



TRANSFORMING LIVES

Chrysalis Center's Newsletter

SUMMER 2022

Partnership with CVS Health



Chrysalis Center and CVS Health announced their partnership in January 2022 to create a Health Zone initiative in Hartford. Health Zones focus on social determinants of health in order to create healthier communities across the country. As part of the Health Zone initiative, Chrysalis Center is working with CVS Health and Uber Health to provide transportation at no cost to Chrysalis Center participants who need it most when seeking medical care, work, or attending an

educational program. To date, Uber Health has provided 1,495 rides for Chrysalis Center participants ensuring access to life-changing services.

Through collaboration with other Hartford Health Zone partners, the project raises awareness and shares community resources like Project Health Mobile. Project Health Mobile is a no-cost program that provides free health screenings in communities with limited access to medical services. These screenings provide baselines to track personal health and determine if additional medical assistance is needed.



Chrysalis Center's partnership with CVS Health provides volunteer opportunities for CVS employees to learn about their local Health Zones and communities. Chrysalis recently welcomed CVS Health volunteers into one of its supportive housing locations to host a craft time for children and families. Exploring creativity and expression is one way to develop socialization skills, sharing, communicating, and having fun.



Chrysalis Center is looking forward to this partnership and the positive impact it will have on participants and their families.

Happenings at the Recovery and Empowerment Center

Two wonderful events were held by Chrysalis Center's Recovery and Empowerment Center (REC) in June.



At their Annual Open House, REC participants organized, planned, and created the event's content. A few of the programs highlighted were Reading 101, Mindfulness/Stress Management, Music Therapy, Math, Spanish, Women's & Men's Groups, Book Club, Creative Writing, and more.

During the event, clients shared what Chrysalis Center and the REC meant to them;

"I can openly talk about my mental health, and it has given me a place to go instead of staying home."

"I've joined groups so I can learn to socialize better and work on my goals."

"This was the new start that I needed. I feel supported here."

"I was scared at first to come here but then I got to know people. They are my family. And the staff are my family too."

"This is my second home. I love everyone here."



A second Annual Juneteenth Celebration was also held by REC members. REC members read aloud histories of black Americans, shared their views on freedom, and enjoyed a picnic lunch together. Participants were able to share their understanding of freedom in a safe welcoming environment.

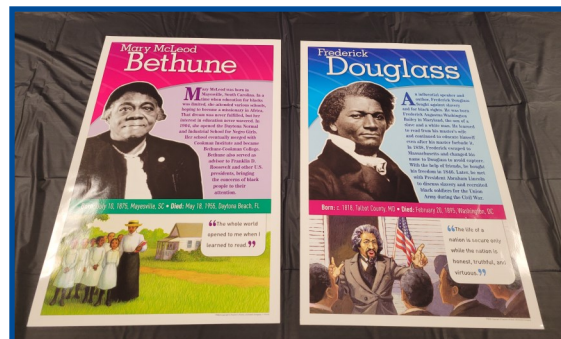
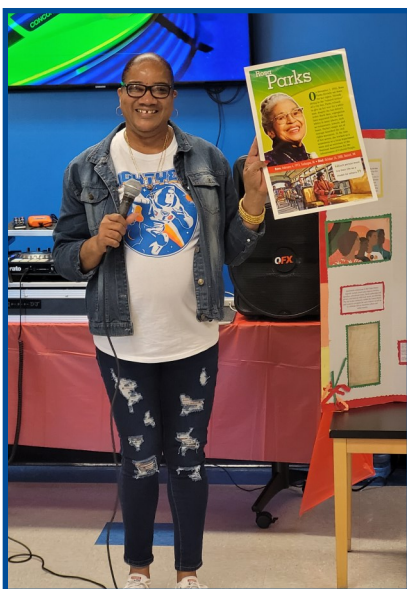
"It means I can sit anywhere I want to on the bus. I can speak my mind and I can be heard."

"Freedom means we can be ourselves. We are not bound by anything - addiction, our thoughts, our fears."

"Freedom means a better life for my kids not living in segregation."

"Freedom is being able to express who you are."

"Freedom is a beautiful treasure. Freedom is time - do not waste it and do not throw it out the window."



Client Spotlight – Meet Ed



Ed is a Chrysalis Center participant from Stafford, who understands the importance of giving back. Lindsay, Ed's case manager, was approached by Northern Connecticut Land Trust to see if she knew anyone who would be interested in volunteering. The Land Trust was looking for volunteers to help with the creation of a new trail for families with young children and those who may not be able to hike the existing, longer trail already at the Land Trust.

Despite some limitations, Ed wanted to give back to the community just as Chrysalis Center had done for him. He is grateful for the help Chrysalis has provided him in becoming the best version of himself. In order to stimulate

children's imaginations, Ed decided to paint little gnome houses to hide along the Land Trust trails. Ed was able to use his artistic skills to paint and personalize over ten gnome houses that he donated to the Northern Connecticut Land Trust. To learn more about Chrysalis Center and how we assist those in transforming their lives visit:

www.chrysaliscenterct.org

Volunteer Spotlight—Day Pitney

Chrysalis Center welcomed volunteers from Day Pitney in July. Day Pitney staff, associates, and interns who were enrolled in the Summer Legal Internship program, spent the day volunteering in Freshplace food pantry. The volunteers organized a non-perishable food donation received from the community, checked expiration dates on products in Freshplace, and learned about Chrysalis Center's mission.



Additionally, the group toured Chrysalis Center and had the opportunity to meet several clients in the Recovery and Empowerment Center. Clients shared with the volunteers how Chrysalis is their family and how grateful they are for the services provided.

Volunteer opportunities for small groups, businesses, or community groups are available throughout the year. For more information email Sarah, at smitchell@chrysaliscenterct.org.

Chrysalis Center Offers Its Sincere Thanks to Our Grant Funders

Recently, Chrysalis Center was awarded two grants to continue providing support to those in need.



United States Department of Agriculture generously awarded a federal grant of \$300,000 payable over three years for the expansion of Chrysalis Center's Urban Roots Hydroponic Grow Center.



Hartford Foundation
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Hartford Foundation for Public Giving generously awarded a \$7,500 grant to support the basic needs, such as, housing, food assistance, and transportation for clients.

Clover Gardens Ribbon Cutting



Chrysalis Center Real Estate Corporation (CCREC) held a ribbon cutting for Clover Gardens, their newest affordable housing project in Hartford on June 30. Clover Gardens is located in the Asylum Hill neighborhood of Hartford. The project consists of 32 mixed-income apartments, including eight set aside for nine HARC clients, a Hartford-based nonprofit that provides lifetime support to individuals with developmental disabilities. Clover Gardens was funded by State of Connecticut Department of Housing, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, US Department of

Housing and Urban Development, National Development Council, City of Hartford HOME Funds, and Eversource supplying historical tax credit funding through the State of Connecticut Preservation Office and the National Park Service.

During the opening celebration, a ribbon cutting was held on the porch of one of the historically renovated mansions. Chrysalis Center was thrilled to have Marc Boucher, Senior Management Analyst, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Mayor Luke Bronin, City of Hartford, Nandini Natarajan, Chief Executive Officer, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, U.S. Congressman John Larson, Sharon L. Castelli, CEO, Chrysalis Center Real Estate Corporation, Steve DiLella, Director of Individual and Family Support Program Unit at Department of Housing, Gregory Calnen, Board Chair, HARC, Inc., and Joshua Scalora, Director of Business Intelligence and Analytics, Department of Developmental Services, participated in the ribbon cutting. (Pictured L to R).

New Affordable Housing Development Coming to Willimantic

On July 11, Chrysalis Center Housing Development Corporation (CCHDC) began construction on its newest affordable housing project, Murray on Main, which is expected to be completed in July 2023. The beautiful 16-unit housing development will feature 2 two-bedroom units, one efficiency unit, and 11 one-bedroom units. The first floor will house a large community room with retail and office space.

The development team for this project includes: Crosskey Architects, Brade Shide, LLC, Northeastern Connecticut Development Corporation, and Chrysalis Center Housing Development Corporation.

Funders for Murray on Main are National Park Service, DECD- State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), National Development Council (NDC), State of Connecticut Department of Housing, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and Eversource.



Butterfly Bash Tickets Now On Sale

Tickets for Chrysalis Center's Annual Butterfly Bash, "Return of the Social Butterfly", are now available online for purchase. The Butterfly Bash will be held, in-person, Thursday, October 13 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Hartford Marriott Downtown.

As Chrysalis Center returns to in-person socializing, a new format is being introduced to keep with the social butterfly theme. In place of a sit-down dinner, the Bash will feature butler passed hors d'oeuvres, hot food stations, and desserts. Attendees will find it easier to mix, mingle, and network while sharing their Chrysalis Center connections. Chrysalis also welcomes Lisa Carberg from WTHN Channel 8 as this year's Butterfly Bash Master of Ceremonies.

If you would like to join Chrysalis Center's Honorary Committee, be a Table Captain, Sponsor or to donate an auction item please contact Lynda Waldron, at LWaldron@chrysaliscenterct.org or call 860-263-4412.



Homestead Farmers' Market Open for the Season



Join us on Wednesdays through mid-October, from 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. at the Homestead Farmers' Market, located on Chrysalis Center's main campus at 255 Homestead Avenue in Hartford.

The Homestead Farmers' Market offers fresh produce, vegetables, and herbs grown onsite in Chrysalis Center's gardens and Urban Roots Hydroponic Grow Center, and features guest vendor items weekly from local farms, including Hayes Farms (Rocky Hill), San Remo Bakery (Berlin), and Berger Farm (Berlin).

The Homestead Farmers' Market is part of OH SNAP! a collaboration between farmer's markets in Hartford. Visitors may use their SNAP, EBT cards, WIC, and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program benefits to buy items at the Market.

SNAP dollars are doubled on fruit and vegetable purchased at the Homestead Farmers' Market this season.

Thank you to this year's Donation Creation teams – Team Whittlesey,

Pantry Providers, Crosskey Architects, Railroad Account Management Team at UnitedHealthcare, GEI Consultants, Gallagher, NKA Book Club, and Kristen Siddell & Friends as well as all Chrysalis supporters that participated in #DonationCreation2022.

Close to 1,000 nonperishable items and over \$700 in financial contributions were donated to Freshplace food pantry. The donations will help feed individuals and families throughout the summer months.

Did you miss this year's Donation Creation? You can host a food drive any time during the year! Food drives are great for kids, community service projects, team building exercise, or just because! Email Sarah, smitchell@chrysaliscenterct.org, who will provide you with all the details on how to get started.





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Mental Health (Adults)

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in the Workplace.*

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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.

Transforming Lives Chrysalis Center's Quarterly
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For more information or to join our mailing list
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**Be A Part of the Eversource
Hartford Marathon!**

Saturday, October 8, 2022

Ways to Support Chrysalis Center Throughout the Day at the Eversource Hartford Marathon

1. Be a race participant. As a charity race participant you can choose from a variety of races – Marathon, Half Marathon, 10K, 5K or Youth!
2. Register to raise funds only. Be part of our team without breaking a sweat.
3. Volunteer at the Eversource Hartford Marathon.
4. Make a one-time donation.

For more information on Chrysalis Center participating in the Eversource Hartford Marathon email Sarah at smitchell@chrysaliscenterct.org or visit chrysaliscenterct.org/events

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