

NEWS,
ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND
NEW BEGINNINGS
FROM
CHRYSALIS CENTER

Building Connections

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 2 2016



Liberty Gardens Opens!

On February 10th, Chrysalis Center Real Estate Corporation celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony at its newest affordable housing project.

Liberty Gardens is a culmination of an urban development project that took a 1922 blighted apartment building and an adjacent lot to historically rebuild what was once 272 Garden Street and add an addition on what was known as 53 Liberty Street.

272 Garden Street, now known as Liberty Gardens, was an eight unit, two and three bedroom apartment building that had been vacant for over thirty years, becoming an eyesore as well as a safety concern in the Clay Arsenal Neighborhood. The intersection of Garden Street, Walnut Street and Homestead Avenue is a gateway into Downtown Hartford as well as the city's major insurance companies.

Chrysalis Center Real Estate Corporation purchased 272 Garden Street from the City of Hartford as part of its blighted property program. The 53 Liberty Street lot was purchased from a private owner.

Liberty Gardens is a historic rehab with eight two and three bedroom apartments. By purchasing the additional Liberty Street property, this allowed an addition to be added to the original apartment building in keeping with historic design elements for an additional two apartments, laundry, community room, elevator and first floor meeting rooms.

Liberty Gardens was made possible thanks to the support of: Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, City of Hartford HOME Loan funds, State of Connecticut Historic Tax Credit, TD Charitable Foundation, State of Connecticut Department of Housing, State of Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addition Services and State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families.

Chrysalis Center Real Estate Corporation is pleased to bring Liberty Gardens to fruition offering housing for children and families.



PICTURED AT TOP: ANNE FOLEY, OPM, MARK MILLIGAN, TD BANK, STEVE LITCHFIELD, TD BANK, JEAN WAGNER, CCI, KARL KILDUFF, CHFA, STEVE RUTH, CCREC, DEB ALTER, CHFA, STEVE DILELLA, DOH, SHARON CASTELLI, CCI, ALICE MINERVINO, DHMAS

PICTURED AT BOTTOM: THERESA NICHOLSON, CCI WITH HARTFORD MAYOR LUKE BRONIN

Building Connections

Legion Court Breaks Ground!

Recently Chrysalis Center Real Estate Corporation (CCREC) has broken ground on Legion Court, a new construction for affordable housing in the South End of Hartford. The housing will be twelve 2 bedroom townhouses for Veteran families. Construction is on schedule to be completed in late summer of 2016.

Veteran's families who have experienced homelessness or are at risk of homelessness will be eligible to obtain housing at Legion Court. Chrysalis Center, Inc. will provide case management services to the Veterans families.

The project is funded by the State of Connecticut Department of Housing.



Chili Champion Crowned!

The results are in. The 2016 Commissioner Chili Champion has been crowned!

State of Connecticut Commissioners Miriam Delphin-Rittmon (DHMAS), Kevin Sullivan (DRS), Sean Connolly (DVA) and Secretary Ben Barnes (OPM) participated in Chrysalis Center's Commissioners Chili Cook-Off on Monday evening, February 29th at the new TCC (Training & Conference Center) located on the Chrysalis Center Social Innovation Hub.

Each contestant brought their own special recipe, homemade chili. Participants in each of the Commissioner's programs were asked to rate the chili for appearance, taste, spiciness and overall presentation. When the scores were tallied, DHMAS Commissioner Miriam Delphin-Rittmon received the highest score and was presented with the prestigious Chili Champion 2016 bowl!

Chrysalis Center wishes to thank all the participants and judges in this fun-filled event! Should you or your company wish to have an event at the TCC, please contact Jeffrey Zwolak, Director of Events at 860.263.4422 or jzowlak@chrysaliscenterct.org.



PICTURED ABOVE:
CHILI CHAMPION 2016 COMMISSIONER
MIRIAM DELPHIN-RITTMON WITH
CEO SHARON CASTELLI.



PICTURED AT LEFT:
GREGORY, COMMISSIONER MIRIAM
DELPHIN-RITTMON, SECRETARY BEN BARNES,
COMMISSIONER KEVIN SULLIVAN, STEPHAN,
COMMISSIONER SEAN CONNOLLY, GIL

Chrysalis Center's Butterfly Boutique is Looking for Your Gently Used Items

The Butterfly Boutique is a donation center located at the Chrysalis Center Social Innovation Hub that is run by Chrysalis Center clients and opens one day weekly. The Boutique offers gently used household items, donated by the community. Chrysalis Center participants are eligible to visit the boutique if they're working, volunteering or participating in a meaningful activity, helping them to earn "tokens" to purchase items for their apartments and homes.

We are in need of many items to stock the shelves of the Butterfly Boutique. Items in need are, but not limited to: pots & pans, dishes, cutlery, baking pans, manual can openers, plastic cups, laundry baskets, brooms, dust pans, mops, buckets, dish strainers, blinds, plastic storage containers and any other gently used household items. Unfortunately we cannot take any used items made of cloth or electric items.

If you would like to donate to the Butterfly Boutique, please contact Ellyn Laramie, Volunteer Manager at 860.263.4419 or elaramie@chrysaliscenterct.org.



LINDA AND KAREN HELP ORGANIZE THE BUTTERFLY BOUTIQUE

Volunteer Spotlight

Tammy Salminen, from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Charles P. Varca, Chapter 17 in Manchester, CT, has helped to coordinate many meals and donations for our Veterans living in affordable housing at the Phelps Mansion and Carriage House in Vernon/Rockville. The DAV is an organization of Veterans helping Veterans and hosts several events a year at Phelps Mansion.

Recently the DAV, with Tammy's guidance, hosted a post-holiday dinner for the seventeen Veterans at the Phelps Mansion and Carriage House. The dinner included a delicious home cooked ham with an assortment of homemade sides and desserts.

Later, gifts, gift cards and personal hygiene products were donated to each Veteran. The meal and gifts were very much appreciated by the residents. More importantly, the thoughtfulness of the members of the DAV Chapter who came to spend time with the Veterans was what was most valued.

Tammy and the DAV members have taken the time to learn about our Veterans, their needs and make a special effort to leave each resident with a smile. We thank Tammy and the DAV for all their efforts at making our Phelps Mansion and Carriage House Veterans feel appreciated.



CHRYSALIS CENTER VOLUNTEER TAMMY SALMINEN (CENTER) AND MEMBERS OF THE DAV AT THE PHELPS MANSION

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

Meet Salvatorre “Sal”

Sal was the very first participant to be housed by the CABHI (Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals) team, a new program at Chrysalis Center aimed at ensuring that individuals who experience chronic homelessness receive access to sustainable permanent housing, treatment, recovery supports, Medicaid and other mainstream resources including case management services. In the mid 90’s, Sal’s mother died. He left his native Long Island and made his way to Hartford. Having no place to call home, Sal became homeless for over 20 years! Although Sal still had family in New York, he only had sporadic contact with various distant relatives. Sal lives with developmental issues, diabetes, and bipolar disorder. Sal was staying at a Hartford’s ‘no freeze’ shelter, but when the shelter’s funding ran out he and 49 other men were forced out to the streets. Sal did not want to seek another shelter. He slept outside and refused to let anyone know where exactly he was sleeping.

With the help of Chrysalis Center’s CABHI team, Sal was able to find an apartment in Hartford’s Westend. In less than a year, here are a few things that Sal has accomplished; Sal’s apartment remains meticulous. Sal now has services to help in acquiring food. He has a resume and has been applying for jobs. Over the holiday’s Sal worked as a greeter at Walmart. While he was disappointed that he was only hired for seasonal work, he remains positive.

Sal has successfully completed the CABHI program this January, but he remains part of the Chrysalis family. He will continue to work with CABHI’S employment specialist and receive case management.



3rd Annual “Empty Bowls Fundraiser Wednesday, March 30th!

Chrysalis Center will be holding its 3rd Annual “Empty Bowls” fundraiser on Wednesday, March 30th from 5 pm to 7 pm in the TCC (Training & Conference Center) on the Chrysalis Center Social Innovation Hub. Chefs Chris and Eric and their culinary students will prepare the soups for the evening.

For a donation of \$20, each guest will receive a hand crafted bowl to take home with them, created by renowned potter Doug Kobs of Vernon along with their choice of soup, salad and bread. Guests are asked to keep a bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. Additional bowls and plates may be purchased for only \$10 each.

All monies raised from this event will benefit Freshplace, Chrysalis Center’s fresh food pantry.

Due to the success of this event the past two years, Chrysalis has made “Empty Bowls” an annual fundraising event. Chrysalis Center is hoping you’ll be able to join us!

Tickets may be purchased online at www.chrysaliscenterct.org or at the door the evening of the event. For more information or to RSVP to our Empty Bowls event, please contact Ellyn Laramie at 860.263.4419 or elaramie@chrysaliscenterct.org.



Join Our “Donation Creation” Contest to Benefit Freshplace

Chrysalis Center will be sponsoring a food drive with a twist. “Donation Creation” is an innovative way for your company, club, family or neighborhood to help stock Freshplace, our fresh food pantry, with much needed staple goods.

Freshplace is a fresh food pantry serving the Upper Albany and Asylum Hill neighborhoods in Hartford. At typical food pantries, people receive a bag of food that may or may not meet their family’s needs. The main goal and focus at Freshplace is increased self-sufficiency. Freshplace members develop a goal plan focused on their individual goals, while obtaining case management services along with much needed food for their families.

The premise behind “Donation Creation” is to have volunteers host a food drive at their place of business, clubs, etc. for the month of April. Once all the donations are collected, volunteers create a “can sculpture” from the donated goods and submit a picture of this sculpture, via email, to Chrysalis Center. Collected goods will then be donated to Freshplace.

Sculptures will be judged by celebrity judges for their creativity and the best design will be crowned “Top Can”. All photos must be submitted no later than 9 am Friday, April 29th.

This is a fun way to help stock Freshplace and to show your creativity! For more information, please contact Ellen Laramie at 860.263.4418 or elaramie@chrysaliscenterct.org.



PICTURED ABOVE ARE TWO EXAMPLES OF DONATION CREATIONS BUILT COMPLETELY FROM CANNED GOODS AND OTHER FOOD PRODUCTS

Chrysalis Center Welcomes New Board Member

Chrysalis Center welcomes Jeraldine “Jerry” Tucker as the newest member of their Board of Directors. Jerry is a long-time employee of Travelers and is currently employed as a Claim Product Manager at their Hartford office.

Jerry brings to the Board a wealth of knowledge as a strategic thinker and decision maker allowing her in both her career and personal life to overcome challenges and barriers to ensure the fulfillment of her goals and objectives.

Jerry did her undergraduate schooling at Eastern Connecticut State College, received her Masters of Science in Management from University of St. Joseph and has a law degree from Quinnipiac School of Law. Chrysalis Center is honored to welcome Jerry to their Board!



JERALDINE “JERRY” TUCKER

**Accredited by the Commission
for the Accreditation of Rehabilitative
Facilities (CARF) for:**

Case Management/Services Coordination:
Mental Health (Adults)

Community Integration:
Mental Health (Consumer-Run)

*Chrysalis Center is an Affirmative
Action Employer Committed to
Fostering Diversity in the Workplace*

Funded in part by **DHMAS, DOC, DOH,
CT-NSP, HOPWA – City of Hartford
and HUD**

Chrysalis Center accepts MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover. Please visit our website to donate online, purchase event tickets, or sponsor a fundraising event. The Chrysalis Connection is a publication distributed by Chrysalis Center, Inc., a non-profit charitable organization serving the Greater Hartford area. For more information, or to add a friend to our mailing list please contact Maryellen M. Shuckerow at 860-263-4417, Chief Development Officer, Chrysalis Center, Inc. at P.O. Box 326013, Hartford, CT 06132.

Save The Date

EMPTY BOWLS EVENT (and introducing plates this year!)

Wednesday, March 30th 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
TCC (Training & Conference Center) Chrysalis Center

CONNECTICUT VETERANS WARTIME SERVICES MEDAL CEREMONY

Tuesday, May 24th 11 am - 1:00 pm
TCC (Training & Conference Center) Chrysalis Center

HOMESTEAD FARMERS' MARKET

Every Wednesday 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
June thru October - Watch for opening date!

12TH ANNUAL BUTTERFLY BASH

Thursday, October 13th 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm
TCC (Training & Conference Center) Chrysalis Center

Please check our website for future events.

*For more information on any of these events, please contact
Maryellen Shuckerow at (860) 263-4417 or mshuckerow@chrysaliscenterct.org.*

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