New Reach Annual Staff Awards

On September 29th, New Reach Staff Appreciation Month culminated with an all staff BBQ at Little House Point Park in New Haven. Even though the weather was rainy we had a great time connecting staff and all at the cook out day in the morning of this year to build hopeful futures for these experiencing homelessness and poverty in Connecticut.

A special congratulations to this year’s award winners. Stacy Andrews, Stable Families Program Case Worker won our Hopeful Futures Award for her outstanding level of commitment to direct service of our clients over the past year. Carmen Flores, Shelter Manager is our Community Inspiration Award winner for her proven dedication to the agency, clients, fellow staff members, and community partners and for going above and beyond the scope of her assigned tasks to inspire others. Nicole Samolinski, Director of Programs in New Haven is our Employee of the Year! We thank her for her integrity, compassion,interactive and professionalism. Her proven leadership and commitment to providing quality services are emblematic of all of the values of the organization. |

New Reach to present at NAHRO national conference

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) is the leading housing and community development advocate for the provision of adequate and affordable housing and strong, viable communities for all Americans—particularly those with low- and moderate-incomes.

New Reach’s fiscal year and the national presidential election cycle are one up and/or simultaneously this fall and I am having flashbacks on my mind. Each week I read about events being held around the country where presidential candidates raise millions of dollars in the course of a single evening and I imagine what amazing things could be accomplished if even a fraction of those dollars were directed toward ending homelessness. The Wall Street Journal ran an article at the end of July reporting that over 1 Billion dollars had already been raised for the Democrat and Republican nominees. That is billion with a “B.” With that in mind, New Reach’s goal to raise over 1 Million dollars this year seems slightly less daunting…but only slightly and we will need your help to reach it.

As the numbers of individuals, families and children we serve each year continues to rise, (in 2015-16 we served over 2,000 people in CT) our need for private dollars increases. Private funds pay for operations of our shelters, infrastructure costs and fill the gaps in program dollars. These critical dollars keep the lights on in the shelters, pay the heat bills in our buildings, and help us to provide training and support for our frontline staff who deliver the quality case management services our clients require, day in and day out.

My sincere wish this fall is that the New Reach community will “vote” to invest in our mission to inspire independence for those affected by homelessness and poverty.

37% of households in CT are at risk of experiencing homelessness. Children who experience homelessness are 60% more likely to become homeless as adults and 51% of jobs in CT pay less than $20 per hour.

A Family this Holiday Season

New Reach’s 12th annual Adopt-A-Family program will provide gifts for our nearest clients this holiday season. Last year, the New Reach community generously provided gifts for more than 200 families and individuals. For most, including hundreds of children, these are the only gifts they will receive.

To join us and experience the joy of giving this year, if you are interested in adopting a family or individual please contact our Community Engagement Manager, Mary Grande, at 203-492-4866 or mgrande@newreach.org.

New Reach's 12th annual ADOPT – A – FAMILY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Save the Date for our 2016 ANNUAL CELEBRATION AUCTION to be held on May 3rd at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven.

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Kim is 34 years old, a full-time employee, a mother and grandmother. Homeless is the role she plays for her four children and her 8-month-old grandson. When she develop-disability-blindness 13 years ago, Kim worked hard to get back on her feet. Kim went from her job making less than $5 an hour to making $10 an hour. Value her not just her and her family were entitled to their apartment and the possibility of housing to grow up outside of one of her children. Kim found New Reach’s Life Haven shelter, the only shelter for women who have children. Kim worked with her shelter case-worker to get back on her feet. She has a job, diligently paying off her overdue utility bills and a saving for an apartment. New Reach staff connected Kim’s oldest daughter and granddaughter with a public school where she can help her parent and friend, as well as her younger sister. Kim needs to stay by her mother during the day. Kim’s youngest children are safe, warm, well-fed and surrounded with support in the shelter’s children’s room. Kim’s story would have a much different ending if not for the critical support services provided by New Reach.

Last year, 10,000 Connecticut women and children entered shelter and seven in ten of them have a history of domestic violence. But often, the end of shelter means the beginning of homelessness. Last year, New Reach provided 17,000 nights of housing to women and children in need of shelter and housing services. However, the demand for services is growing and New Reach is unable to meet the full needs of women and children who seek help. We are unable to provide the critical services without support from our community. Please consider making a gift today to help provide housing and support to women and children in need of help.

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