticeship is so enriching.



Sarah Tolo

"I really like it here," Tolo said. "I feel like I get a lot of hands-on experience. We do a lot of community outreach, which is actually going out into the community of Hartford and talking with anyone who may need resources – clothing, food, shelter, treatment. I love how we can go to people and respond to their needs."

"I'm excited," Nieves said. "This is something I was looking for when I started the program. I like dealing with children. This is like a new beginning for me."



Yaitza Nieves

As part of her outreach duties with a HEART staff member, Tolo recalls meeting a man in his mid-30s, named Christopher, at a Hartford bus shelter. He was looking disoriented and disheveled. The HEART team approached and asked the man if he needed help.

"He immediately said: 'Yes, I need resources,'" Tolo said. HEART helped to enroll the man in a number of programs, including one for addiction treatment.

"We are giving them exposure to the community and teaching them about true community action," said Heidi Lubetkin, CRT's vice president of Clinical Support Services. "The exposure to CRT allows for the intern to consider employment opportunities and better make the transition from scholar to practitioner."

2022 HIGHLIGHTS AND EVENTS



HEARTeam

CRT joined Hartford's new initiative; the "HEARTeam" (Hartford Emergency Assistance Response Team), the city's new civilian crisis intervention team. Mayor Bronin said it best, "We receive thousands of emergency calls every year involving individuals in emotional or mental distress, where immediate assistance is required, but where law enforcement officers may not be needed and may not be the most effective responders." With the HEARTeam, we will have specialized and trained responders, able to respond quickly to intervene, de-escalate, provide support, and connect people to services."

Helping Keep the Community Warm

Thanks to a new partnership with Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation, our first venture was "Helping Keep the Community Warm" by giving away 3,480 new warm winter coats to those in need. CRT partnered with other community action agencies and community agencies to distribute the coats.



5th Annual Roasts for the Holidays' fundraiser

Gariann Chiarella, CRT's Director of Nutrition, and her team prepared holiday dinners with "high-quality ingredients" donated by the Max Cares Foundation, Inc. through their 5th Annual Roasts for the Holidays' fundraiser. About 120 meals were served to the men experiencing homelessness at the McKinney Shelter and to families at the East Hartford Family Shelter. The menu was: prime rib with caramelized onions, garlic red mashed potatoes, and green bean casserole. All of the feedback from those who enjoyed the meals expressed tremendous gratitude.



Tricycle Path Beautification

Thank you so much to the Voya employees who came to help beautify the tricycle path for our preschool children in Hartford, CT.





The Retreat New Van

The Retreat, CRT's assisted living community, got a brand new van for the residents to take road trips for recreational activities like going to the beach and the casino.

12th Annual Tee Off with Women

CRT's 12th Annual Tee Off with Women, the signature fundraising event to benefit the Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Women's Empowerment Center, was on June 15, 2022 at Tunxis Country Club.



21st Annual Meals on Wheels Golf Classic

We had a great time! It was a beautiful day for CRT's 21st Annual Meals on Wheels Golf Classic on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at Tunxis Country Club in Farmington, CT.

With 146 golfers in attendance, this year's event was one for the record books! We brought in more than \$88,000 for our Meals on Wheels Program.

Hartford Day Camp

This summer the Generations program provided a day camp for kids in Hartford!





Giving Tuesday

On #GivingTuesday, Travelers Insurance donated a refurbished vehicle to CRT's Elderly Nutrition Program through National Auto Body Council's Recycled Rides® program.

The spirit of giving

The Foster Family brings the spirit of giving to the families who live at CRT's Generations Program. Each family received a donated turkey with all the fixings – 45 families in all! “The most important thing for me is showing my kids how to give back. This City has been good to us, we have to give back.” – Mr. Kerry Foster.



Mural Unveiling & Ribbon Cutting

On November 19, 2021, CRT hosted a Mural Unveiling & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on the building that houses our Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Women's Empowerment Center.

12th Annual Toy Drive

Thanks to Ana Alfaro, the founder of the El Show de Analeh, CRT was Hartford's designated organization to benefit from the TV Show's 12th Annual Toy Drive.

CRT received hundreds of toys, gift cards and dollars to help fulfill the holiday toy needs of CRT families for the holidays.





Hartford Fire Department

The Hartford Fire Department collected hundreds of holiday toys for CRT clients and delivered them along with a visit from one of their large trucks for the children of the Early Care and Education program to see.

Pratt and Whitney Toy Delivery

Pratt and Whitney has been sponsoring a holiday toy delivery called 'Operation Santa' for many years, donating hundreds of toys to the East Hartford Shelter and Generations programs.



With the support of our donors, we were able to bring joy to the holidays for 660 of CRT's children!

The following are the donors who made this holiday joy possible:

- Ana Alfaro Toy Drive
- Christ Church Cathedral
- Connecticut Association of Realtors
- Glastonbury Newcomers and Neighbors Club
- Hartford Fire Department
- Individual cash donors (around Giving Tuesday)
- Jay Lorinsky, Southeast Agency, LLC
- The Mandell Jewish Community Center
- Law Firm of Appleton & Appleton
- Pratt and Whitney's Operation Santa
- The McAuley
- Tolland Fire Department
- Toys for Tots
- Various other donors for the ECE Giving Tree



Press Conference

On August 5th, CRT hosted a press conference for the Governor Lamont, Lt. Governor Bysiewicz, Attorney General Tong, Mayor Bronin, DSS Commissioner Dr. Gifford, DPH Commissioner Dr. Juthani, and Planned Parenthood of Southern New England to launch Connecticut's new abortion access hotline and website.

Summer Youth Employment

The students of CRT's Summer Youth Employment and Learning Program, this summer, dedicated their time to helping to educate others in the community – especially their peers – about the problems they wanted to change in the community.



The McKinney

Governor Ned Lamont and other special guests visited The McKinney on September 29, 2022. At the onset of the coronavirus, CRT moved its residents of the Stewart B. McKinney Men's Emergency Shelter on Huyshope Avenue in Hartford, to the Best Western Hartford Hotel & Suites on Brainard Road. Providing services to Hartford's homeless population in a hotel was such a successful new model over the last two years, that CRT purchased the Days Inn right next to the Best Western and converted it into The McKinney, a 53-room facility that will house 78 homeless residents.



FUNDERS AND DONORS

State Funding Sources

CT Department of Aging and Disability Services
CT Department of Children & Families
CT Department of Correction
CT Department of Economic and Community Development
CT Department of Education
CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
CT Department of Housing
CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
CT Department of Public Health
CT Department of Social Services
CT Health and Education Facilities Authority
CT Housing Finance Authority
CT Office of Early Childhood
CT Office of Policy Management

Federal, State and Municipal Agencies

Corporation for National and Community Service
US Department of Agriculture
US Department of Energy
US Department of Health and Human Service
US Department of Homeland Security
US Department of Housing and Urban Development
US Department of Justice
US Department of Labor
US Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Services
US Department of Veterans Affairs
US Probation and Pre-Trial Service

Municipalities

Avon
Bloomfield
Branford
Canton
Chester
Clinton
Cromwell
Deep River
Durham
East Granby
East Haddam
East Hampton
East Hartford
East Windsor
Enfield
Essex
Glastonbury
Granby
Guilford
Haddam
Hartford
Killingworth
Madison
Manchester
Marlborough
Middlefield
Middletown
Newington
North Branford
Old Saybrook
Portland
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
South Windsor
Suffield
West Hartford
Westbrook
Wethersfield
Windsor
Windsor Locks

Foundations, Businesses and Organizations

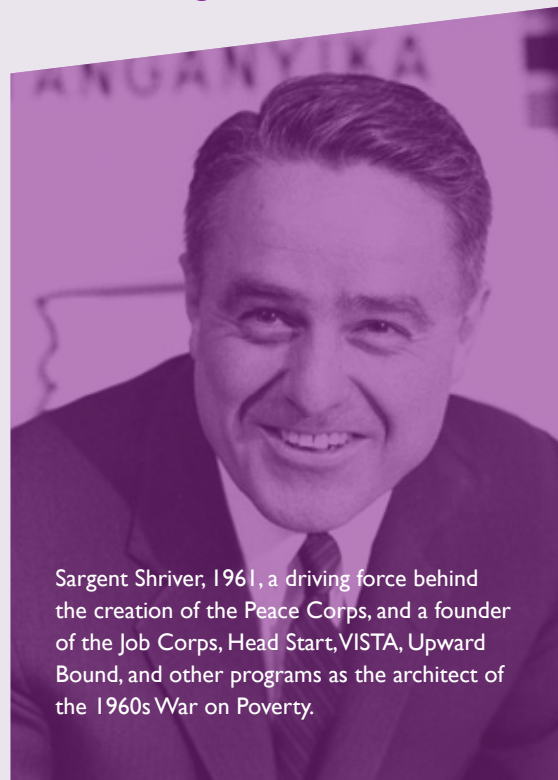
4-CT
Access Health CT
Ace Endico
Active TeleSource
Adams Hometown Market
Advanced Behavioral Health
AIDS United
Alarm New England / Sonitrol New England / Voice New England
AllWaste Inc.
American Eagle Financial Credit Union
American Veterans Group
Appleton & Appleton, LLC
Aurora Foundation for Women and Girls
Bay Equity Home Loans
Berkshire Bank Foundation
Big Y World Class Market
BOCA Pharmacy
Brothers Oil Company
Brown Rudnick
Burton & Phyllis Hoffman Foundation Inc.
Capital Workforce Partners Inc.
Canel Lodge 700
Canon Solutions America
Capital Community College
Capital Region Education Council (CREC)
Capitol Transmissions
Carabetta Management Companies
Carecentrix
Cart Concepts LLC
CDW Corporation
Cencap Federal Credit Union
Charity Golf International
City Wide Facility Solutions of Southern New England
Community Action Agency of Western CT
Companions and Homemakers Inc.
ConnectiCare
Community Health Center
Community Health Network
Community Partners in Action
Connecticut Association for Community Action
Connecticut Community Care Inc.
Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation
Connecticut Association of Latinos in Higher Education
Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness
Constitution Group of Wells Fargo Advisors
Creating Healthier Communities
CV Media
CVS Health | Aenta
Dacor Installation Services Inc.
D'Amato Construction
DeMarco Management Corporation
Diversified Telecom Group
Dot Think Design
Deupree Family Foundation
Durham Fair Foundation
Dutch Oil Company, Inc.
Eagle Rivet Roofing Service Corporation
East Granby Congregational Church
East Hartford Lions Foundation
East-West Engineering, PLLC
Eastern Connecticut State University
End Hunger CT!
Energy Resource Group Technologies
Enterprise Builders
Eversource Veterans Association Inc.
Eversource Energy
Excelsior Lodge No. 3
F & S Ironworks
Fidelity Charitable
First Church of Middletown, Christ UCC
First Church of the Divine Light, Inc.
First Congregational Church of Bloomfield
FLB Architecture & Planning Inc.
Float 41
Full Power Radio Inc.
Gaffney Bennett & Associates
Geico Manchester
Goodwin University
Graff Public Solutions LLC
Greater Hartford Arts Council
Harold Hart Home Performance
Hartford Building Company
Hartford Firefighters Association I.A.F.F. Local 760
Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
Hartford Health Care, Hartford Hospital
Hartford Parent University
Hartford Police Union
Highland Park Market
Hispanic Health Council
Hoopes Morgenthaler Rausch & Scaramozza LLC
Horst Engineering & Mfg. Co.
Hubbard Fund
Humana Inc.
Imagineers LLC
Journey Home Inc.
JustGive – Great Nonprofits
JW Data LLC
Kelsor Corporation
KIT Security
Knights of Columbus 10651
KNOX Hartford
Latin Financial / Sharpe Capital
Latinas & Power Corp.
LAZ Parking
Leading Culture Solutions
LEO Clinic
Liberty Bank
Liberty Bank Foundation
M & M Group Benefits Inc.

Foundations, Businesses and Organizations

M&T Bank
M.A. Arnold II LLC-Plumbing, Piping, Consulting
Macca Plumbing
Mansfield Paper Company
MBH Architecture
Medical Billing of Connecticut
Metzger Lazarek & Plumb LLC
Meals on Wheels America
Mitchell Fuel Inc.
Mothers United Against Violence
MTS Builders Inc.
National Arts Program Foundation
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs
New England Smart Energy Group LLC
North Atlantic States Carpenters Training Fund
North Central Area Agency on Aging
North United Methodist Church
Oliver Packaging & Equipment Company
OneDigital | Health + Benefits
Operation Fuel
Performance Food Service
Perk on Main
Philadelphia Insurance Company
Pillar Community Development Corporation
Preferred Services Inc.
Pronto Printer of Newington
Rally Health Inc.
Restaurant Equipment Paradise Inc.
Sacred Heart Church of Bloomfield
Sandler & Mara P.C.
Sav-Mor Cooling & Heating Inc.
Senior Executive Women's Network
Shrink Packaging Systems Corporation
Senior Resources Agency on Aging
Sinatro Agency
The Society of Latin American Firefighters
Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (SINA)
Southeast Agency LLC
Speech-Soft Solutions LLC
Stop and Shop East Haddam
Suburban Pharmacy Long-Term Care
Target Corporation
TD Bank
The GoodCoin Foundation
The Goodwin Foundation
The Stop & Shop Supermarket Company
The Village for Families and Children, Inc.
The Widow's Society
Thermodynamics Mechanical Services INC.
Thomas Atkins Memorial Fund
Thurston Foods, Inc.
Timken Foundation
Tinarose Produce
Total Pest Control LLC
TRANE
Travelers
Travelers Championship
Tricom Systems
TYCO/Johnson Controls
UBS Financial Services
Unitarian Universalist Society-East
United Carpets & Installation LLC

United Congregational Church of Tolland
United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 919
United Illuminating
United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut
Untapped Potential
Utopia Home Care Inc.
Vinci Oil Company
Voya Financial Advisors, Inc.
Walgreens Cash Rewards Program
Waterford Group Charitable Foundation
Webster Bank
West Hartford Lock
Wheeler Clinic
Whittlesey
Williams Electrical Contract LLC
Windsor Locks Public Schools
Wipfli
Workforce Alliance Inc.
Xavier High School
YMCA of Greater Hartford
YouthBuild USA

“Community Action, as its name implies, is local action. We depend completely on local communities to come to Washington with their own programs of combating poverty in the ways that they see fit to do it in their own home town.”
Sargent Shriver



Sargent Shriver, 1961, a driving force behind the creation of the Peace Corps, and a founder of the Job Corps, Head Start, VISTA, Upward Bound, and other programs as the architect of the 1960s War on Poverty.

Individual Donors

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All About Word Art
All Waste, Inc.
Alvarium Brewing Co.
Audacy, Inc
Liberty Bank
Cherell Banks
Kara Bassett
Doris and Gimarie Battle
Bernstein Family
Black Eyed Sally's
Blue Earth Compost
Blue State Coffee
Bombas Socks
Budget Printers
Samantha Burke
Capital Classics
Theater Company
Jeffrey Capobianco
Carbone's Prime Restaurant
Edward Casares Jr.
Jay Casbarro
Maria Cheney
Chris Cote's Golf Shop
Christmas Wish CT
Clahar Family
Collins Family
Constitution Group of Wells
Fargo Advisors
Costco
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CRT Facilities and
Property Management
CRT Human Resources
Department
CRT Nutrition Department
CRT Planning and Quality
Assurance Department
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Litchfield Distillery
DORO Restaurant Group
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East Hartford
Police Department
Foodshare
Kerry B. Foster Sr.
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Foxwoods Resort Casino
Freshpoint Connecticut
Valarie Garlick
Leslie and Carla Giordano
Glastonbury Newcomers'
and Neighbors' Club
Goodyear Tire

Harriet Beecher Stowe Center
Hartford Distributors
Hartford Flavor Company
Hartford Restaurant Group
Hartford Yard Goats
Hog River Brewing Co.
iHeartMedia
Iris Photography
Lake Compounce
Brenda Larkin
Angel Lee
Live Nation
Carmen Lopez
Jay Lorinsky
M & M Group Benefits, Inc.
Irene Mackey
Magic Wings Butterfly
Conservatory
Make Food Lovely
Mandell Jewish
Community Center
Mark Twain House
Mass MoCA
Ted Mauro
Max Hospitality
Max Cares Foundation
John McMahon
Yvette Meléndez, YMR
Consulting
Edjohnetta Miller
Millican Family
Mohegan Sun Hotel
and Casino
Tracy Morales
Murray Family
Mystic Aquarium
Mystic Seaport Museum
New Britain Museum of
American Art
Norman Rockwell Museum
Northeast Performance
Institute, Inc.
Ocean State Job Lot
Charitable Foundation
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Photo Gifts
Pine and Iron Axe Throwing
Quassy Amusement Park
Rapid Relief Team
Ray's Cigar and Tobacco
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Suburban Pharmacy
Long-term Care
Suburban Stationers, Inc.
Super Charged Racing
The Essex Steam Train
and Riverboat
The McAuley
Thomas Hooker Brewery Co.
Susan Tonetti
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Victor Advertising Service LLC
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Elizabeth Vinick
Mark Vital
Voice of God Ministries
Marisa Walls
Marge Warner
The Warner Theater
Brittany Wilborn
Conrad Wynter, Jr.
YMCA of Greater Hartford

FINANCIALS (YEAR END 2021)

| Operating Support and Revenue | | \$ |
|--|--|-------------------|
| Grants and Contracts | | |
| Federal | | 37,491,097 |
| State | | 4,975,399 |
| Private | | 1,211,639 |
| Capital Projects – State | | 311,923 |
| Contributions | | |
| In-Kind | | 829,040 |
| Fundraising | | 172,385 |
| Donor Restricted | | 473,782 |
| Other Revenue | | |
| Education: Parent Fees and Subsidies | | 962,804 |
| Elderly Nutrition Meal Subsidies | | 343,691 |
| Catering | | 358,073 |
| Child and Adult Food Program Subsidies | | 65,411 |
| Patient Fees | | 1,507,597 |
| Housing Services | | 2,125,464 |
| Other Income | | 1,337,406 |
| Total Operating Support & Revenue | | 52,165,711 |

| Grants by Funding Source (Federal) | \$ |
|--|------------|
| U.S. Department of Health and Human Services | 30,934,016 |
| U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development | 2,299,783 |
| U.S. Department of Energy | 1,205,494 |
| U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs | 1,100,985 |
| U.S. Department of Labor | 859,448 |
| U.S. Department of Homeland Security | 337,672 |
| U.S. Department of Agriculture | 271,957 |
| U.S. Department of Justice | 246,345 |
| Corporation for National and Community Service | 176,397 |
| U.S. Treasury | 59,000 |

| Operating Expenses | | \$ |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Salaries and Benefits | | 17,826,637 |
| Client Assistance | | 22,596,314 |
| Materials and Supplies | | 4,634,673 |
| Contractual Services | | 1,810,606 |
| Occupancy | | 2,036,943 |
| Other Expenses | | 798,512 |
| Depreciation and Amortization | | 736,190 |
| Delegate Expense | | 157,090 |
| Travel and Transportation | | 398,457 |
| Interest Expense | | 46,007 |
| Total Operating Expenses | | 51,041,429 |
| Total Change in Net Assets | | 1,124,282 |

| Expense by Function | \$ |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Energy | 25,219,868 |
| Housing Services | 7,338,526 |
| Nutrition Services | 4,672,080 |
| Other Community Services | 3,283,865 |
| Childcare Services | 2,792,289 |
| Clinical Services | 2,589,232 |
| Job Training | 1,076,606 |
| Community Corrections | 683,294 |
| Management & General | 3,385,669 |

| Grants by Funding Source (State) | \$ |
|---|-----------|
| Office of Early Childhood | 1,936,296 |
| CT Department of Housing | 1,455,674 |
| CT Department of Social Services | 695,727 |
| CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services | 490,362 |
| CT Department of Corrections | 394,835 |
| CT Department of Aging and Disability Services | 200,000 |
| CT Department of Public Health | 51,700 |
| CT Department of Children and Families | 50,194 |
| Office of Policy and Management | 7,712 |
| CT Department of Education | 4,822 |

Independent audits demonstrate that for every dollar CRT receives, 93.3 cents goes directly to programs and services that support people in our community.

“Fernando was an exceptional leader and highly respected on the board,” said CRT President/CEO Lena Rodriguez. “He knew how to lead, was extremely engaged and always very helpful.”

Leadership Transition on CRT’s Board of Trustees

Fernando Betancourt, a stalwart leader in the Greater Hartford community, retired as the Community Renewal Team’s board of trustee chairperson this year. He had also served on several CRT trustee committees, including Executive, Human Resource, Audit and Nominating.

Before joining CRT, Betancourt was executive director of Connecticut’s Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission – and established a reputation of high character and integrity. He was widely recognized as a strong advocate for Latino empowerment, inclusion, equity and diversity.

“Fernando was an exceptional leader and highly respected on the board,” said CRT President/CEO Lena Rodriguez. “He knew how to lead, was extremely engaged and always very helpful.”

Rodriguez said Betancourt’s leadership guided CRT through new launches and the expansion of essential programs that serve women, men, senior citizens, children and families, and those dealing with mental health or substance addiction.

When Betancourt was appointed as chair, the country was dealing with challenges similar to today’s, including a devastating hurricane, international turmoil and political unrest.

In his first letter to the community in CRT’s Annual Report, Betancourt noted the importance of CRT’s role in addressing issues of poverty and inequality. He said then: “I am proud to be the Chairperson of CRT’s Board, a group of dynamic people who are committed to eliminating poverty. We will be reaching out to the wider communities – business, faith-based, social services, customers and families – to help with this.”



Dr. Wilfredo Nieves, a champion for Higher Education and the former president of both Capital Community College and Middlesex Community College, was elected as CRT’s new chair.

“Fernando’s presence gave all of us an assurance and confidence about CRT’s leadership and its direction,” Nieves said. “He has always been committed and worked hard to make sure that we worked together and focused on the needs of the community in order to provide comprehensive and appropriate services aligned with CRT’s mission.”

Betancourt’s collaborative and collegial style of leadership served CRT well.

CRT BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Lena Rodriguez
President and CEO



Dr. Wilfredo Nieves
Chairperson



Reverend Norman Jones
Vice Chairperson



Marta Bentham
Vice Chairperson



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Mui Mui Hin-McCormick



Fernando Betancourt
Retired May 2022



Hilda E. Santiago



Daniel Schaefer



Navarda Williams-Perez

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, CRT employees
and our constituents, thank you, Fernando,
for your service and leadership!

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

Helen Keller

Partner with CRT and ENDOW Hartford 21 to Support CRT's Mission & Be Part of Our Future

CRT is participating in Endow Hartford 21, a **new matching gift endowment program**, initiated by the Zachs family. The initiative provides a 1:2 match to inspire donors to give generously to support the long-term future of CRT.

MISSION STRONG: CRT was founded in 1963 through a grassroots movement to support Hartford communities impacted by poverty. Today CRT is Mission Strong assisting thousands of families and communities in Hartford and Middlesex Counties. Focus your continued support of CRT's mission and invest in our nonprofit while earning a 50% match on each dollar you donate to our endowment.

Your gift will be generously matched. A gift of \$1,000 will yield a \$500 match. Any gift between \$250 to \$10,000 will be matched 1:2 by Endow Hartford 21.

An endowment creates a long-term resource that helps us remain Mission Strong during periods of revenue fluctuations.

For more information and to make a donation, contact Ilana Bernstein at bernsteini@crtct.org or call 860-560-5657. Visit us on our website at www.crtct.org or at www.EndowHartford21.com for information on how to make your gift by check, credit/debit card, or stock.



\$1 Million from Community Donors to Support and Focus our Mission

The Widows Society has had a mission of helping Hartford women in need for nearly two hundred years. During the past couple of months, the Society members decided that the time had come “to close the books” and distribute their funds to organizations that have worked on causes that they appreciate. Among the final contributions they distributed, CRT received a total contribution of \$300,000. These funds will be held in an endowment and used to support the work of the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Women’s Empowerment Center.

CRT received a bequest from the estate of Nancy Simonds of Ivoryton, CT who passed away in December of last year. The funds bequeathed to CRT will be used to support our homeless veteran services.



Nancy Simonds



The Widows Society

CRT'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

BASIC NEEDS

Food and Clothing Assistance
Resource Centers
SNAP Outreach
SSBG Case Management

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

Child Nutrition
Infant/Toddler Day Care
School Readiness
Summer Food

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Capital City YouthBuild
Middlesex Youth Development
Summer Youth Employment

SENIORS SERVICES

Meals on Wheels
Retired & Senior Volunteers (RSVP)
Senior Affordable Housing
Senior Community Cafés
The Retreat Assisted Living Facility

ENERGY & WEATHERIZATION

Energy Assistance
HES-IE
Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program
Weatherization Services

VETERANS

Supportive Services for Veteran Families
Targeted Case Management
Veterans Crossing

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

Access Health Navigator
Asian Family Services
Behavioral Health Services
Fatherhood Initiative
Hartford Community Responders
HIV Counseling & Medical Case Management Services
Homeless Outreach
Integrated Primary Medical Services
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Women's Empowerment Center
Medication-Assisted Treatment Program
Pharmacy

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

DOC Scattered Site Supportive Housing
Re-Entry Counseling, Recovery Services
Transitional Case Management Services

HOUSING & SHELTERS

Affordable Housing
Community Housing Assistance Program (CHAP)
Community Housing Employment Enrichment Resources (CHEER)
Connecticut Housing and Engagement Support Services (CHESS)
Coordinated Access Network Youth Navigator Program
East Hartford Family Shelter
Generations: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
Housing Counseling
The McKinney
Permanent Supportive Housing

MONEY MANAGEMENT

Community Asset Building Initiative
Financial Literacy
My Home CT
VITA Tax Filing
Your Money



Find CRT on your favorite social media channels.

860-560-5600



www.crtct.org

