



NEWS,
ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND
NEW BEGINNINGS
FROM
CHRYSALIS CENTER



Building Connections



FALL 2019



Helping those living with HIV/AIDS



Today, Eddie is living well and a mentor to others in the community. He credits Chrysalis Center and his case manager, Yanira, for being there for him in his darkest hours.

Meet Eddie, a resident of St. Philip House, a program of Chrysalis Center which provides safe and affordable housing and community support to individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS.

Growing up in New York City, Eddie found himself homeless at a very young age which affected his life tremendously. As a young man he faced challenges and barriers and felt lost, with no way out.

When Eddie came to St. Philip House, he was at rock bottom and knew he needed help. He was ready for a change from the life he knew. With support from the St. Philip House program and staff, who believed in him, Eddie found a new lease on life. He felt like he was somebody again. He felt safe in his apartment and empowered to make positive changes in his life. He had hope.

Today, Eddie is living well and a mentor to others in the community. He credits Chrysalis Center and his case manager, Yanira, for being there for him in his darkest hours.

In 2017, St. Philip House, located in Plainville, became a program of Chrysalis Center. St. Philip House provides two distinct programs: an 8-unit building and a family unit across the street, as well as a scattered site Rapid Re-Housing program, which offers financial assistance to individuals who are HIV positive and homeless. In addition to providing access to safe and affordable housing and case management services, the programs link residents to local and state resources, such as education, medical assistance, and employment opportunities. St. Philip House and Rapid Re-Housing focus on the critical and growing issue of homelessness in our communities.

We invite you to support these programs and help Eddie and others live well by joining us on November 23 at our 8th Annual Comedy Night to Benefit St. Philip House! The fundraiser supports the programs and services offered by St. Philip House. Held at Nuchie's Restaurant in Bristol, the evening includes appetizers, an Italian dinner buffet, two comedians; Kareem Blue and Adam Parisi, as well as a teacup and 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$50 per person and are available online at: www.chrysaliscenterct.org/events.



**Join us for COMEDY NIGHT
to Benefit St. Philip House!**

Saturday, November 23, 2019 | 7pm - 10pm
Nuchie's | Bristol, CT

Building Connections

Providing Housing for Homeless Veterans

Chrystalis Center Real Estate Corporation officially opened the doors to “The Elms”, a new affordable/supportive housing development for homeless Veterans in Bristol. With a ribbon cutting ceremony on August 26, federal, state and local dignitaries had an opportunity to see firsthand the beautiful new building which will house to nine formerly homeless Veterans.

Dignitaries on hand included: United States Senator Richard Blumenthal, Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno from the CT Department of Housing, Commissioner Miriam Delphin- Rittmon, from the CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu of Bristol. Also in attendance were Salvatore Vitrano, General Council from the Bristol Housing Authority, local members of the city council, as well as developers and architects of the project.

Located on the former site of St. Vincent DePaul Transitional Shelter, the beautiful renovated three-story building includes nine individual apartment units, a community room, meeting space, fitness room and laundry facility. Bristol, being a city with a long history of supporting and honoring its Veterans, welcomes The Elms.



Pictured L-R: Bristol Mayor Ellyn Zoppo-Sassu, United States Senator Richard Blumenthal, DMHAS Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno, Chrysalis Center CEO Sharon L. Castelli, Salvatore Vitrano, Bristol Housing Authority and CT General Council Commissioner Miriam Delphin-Rittmon.

Welcome Home Kits

Chrystalis Center is collecting items for our Welcome Home Kits! Each kit contains items for our clients who are transitioning from homelessness into a home, many for the first time.

Items in need include, new or gently used dishes, silverware, glasses, pots and pans and other household items.

Items can be dropped off Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm at 255 Homestead Avenue, Hartford or call Sarah Mitchell, Development Associate, 860-263-4418, to organize a collection. Thank you!

WELCOME HOME!



Remembering the Mission

Giving back happens in many different forms at Chrysalis Center. For this year's annual Butterfly Bash, several Chrysalis Center participants wanted to do just that – Give Back!

Members of the Recovery and Empowerment Center (REC), Serafin, Kenny, and Jackie, assembled a large 1000 piece butterfly puzzle and donated it to be part of the Bash's silent auction. Individuals with mental illness often find that putting together a puzzle helps relieve some of their anxiety and depression, as well as creating a sense of camaraderie.

The winning bidder of this unique auction item was Dakota Partners, located in Massachusetts. Marc Daigle, a partner with Dakota, shared "This beautiful piece will be installed in Dakota Partners' office as a reminder of the important work we do and the impact of our giving back. Thank you to the wonderful clients for creating this puzzle that will remind all those who see it, the active role they take in helping to transform lives."



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:



FIDUCIARY INVESTMENT ADVISORS

Thank you to our friends at Fiduciary Investment Advisors for spending the day volunteering with us recently! From helping our clients shop in Freshplace to preparing our Railway Garden beds for fall, their efforts are greatly appreciated! Chrysalis Center is proud to have the best volunteers!



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: Chrysalis Center "Cleans Up" New Britain!

"Giving back" is part of Chrysalis Center's philosophy. Earlier this fall, members of Chrysalis Center's Community Transitional Services, did just that. Led by staff, clients volunteered time helping to clean up the streets of the City of New Britain! The group picked up trash, swept the streets and helped to give back to a community where Chrysalis Center will soon be opening a new housing unit. Similar "Clean Up" days are held throughout the year in different cities throughout Connecticut.



CTS Staff and Clients pictured with Gerry Amodio, President of New Britain Downtown District.

15th ANNUAL BUTTERFLY
Bash!



Surpasses Fundraising Goal!

Thank you to everyone who attended Chrysalis Center's 15th Annual Butterfly Bash! This signature fundraising event held at the Hartford Marriott Downtown on October 10th, raised more than \$170,000, surpassing our goal! All proceeds directly support Chrysalis Center's mission to provide supportive services to assist people in need to transform their lives.

More than 250 individuals attended this fun evening, dressed in red in honor of the event's ruby anniversary. Chrysalis Center sincerely thanks Renee DiNino, Director of Community Affairs for iHeart Media, for serving as Master of Ceremonies.

Special thanks to all of the sponsors, auction donors, supporters and guests! Your generosity ensures Chrysalis Center programs continue and the community is supported.



SUMMER RECAP!

Chrystalis Center had a fantastic summer of fun, community, and giving back! A number of events were held to support the organization, including:

Chrysalis Center Day at the Hartford Yard Goats

CT Sun Basketball Game at Mohegan Sun Arena

Homestead Avenue Farmers' Market



Free Hair Cuts and Lunch for our Veterans!

Veterans living at Phelps Village in Rockville were treated to a very special day this fall. Two local businesses reached out to give back to those who served. West Main Barbershop offered free haircuts for Veterans and Craig's Kitchen provided lunch. This act of giving back and "paying it forward" put smiles on the faces of all those who attended. Thank you, Sam, Lisa, and Danny from West Main Barbershop and Craig from Craig's Kitchen, for sharing your time and generosity with our Veterans.



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**Accredited by the Commission on
Accreditation of Rehabilitation
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 **DMHAS, 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 Connecticut area. For more information, or to add a friend to our mailing list please contact Adria Giordano, Director of Development at (860) 263-4425 or by email at agiordano@chrysaliscenterct.org.

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Join Us and Help Support Chrysalis Center!

COMEDY NIGHT TO BENEFIT ST. PHILIP HOUSE

Saturday, November 23, 2019 7 pm Nuchie's Restaurant, Bristol, CT

Join us for an evening of laughs with comedians Kareem Blue and Adam Parisi to benefit St. Philip House, a program of Chrysalis Center, which supports those living with HIV/AIDS, as well as their families. Each ticket includes complimentary wine and beer for first hour, appetizers, Italian dinner buffet, and fabulous entertainment. To purchase tickets, visit www.chrysaliscenterct.org/events

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALE

**Saturday, December 7, 2019 9 am – 2 pm
Chrysalis Center, 255 Homestead Avenue, Upper Parking Lot, Hartford, CT**

Start a new family tradition this year and join us for our Annual Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale! Generously supported by The Hartford, the event is open to the public and includes complimentary hot cocoa, refreshments and a visit by Santa.

HOST AN EVENT TO BENEFIT CHRYSALIS CENTER!

Looking for a way to get your friends, family and community involved with supporting Chrysalis Center? Consider hosting a fundraising event! Your support helps us to advance our mission and transform lives. For more information contact, Sarah Mitchell, smitchell@chrysaliscenterct.org or 860-263-4418.

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