



August 2021 News

Hands On Hartford is Hiring

What are clients saying? “These people got me off the streets of Hartford and into the shelter systems and back on my feet towards believing in myself once again. To be a productive citizen again. Thank all of you so much”

What are volunteers saying? “I am truly loving and enjoying being here and being able to help. The staff are very kind and caring and they make everyone that comes through the doors feel very welcome.”

What is the staff saying? “[My co-workers] are really amazing people, not just doing the hard work they do but also making the place sparkle with laughter and spirit. I have the best co-workers of the whole world.”

You or someone you know could join the Hands On Hartford team and be one of these amazing co-workers!

Current employment openings:

[Assistant Director of Housing Services \(Full Time\)](#)

[Administrative and Human Resources Coordinator \(Full Time\)](#)

[Housing Case Manager \(Full Time\)](#)

[MANNA Program Support Specialist \(Full Time\)](#)

[Program Assistant Pantry Backpack \(Part Time\)](#)

[Custodian \(Part Time\)](#)

And please keep an eye on our website for new job postings coming soon!



Volunteers Keep Us Running

With the help of our dedicated volunteers, we are able to serve about 80 guests at each meal in our community meals program. From serving and packaging meals to cleaning tables and washing dishes, the help from our volunteers is critical to serving our Hartford neighbors. The tasks that volunteers in our community meals program perform each day ensure a welcoming space and food security for our Hartford neighbors. By assisting the team with kitchen and dining room tasks, volunteers make a difference in our community each day. We are looking for more volunteers to join the team to help serve our guests, assist our chef in the kitchen, greet those walking through our doors, set up for the meal, and wash dishes. There are volunteer shifts available for breakfast and lunch meal times Monday - Thursday. Join us in our work to serve our Hartford community! Contact Jackie at volunteering@handsonhartford.org to find out more.



Celebrating the Walk

We are getting excited for the **Walk Against Hunger** next month! We celebrated the launch of our Hands On Hartford Friends and Family Team with delicious pizza. We want to thank **Disco Forno**, a Hands On Hartford shared kitchen member, for sponsoring our Launch Party!

We are also celebrating with Theme Thursdays to raise awareness for the Walk Against Hunger leading up to the event on September 18th. This past week we got in the spirit with a beach theme!

Won't you join us in our excitement by registering with our **Hands On Hartford Friends and Family Team**? Be sure to select Hands On Hartford as your benefiting agency when you register.

Questions on registering or forming your own team? Contact Geoff at gluxenberg@handsonhartford.org



Shared Kitchen Business Spotlight



This month we want to highlight **Ani Robaina**, who has been a member of our shared kitchen for the last several years. **Ani's Table** provides catering, event planning, restaurant consulting, and hands-on cooking classes in Connecticut.

Ani has also been the caterer for our Fall fundraising event, **Hands & Hearts Together**, for the last two years, cooking all of the delicious gourmet meals for our guests. The theme for our event this year is *Bring Hope Home*, and going with the theme, Ani is using all local

Connecticut ingredients for our *Connecticut Grown Supper Package*.

Faith In Action

This month, the **Muslim Coalition of Connecticut** and **Islamic Relief USA** worked with our pantry to distribute halal meat in celebration of Eid Al Adha. We are so grateful to have been a part of the distribution and to the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut and Islamic Relief USA for making this possible!



Welcome Kelly

We are delighted to welcome
Kelly Dougherty
as our new Development Associate and
Executive Assistant.

Welcome Kelly!



Special Thanks for Gifts of Food and More

Travis and Alex, along with their dad
Steve, had a car wash and raised
money for Hands On Hartford. Travis
and Alex told us they are committed to
community service and they plan to do
something every month for a deserving
cause. Thank you friends!



Look at these beauties! A special thank
you to **Rachel Hiskes** for sharing the
bounty from her garden with our food
pantry families. We appreciate this
nutritious donation for our Hartford
neighbors.



As part of Camp Kindness Day at the
Hartford Stage, they ran a food drive to
support our community pantry. Over
200lbs of food were collected on the first
day by the campers! They even came
back a second time to drop off another
92lbs of food because the campers were
so eager to support our community.



Points of Light Civic Circle



Points of Light, of which Hands On Hartford is an affiliate, recently released the latest issue of its magazine, Civic Life Today. The issue focuses on multiple elements of service – from public service, to military service, national service and more. Rooted in a desire for public good, these positions offer unique opportunities to make a deep and lasting impact in your community. Read it today at <https://www.pointsoflight.org/civiclif/service/>.

Calling All Renters and Residential Landlords

Worried about missed rent payments or eviction? Federal assistance is available to help cover your rent, utilities, or other housing-related costs. Visit www.consumerfinance.gov/renthelp to find a program near you. You can also call our Neighborhood Assistance team at 860-246-6757 for help figuring this out.

Landlords are feeling squeezed by the loss of rental income. State and local programs are delivering billions of dollars in federal financial assistance to landlords based on tenant eligibility. Find a program near you at www.consumerfinance.gov/renthelp and apply today to recover lost rent.



Interested in Volunteering?

For information on available volunteer opportunities, contact Jackie Kasinskas at volunteering@handsonhartford.org or call 860-706-1522



About Hands On Hartford

Hands On Hartford, in partnership with others, strengthens community in Hartford by responding faithfully to people in need through programs that change lives and renew human possibility. We are committed to increasing food security and nutrition, improving health and providing housing while we engage volunteers and connect communities.



How Can I Help?

Go shopping! If you're an online amazon shopper, be sure to start your shopping at smile.amazon.com and select Hands On Hartford as your charity. That way .5% of eligible purchases will automatically go to Hands On Hartford.

Or use the Amazon app and follow the instructions below!

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=)
3. Tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
4. Select "Hands On Hartford" as your charity
5. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile

Make a donation! You will be part of a network of donors, volunteers and staff who work together to provide food, housing and related services for families who are struggling to make ends meet. To make a financial donation mail your check to Hands On Hartford, 55 Bartholomew Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

Or contact Kate Shafer at kshafer@handsonhartford.org for more in-kind donation ideas.

Request a matching donation from your employer! Many employers will match all or part of your donation - a great way to double your impact.

Add us to your estate plans. Contact Executive Director Barbara Shaw to explore planned giving ideas and to join our Legacy Society. bshaw@handsonhartford.org or 860-706-1502.

We are grateful for our community and the love, caring, compassion and support we see every day.