



# Homes with Hope

ANNUAL REPORT - JUNE, 2014

## 2013 – Another Good Year for HwH

Welcome to Homes with Hope's 2013 Annual Report. You might know us as the former Interfaith Housing Association of Westport & Weston, or you might know us as the Gillespie Center, in the heart of downtown Westport. In any case: we hope you know that unlike almost every other suburb IN AMERICA, we provide food and shelter to those neighbors who are less fortunate than most residents of this blessed community.

In sum: we provide hope.

Through our growing resources of Emergency Shelter, Permanent Supportive Housing and Casework Services provided by our staff of MSW - trained professionals,

We provide hope and counseling to the single mother of 3 who is homeless and has no

family to turn to for help. We provide hope and counseling to the grown siblings of a schizophrenic brother, whom they can no longer house. We provide hope and counseling to the parents of a 25-year-old whose independent lifestyle can no longer fit into his childhood home.

Over our 30 year history, we have helped thousands of individuals and families by offering a rare moment of stability in their very unstable lives. Many of those have gone on to a life filled with success and happiness, and though we are limited in our ability to help, we try with each one of our clients to guide them to an independent fulfilling life. We hope you can join us in that journey through the financial support and volunteer activities that hundreds of your neighbors provide to us.



## HwH: Changing One Life at a Time

After unhappily staying at another shelter for two months, Stanley found himself at Homes with Hope's Gillespie Center in the summer of 2013. Stanley struggled with some medical and psychological problems in addition to employment setbacks. He had no friends, no family and little to no support system.

When Stanley first arrived at Gillespie, his personal goals were assessed by the agency's professional staff with the focused intent of guiding him out of homelessness. He wanted to take care of his physical and mental health, find employment, and to then find permanent housing. Juliana Boldt, one of the Case Managers at Gillespie, began building a caring network of support around Stanley so that he could begin to accomplish his goals. She helped him to get both a medical evaluation and mental health counseling which helped to stabilize Stanley in both mind and body.

He was then referred for a vocational evaluation so that he might find a job that was in keeping with his abilities.

With coaching and referrals from Juliana, Stanley found permanent employment about two months after he arrived at the Gillespie Center through a work study program at Norwalk Community College. She helped him apply for housing at a more permanent and supportive residential program that met his needs, all while maintaining his status as a full time student at Norwalk Community College. Through agency collaboration, hard work and patience, he achieved all of his short and long term goals, thus making Stanley's story a great success.

Stanley with case manager, Juliana Boldt.



### LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I went to a nice shop to get a quick sandwich this past April. The man serving at the counter looked like someone I had worked with when I was a banker in New York City.



Jeff Wieser  
President & CEO

I was surprised when he confirmed that my name was Jeff, and even more intrigued when he directed me to the end of the counter where he could speak to me privately. Away from the growing line of patrons, he said he had, until recently, been a resident at the Gillespie Center. "You really helped me straighten out my life. I have a place to live; I am in a relationship with a great lady; and I have this job, which is stable and is keeping me stable. Thank you."

That's why I love my job. And I love a community that values caring for people who have lost their way. We house 61 adults and 30 children every night. This year we have created new housing through rental vouchers, and through the acquisition of a 2-family home in East Norwalk, our first purchase since 2012. We continue to do more with our limited funding, but the important thing is that we are pushing to do as much as we can, as well as we can, for as many as we can.

We recently celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Gillespie Center. It was a lovely afternoon in April (a rarity this year!) and it was attended by Lois Gillespie, Do Bacharach and Ted Hoskins. Virtually our whole history was under the tent that day, and it was a proud day to see all that Westport and Weston have done to respond to the needs of the homeless. I always thank our donors for allowing us to operate in this generous community, for that is what keeps us here and the care you provide to those in need. I think the presence of Homes with Hope makes the community stronger, better and more aware of the fact that we are all potentially one step away from a very different life!

All the best,

Tony Riggio

## FOOD PANTRY



The Food Pantry is open to all who need groceries every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 1pm - 5pm. While Donations are holding steady, demand continues to rise as local residents seek increased financial assistance to stay in Fairfield County. For further information call **203.226.1661**.

### DONOR BEQUEST

*We have been blessed to have received the gift of bequest from a few of our long term supporters. We would be grateful if you considered including us in your estate plans by directing a gift through our "Legacy with Hope" campaign.*

# Homes with Hope is still "Interfaith"

In a recent comment in Dan Woog's "06880," Rabbi Bob Orkand, a guiding light in the founding and growth of Homes with Hope, opined from his retirement home in Massachusetts:

**"... what made Homes With Hope unique was – and still is –the involvement and support of the religious community. I can think of no better demonstration of the values our varied faiths hold in common. In fact, I would go so far as to say that the ability of Westport-Weston's faith community to work together was and is part of the uniqueness of this community."**

In celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Gillespie Center, Rabbi Orkand provided an important reminder that, despite our support from all avenues of life in Westport and surrounding communities, the religious community remains a great source of financial, volunteer and moral support to this organization.

In the past year, the following congregations have provided meals at Gillespie; food to the Food Pantry, and/or donations to HwH:

### Westport

Christ & Holy Trinity  
Church of the Assumption  
The Conservative Synagogue  
First Church of Christ, Scientist  
Greens Farms Congregational  
Saugatuck Congregational  
Temple Israel  
United Methodist Church

### Weston

Emmanuel Church  
Norfield Congregational

### Wilton

St. Matthew's  
Wilton Friends  
Wilton Presbyterian

### Norwalk

Mission Church

### Fairfield

St. Timothy's Episcopal

### Ridgefield

First Congregational Church

### Stamford

Temple Sinai

This solid support from all faiths in the community is a keystone of our success. Many faiths share a common goal: end homelessness in our community by taking care of our own. And Homes with Hope is proud to be the organization that is working on that goal with all of those congregations.

## "Thank You!"

# Permanent Supportive Housing Growth!

There are many ways to measure the outcomes of the work we do. Shelter length of stay; number of people served at meal times; and grocery bags full of food distributed annually are only a few. There are a few statistics of which we are particularly proud, however. In 2013, we housed 108 non-duplicated individuals in our Gillespie Center and Hoskins' Place emergency shelters. Of that typically transient population, our case workers dealt with the sometimes severe problems that accompany these individuals, and our staff were able to arrange a suitable housing solution for 45% of that entire challenging population. The length of stays increased a bit, but we were able to help a large number of these homeless individuals. Additionally, no one who was in residence with us on January 1, 2013 was still in the shelter after August 15, 2013. A few people need to stay longer than usual, but everyone

finds a way to move on. And in our family emergency shelter, 21 families were served in 2013; to date 19 are living in permanent or long-term transitional housing, a wonderful 90%!

Finally the number of people we serve over the years in total continues to expand as our Permanent Supportive Housing offerings grow. The accompanying chart shows that we continue to do as much as we can with the resources that YOU provide to us.



### HOMES WITH HOPE STAFF

**Jeffrey N. Wieser**  
President & C.E.O.

**Audrey Sparre, MA**  
Vice President & C.O.O.  
Director of Supportive Housing Operations

**Karen Mahar**  
Director of Resource Development

**Tom Reech**  
Comptroller

**Erin Falvey**  
Community Relations Coordinator

### PROGRAM STAFF

**Paris Looney, MSW**  
Director of Emergency Shelter Operations

**Rob Lockhart, MSW**  
Program Director, Gillespie Center & Hoskins' Place

**Wendy Epstein, LCSW**  
Program Director, Women's Mentoring Network  
Case Manager, Westport Rotary Centennial House

**Jamila Daniel, MSW**  
Case Manager, Fair Street and Hales Court

**Juliana Boldt, MS**  
Case Manager, Gillespie Center & Hoskins' Place

**Robynne Quinn, MSW**  
Case Manager, Saugatuck Apartments and CT RRP

**Tracy Graham**  
Supervisor, Bacharach Community

**Kelly McLaughlin**  
Supervisor, Gillespie Center

**Ray Kalinowski**  
Supervisor, Gillespie Center

## EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAMS



**Gillespie Center & Hoskins' Place**  
Single Men and Women's Shelter  
Westport



**Bacharach Community**  
Shelter for Single Mothers and their Children  
Westport



**Linxweiler House**  
Extension of the Bacharach Community  
Westport

Tom Kretsch

## PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



**Powell Place**  
Westport



**Westport Rotary Centennial House**  
Westport



**Fair Street Apartments**  
Norwalk



**Hales Court**  
Westport

Tom Kretsch

*Solving homelessness in our communities through supportive housing*



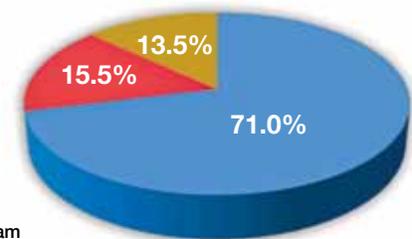
## FINANCIALS FOR 2013

2013 was a good year for Homes with Hope. We exceeded our operating budget by \$44,000, allowing us to serve more people with food and shelter needs, and build up a small amount of cash for future property acquisitions. Fundraising from individuals was up \$44,736 over 2012, offsetting small decreases in contributions from Businesses and Clubs and Houses of Worship. In-kind donations grew over 10% to \$663,241, representing further strength of the generous communities in which we operate. Our support from Government grants was up substantially due to the receipt of a \$51,000 grant awarded in a previous year, and rental income continues to grow as a source of revenue with our maturing management of more Permanent Supportive Housing locations.

The efficiency of our operation remains a focus of our management, with only 15.5% of our budget going to General & Administrative Expenses. We record 71% of all expenditures as program expenses, but eliminating the cost associated with our very popular, and successful, "Stand Up" fundraising event in November, this ratio jumps to 77%. Including the Stand Up event, Fundraising costs are 13.5% of our expenditures. Overall for the Fiscal Year 2013, our combined results showed a nearly breakeven result of (\$14,118), which included non-cash depreciation of \$155,425. Therefore, we increased our cash position for the year, and the finances remain respectable, responsible and efficient.

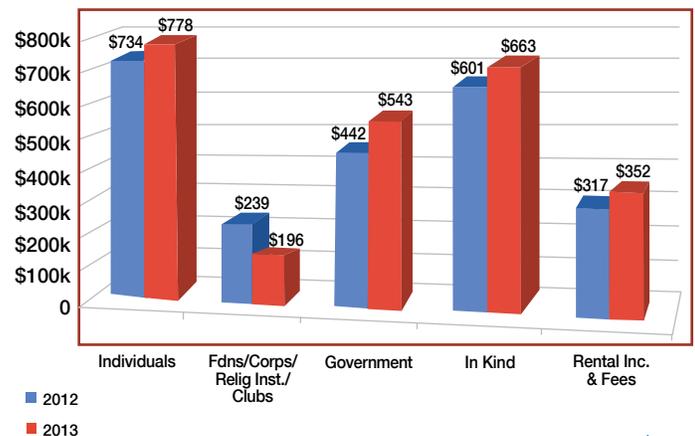
For a copy of our audited statements, please call, or visit our website: [www.hwhct.org](http://www.hwhct.org)

### EXPENDITURES



- Program
- General & Administration
- Fundraising

### REVENUE SOURCES





Homes *with* Hope

49 Richmondville Ave. • Suite 112 • Westport, CT 06880  
T. 203-226-3426 • [www.hwhct.org](http://www.hwhct.org)

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Westport, CT  
Zip Code 06880  
Permit No. 320

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Officers:**

John Walsh, *Chair*  
Jeff Scanlan, *Vice Chair*  
Lauren Soloff, *Secretary*  
Bruce Hennemuth, *Treasurer*

**Directors:**

Gwen Baker  
John Canning  
Janis Collins  
Cheryl Eldh  
Greg Fisher  
Bruce Gaylord  
Jeff Gurren  
Lisa Marriott  
Steven Paymer  
Charlotte Rowland  
Patrice Schramm  
Hal Shupack  
Andrea Terrillon  
Doug Watt  
Chan Wheeler

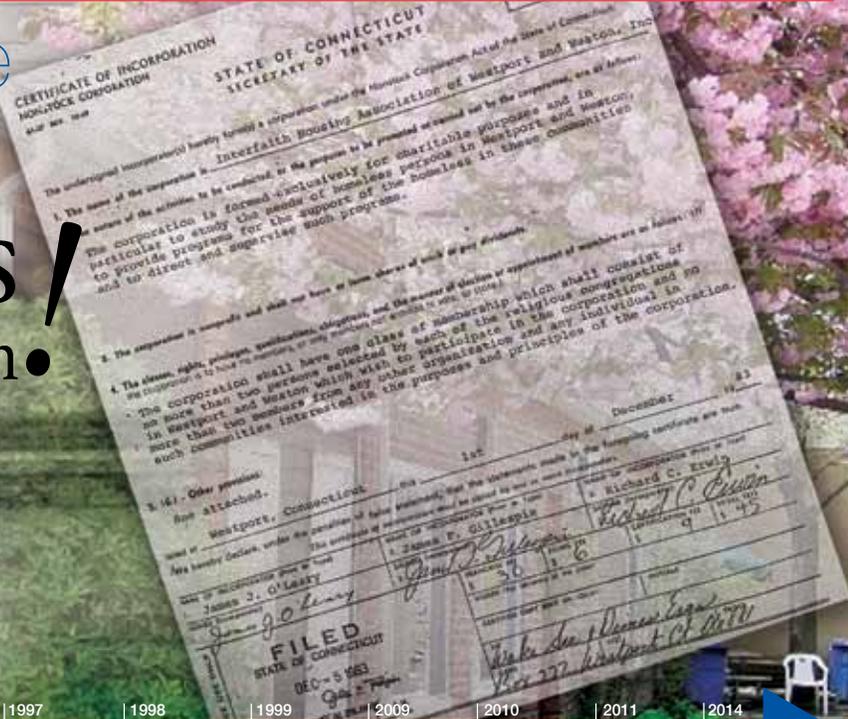
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**STAND UP FOR HWH**  
**PAULA POUNDSTONE - NOV. 8TH**

Graphic Design: Tammy Hines Design

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Homes *with* Hope

Celebrating  
**30 Years!**  
In Westport & Weston



1982 | 1984 | Christmas Eve | 1984 | 1989 | 1993 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2014

*Solving homelessness in our communities through supportive housing*

- Westport Community Kitchen
- Linxweiler House
- Men's Shelter & Community Kitchen at Vigilant Firehouse
- Gillespie Center & Community Kitchen
- Bacharach Community & Hoskins' Place
- WIN Womens' Interfaith Network
- Saugatuck Apartments
- PRIDE
- Westport Rotary Centennial House
- Fair Street Apartments, Norwalk
- Hales Court 86 Saugatuck
- GROWING

[www.hwhct.org](http://www.hwhct.org)