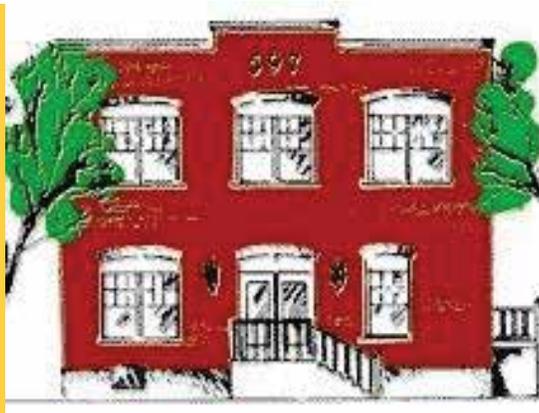


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Issue
2015

Your Support Makes a Difference

www.ShelterForHomeless.org

Pacific House

Mission >>>

Pacific House strives to provide homeless men and young adults with emergency shelter and meals while delivering services that help them become more self-sufficient and find long-term housing.

Serving Greenwich, Darien, New Canaan and Stamford communities.



100 Day Campaign to End Homelessness

Shelter for the Homeless joins state-wide 100-day challenge to end homelessness.

As part of Connecticut's work to end homelessness among veterans by the end of 2015, and chronic homelessness by the end of 2016, Shelter for the Homeless joined forces with more than 10 agencies across the state to participate in a 100-day challenge. The result: 92 individuals and 68 families in Fairfield County were housed and another 80 individuals were matched to housing resources in Fairfield County over the course of the 100-day period. Additionally, 34 individuals were diverted to resources other than staying at a shelter and overall, Connecticut experienced the lowest population of homelessness across the state in a point in time count, ever.

"I'm so thankful for the 100 day effort," said F.W., a formerly homeless Army Veteran who received a subsidized housing voucher during the 100-day campaign.

Shelter for the Homeless was represented in this initiative by Marie Johnson, Director of Program Services, who participated in the Fairfield County Rapid Results team. Marie joined representatives to set goals and plan how to achieve them in a coordinated, supportive effort. Plans included strengthening partnerships with agencies such as the Department of Social Services, Social Security, and Housing Authorities, as well as educating and creating relationships with area landlords so that clients may be placed in housing as it becomes available. Agencies involved in the campaign included Open Door Shelter, Veterans Administration, Operation Hope, Supportive Housing Works and DMHAS. "I'm incredibly proud to have been a part of this campaign," said Marie.

Ending homelessness one house at a time >>>

Beacon II Ribbon-cutting Ceremony

Stamford Mayor David R. Martin cut the ribbon and guests toured the newly-renovated property that includes three apartments (one with wheelchair access) and houses seven formerly homeless men.



Beacon II Before

Not just a compassionate endeavor, studies show that it is most cost effective to provide a permanent place to live to people who are homeless. Stable and affordable housing is a real solution and the reason the shelter began a housing initiative with its first property in

1996. With several local agencies involved, properties are purchased, developed and operated by the shelter. This expanded vision from provider of emergency shelter services to active leader in the development of deeply-affordable housing is an ongoing effort that helps the community and those who need the most support. “Beacon II is our third property to help men transition into permanent affordable rental units,” said Rafael Pagan, Jr., Executive Director.



Beacon II After

Eight deeply-affordable housing properties in Stamford and Norwalk have been purchased, developed and operated by Pacific House. By 2017 – after all of the renovations are complete – up to 94 formerly homeless men and women will have a place to call home.



L to R: Senator Carlo Leone, Rafael Pagan, Jr., Executive Director of Pacific House, Stamford Mayor David Martin, and Jim Bosek, Board Chair.

“Shelter for the Homeless has continually recognized and responded to the needs of homeless people in our community, and has expanded its impact to serve the communities of Stamford, New Canaan, Greenwich, Darien and beyond.”

- Rafael Pagan, Jr., Executive Director, Pacific House

30th Anniversary Celebration at Pacific House

Volunteers, supporters, and government representatives gathered on July 24, 2015 to mark the 30th anniversary of the Shelter for the Homeless organization. On July 24, 1985, Shelter for the Homeless officially began operating as a Stamford non-profit homeless shelter in response to the area’s growing homeless population. Today, with an expanded mission and progressive programs, the organization is an innovator in transforming lives and helping clients become more self-sufficient so they may be better prepared to find employment and secure long-term permanent housing.



L to R: Elizabeth King, Case Worker; Leroy Jordan, Outreach Case Worker; Rafael Pagan, Jr., Executive Director; Velma Clark, Residential Manager; Jonathan Wells, Recovery Coordinator; Ryan Soto, Veterans Coordinator; Matthew Monte, former client; and Marie Johnson, Director of Programs.

Workforce Development Program: A Success Story

“When I came to Pacific House last year I had absolutely nothing, not even hope,” said Matthew Monte, a former shelter client.

Pacific House provided Matthew with a safe environment, basic needs and enrolled him in the Workforce Development Program.

The program provides clients with an opportunity for employment as part of a small work crew that takes on cleanup and beautification projects within the community.



Former Pacific House client Matthew Monte is now employed

“Once you get back on your feet you want to contribute to society.”

Clients work on a part-time basis, are paid an hourly rate, and participate in Job Readiness classes as they work towards more permanent employment.

In Matthew’s case, he is now a full-time paid caretaker at Pacific House, living on his own, and paying rent in one of the deeply-affordable housing units managed by the shelter in Norwalk.

“I have the dream team behind me at Pacific House – they give you a chance to rebuild your life. I’m employed, and it feels great to contribute to society again,” Matthew said.

Making an Impact since 1985

Over the past 30 years with the help of supporters like you, Shelter for the Homeless has recognized and responded to the needs of homeless individuals in our community. There is still a long way to go, but we are making progress:

- 1 million meals served
- 800,000 bed-nights provided
- 1,500 people (including 300 veterans) have secured housing. This includes 44 people now living in affordable housing developed and operated by the shelter
- 160 graduates from the drug and alcohol recovery program
- 3,500 clients have secured employment
- 5,000 clients have received preventative health care
- Case managers have counseled thousands of clients, helping them build a better future

Jim Bosek, Board Chair

Seventeen years ago Jim Bosek started serving dinner at Pacific House with a group of parents and boys from his son’s little league team. Today he is the Board Chairman who sees deeply-affordable housing initiatives as one of the organization’s top priorities.

“We are also really focused on building on the recent successes in our Recovery and Workforce Development programs,” says Bosek. Why is he so actively involved? “It is very gratifying to see clients rebound from whatever put them into our shelter and attempt to move on with their lives. We have seen men moving into one of our supported houses, getting a job, going back to school and reuniting with their families,” he said.

When asked about the role of philanthropy, he said it “has a huge impact on our organization. About half of our operating budget comes from private donors so we could not survive without their generosity.” He sees communicating with supporters as an integral part of maintaining that relationship. “People have many options when it comes to allocating their charitable dollars. We need to do an effective job of communicating our mission to people so they can donate to our agency with confidence that their donations are being put to good use,” he added.



Jim Bosek of Darien



Grants >>>

Grants are essential to the ability of Pacific House to provide shelter and programs to men and young adults who are homeless. Thanks to our generous community supporters for their dedication to our clients who are at their most vulnerable when they arrive at our door.

The Tudor Foundation

For the 12th year in a row the Tudor Foundation provided Shelter for the Homeless with a generous gift of \$75,000 to be used for operating support. Of that amount, \$50,000 was allocated for the organization's Recovery Program, and an additional \$25,000 was earmarked for the Job Readiness program and for meal assistance for Pacific House emergency shelter clients.

For 30 years Shelter for the Homeless has provided food, shelter, help, and hope to lower Fairfield County's homeless and underserved individuals. Open twenty four hours a day, every day of the year, our dedicated team of staff and volunteers has welcomed our clients, cared for them, and guided them on the path to a better life.

To assist clients with their recovery, five full-time case managers develop plans based on individual needs and meet weekly for counseling sessions. The Job Readiness program assists clients in the areas of employment readiness, career planning, job search tools, resume preparation, educational and vocational training and referrals, and employment maintenance.

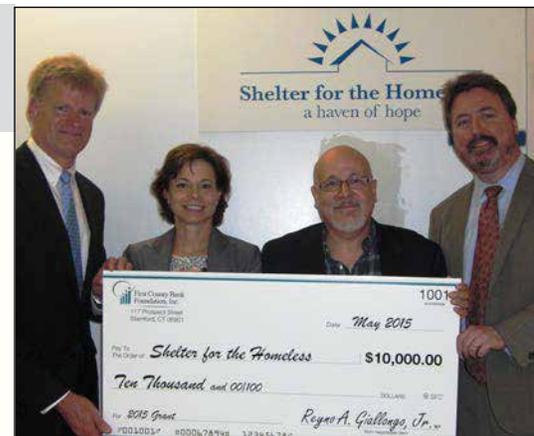
We extend heartfelt thanks to the Tudor Foundation for their trust and support as we strive to meet the needs of our clients and to understand and impact the larger causes of homelessness and poverty in our community.



The Community Fund of Darien

Shelter for the Homeless was awarded a grant by the Community Fund of Darien in the amount of \$30,000 to be used for general operating support. These expenses include such items as the heating, laundering of bed linens and towels, and building maintenance for Pacific House emergency men's shelter. The shelter operates daily, 24 hours per day, and in 2014 it served more than 50,000 meals and provided 29,000 bed-nights to 467 men.

We thank the Community Fund of Darien for supporting Shelter for the Homeless as we strive to meet the pressing needs of the community. These resources help our organization accomplish the objectives of offering temporary housing to homeless men, providing permanent supportive housing and services to men and women, and empowering people to help them achieve their highest level of self-sufficiency.



L to R: Eugene Schreiner, VP, and Sara Tucker, SVP, First County Bank; Rafael Pagan, Jr., Executive Director, Pacific House; Peter Rugen, Chief Administrative Officer and SVP, First County Bank and Pacific House Board of Directors Vice Chair.

First County Bank Foundation

Shelter for the Homeless received a \$10,000 contribution from the First County Bank Foundation to support the organization's food and shelter services, and programs such as case management and employment support, which eventually lead to permanent housing placement. This grant provides essential support to those in our community that need to get back on their feet. Shelter for the Homeless thanks the First County Bank Foundation for supporting the mission to end homelessness, and improving the quality of life for everyone who lives in our region.

New Canaan Community Foundation

Shelter for the Homeless received a grant from the New Canaan Community Foundation in the amount of \$15,000 for the Emergency Meals program. These funds will provide nutritious breakfast and dinner meals for approximately 60-80 homeless men daily, with this number rising to 90-110 individuals during the winter months. Starting and ending the day with a wholesome meal provides the men with a foundation as they work to rebuild their lives.

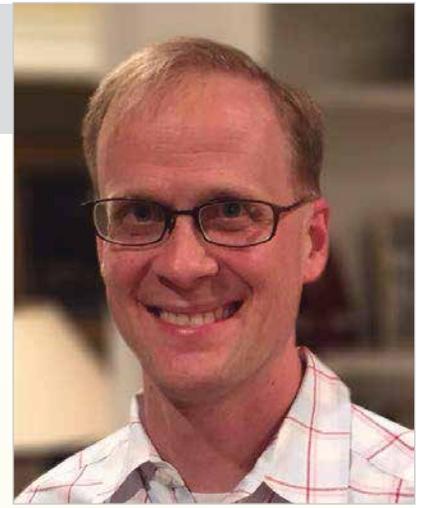
Profile on Giving >>> Reverend Christopher Tate

Board member Chris Tate started serving at Pacific House at age 15, with the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan. Later in life, as a minister at Second Congregational Church in Greenwich, he served again at Pacific House twice each month.

As his involvement increased, and his awareness of the organization grew, so did his admiration. In 2013 he joined the board and began donating. “When you’re donating, you want to make sure that every dollar is well spent.

I’ve found that the best way to have my dollars work toward the problem of homelessness is to support Shelter for the Homeless.”

“It’s exciting to give to an organization that is genuinely working towards a solution. With their work they are looking at the complete picture; they are providing folks with a place to go after the shelter where they can get themselves out of the pattern of homelessness and rebuild their lives. They are on the cutting edge, a leader in combating homelessness in this area.



Christopher Tate
Board member and
New Canaan Resident

With their experience, their caring staff and by working with other agencies, when you give to this organization, you are supporting all agencies who are working to end homelessness.”

Fundraising >>>

Each year Shelter for the Homeless hosts two signature events: the **Chocolate, Dessert & Wine Lover’s Evening** (7th year) held in February and the **Rays of Hope Gala** (14th year) held in May.

Together, these two events raised approximately \$450,000 in 2015, gathered together more than 1,100 of lower Fairfield County’s most affluent and engaged community and business leaders, and attracted over \$20,000 worth of media attention for Pacific House.



Crowd at chocolate event enjoys networking and tasting!



Board of Directors at Rays of Hope Gala L to R: Jim Bosek, Andrew M. Reid, John LaRock, Peter J. DaPuzzo

Steven Fox Jewelers and Orangeside Donuts — a Tasty Way to Do Good

December 6, 2014 was Donut Day in Greenwich when shoppers on Lewis Street were treated to free donuts and hot chocolate with the suggestion to donate to Pacific House. More than \$500 was raised and later that night shelter clients were treated to dessert. How sweet it was!



Volunteers >>>

Congregational Church of New Canaan

The Congregational Church of New Canaan has been a loyal supporter of Pacific House since the shelter's earliest days. Through hundreds of volunteer hours and generous financial gifts – totaling more than \$200,000 – the congregation exemplifies the true spirit of service to community. For more than 20 years on one evening each month, as part of the Pacific House Meal-a-Month program, the church prepares and serves dinner for our clients.

Linda Twombly has organized the preparation and serving of these meals for almost all of those years. She recently passed on that mantle but not before being celebrated on the evening of September 17 for her years of service.

Pacific House staff presented Linda with a plaque, flowers and a cake as thanks for her service. After dinner was served, the group posed for photographs to commemorate the occasion. Pacific House is grateful to have such dedicated volunteers who



L to R: Charles Crookenden, Linda Twombly, Will Green and Jerome Roberts of Pacific House, Jim Bosek, Board Chair, Gayle and Deborah Sanders, and Hollis and Carolyn Mulry.

embrace the shelter, its mission, and its clients as part of our broader community.



Linda Twombly poses with a cake to celebrate her many years of service.

First Niagara Bank

Commitment to community is shown in actions and one premier example is First Niagara Bank. “In addition to providing generous monetary support, First Niagara Bank employees volunteer for dinner service at Pacific House on a regular basis,” said executive director Rafael Pagan, Jr.

“Community Development and Neighborhood Revitalization is a focus of our philanthropic giving,” said Diana Stile, Manager of First Niagara’s Springdale (Stamford) Branch and Chairperson of the bank’s Tristate Region Employee Volunteer Council.

“We’ve partnered with Shelter for the Homeless because they are having sweeping impacts in the advancement of the homeless populations’ self-sufficiency, providing them with stable housing, and improving the quality of life for us all.

Our employees have participated in dinner service on numerous occasions, and they always walk away feeling good about helping their community.”



L to R: Rita Little-Williams, Pacific House staff member; First Niagara volunteers Nora Gallegos of Bridgeport, CT; Michelle Otis of Monroe, CT; and Rosemond Joseph of Norwalk, CT.

Youth Group: Definitely Not Late for Dinner

St. Luke’s Parish in Darien cares about their community and it begins early. One example is the night a group of young men served dinner at Pacific House and received resounding applause from clients for their efforts! Afterward they took a tour and learned more about how clients benefit from the programs and services provided by the shelter. Great night for all!

L to R: Callum, Charles, Henry, Henry, Reverend Danny Lennox, Hudson, and Youth Group Director Michael Toy pose in the kitchen on September 29, 2015.



How You Can Help >>>

Donate to the Wish List

- Bar Soap
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Towels, Twin Sheets and Blankets
- T-shirts and Undergarments
- Socks

All clothing sizes are needed.

Donations to Pacific House are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Upcoming Events >>>

15th annual Turkey Trot to End Homelessness



Fourteen years ago the **Shippan Turkey Trot** was a small gathering of friends and family. It has evolved to include more than 400 runners, walkers, and onlookers each year and since 2008 has raised more than \$40,000 for Pacific House. Join in the Thanksgiving Day run and fun for a good cause! Plan to participate! Details and FAQ at www.ShippanTurkeyTrot.blogspot.com.

National Homeless Person's Memorial Day

First Congregational Church Stamford
December 21, 2015 at 5:30pm

Please join us on the shortest day of the year to remember and honor those who are no longer with us. First Congregational Church on Walton Place in downtown Stamford was the original location of the first shelter in Stamford more than 30 years ago. National Homeless Person's Memorial Day honors those in our community who have died homeless during the past year. All are welcome.



8th annual Chocolate, Dessert & Wine Lover's Evening February 4, 2016 at Stamford Marriott Hotel

The biggest chocolate tasting party in lower Fairfield County offers sweet and savory delectables for every palate plus sparkling beverages from more than 70 local purveyors. All proceeds benefit Pacific House! **Tickets on sale now: \$45 for one or \$80 per pair at <http://shelterforhomeless.org/chocolate>**



Bankwell Stamford Branch Manager Shanelle King shows off one of the hundreds of donated clothing items with Andrew Barer, Director of Development for Shelter for the Homeless.



Bankwell Branches Out to Help Pacific House!

Pacific House would like to thank the Stamford, Wilton and New Canaan Bankwell branches for hosting a clothing drive during July and August.

High-quality shirts, slacks, suits, coats, socks, ties, undergarments and bar soap were donated by generous Bankwell customers.

Clients often come to the shelter with virtually nothing. Now they can count on having clothing that befits those who work hard to regain their independence.

Services and Programs

Pacific House Emergency Men's Shelter

- Meals and Shelter
- Counseling and Case Management Services
- Employment Programs
- Living Skills and Transition to Housing Support
- Recovery Program
- Healthcare Services
- Outreach

Transitional and Permanent Housing

- Acquisition of Housing Properties in Stamford and Norwalk
- Property Renovation and Upgrades
- Management of Deeply-Affordable Housing
- Housing Placement for Formerly Homeless Men and Women



Coming soon >>>

In the Next Issue

- ◆ Interview with Optimus Healthcare, provider of medical services to clients at Pacific House
- ◆ First look at our fabulous Rays of Hope Gala extravaganza
- ◆ Profile of student dinner-service teams from high schools in Greenwich and Stamford



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Thanks to our volunteers, private donors, corporate and government sponsors, community foundations, student dinner servers and participants in our Meal-a-Month program, our Adopt-a-Day donors, and all of those in our community who help our clients every day.

