

# Hands n

*Caring in Action* | HARTFORD



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2023**

# A Letter from our Executive Director



Dear Friends,

**2023 was a year filled with change and forward movement** here at Hands On Hartford, and with the energy, creativity and commitment of our staff, volunteers, donors and community partners, we are happy to report that we have met the challenges of those changes with grace and positive impact.

By the end of 2023, we can say with confidence that **Gather55 – both day and evening service – has really come into its own.** By day, hundreds of customers enjoy the friendly welcome and great food being offered, the majority of them paying either a minimum price or joining us as volunteers in the restaurant. And a growing number of full-paying customers, along with some very generous donors and funders, balance things out financially. Evenings, the restaurant transforms into a fine dining establishment with menus created by a host of well-known and well-loved local chefs, and we're now offering delivery, take-out, and special events for larger groups as well.

Another remarkable change we saw in 2023 which is more sobering is a **notable increase in the number of families facing food insecurity** and turning to our MANNA Community Pantry for help. In January, 686 families visited the pantry; by the end of the year, that number had topped 1,000 per month and the monthly number of visits continues to regularly exceed that amount. The increased pressure of this need on our staff, volunteers (and frankly, budget) has been quite a challenge and we are incredibly grateful for all of their hard work to continue to serve so many who were struggling. Likewise, we continue to appreciate the financial donations and food drives that help keep our shelves stocked with plentiful and nutritious food.

With the announcement of **my retirement coming at the end of 2024** after over two decades with Hands On Hartford, and the **Board of Director's selection of Janet Bermudez as my successor**, a major transition began. A result of a thorough assessment and planning process, Janet's promotion to Deputy Executive Director for the coming year will enable her to take on the role of Executive Director gradually, avoiding the upset and confusion that often accompany this type of transition, and maintaining the agency's forward momentum. And on behalf of the staff and those we serve, I am of course thrilled to know the agency will be in such capable and caring hands.

Our donors, volunteers, partners and friends have provided **essential support over the last year**, and we are filled with gratitude every day that you are on the team, helping us to meet the continuing – and growing – needs of our neighbors, and ensuring that we are able stay the course in our mission of strengthening community in Hartford. **Please read on to see what a difference we have made together!**

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Barbara A. Shaw". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Barbara A. Shaw, LCSW  
Executive Director



# Our Mission & Leadership in 2023

## Our Mission:

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.



### Hands On Hartford Board of Directors - 2023

Cynthia Bates, Board Chair  
Thomas Kainamura, Vice Chair  
Sharon Ware, Secretary  
Michael Tetreault, Treasurer

Harry Amadasun, Jr.  
Nichole Berklas  
Marc Berube  
Lisa Cameron  
Rev. Nicole Grant Yonkman  
Katonya Hughey  
Brian Neary  
Angela Nelson  
Thais Ortolaza  
Vinod Sukhraj  
Ngoc Trang  
LaToya Tyson  
Dianna M. Wallquist  
Kelvin Young

### Friends of Hands On Hartford - 2023

Beth Ferrari, Co-Chair  
Rev. Donna Manocchio, Co-Chair  
Stephen and Maria Ward  
Peter and Cathie Benner  
Rev. Dr. Karen Bailey-Francois  
Jane Lennox  
Helen Frye  
Rev. Richard Allen  
Tina Bobbitt  
Ruth Fitzgerald  
Bryan Hooper  
Leroy Butler  
Aida Mansoor  
Alice Ferguson  
Tracie Brown  
Jim Palma  
Nitza Rivera  
Bobbi and Phil Schmidt  
Janet Hundley  
Sue Chatfield  
Helena Carvalho  
Lorraine La Vigne  
Jay Krusell

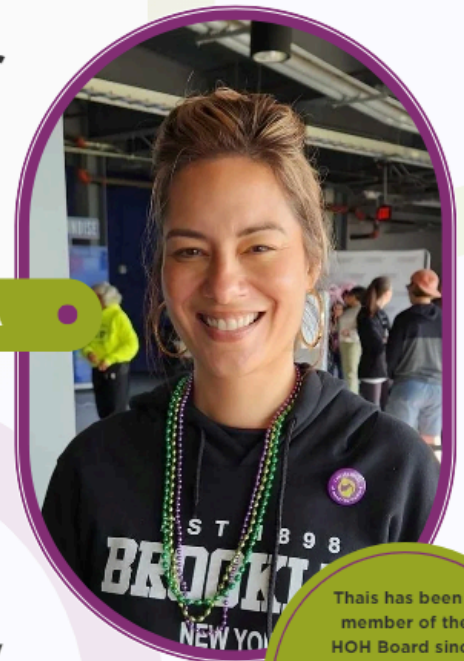


Hands   
Caring in Action HARTFORD

## Board Member Spotlight

THAIS ORTOLAZA

Long time Hartford resident, Thais, was drawn to Hands on Hartford because she wanted to be a part of an organization “true to their mission”. She admires how involved HOH is in serving the community and how dedicated the organization is in practicing its core values.



Thais has been a member of the HOH Board since June of 2023. She brings a valued and integral perspective to Hands on Hartford!

# 2023 Hands On Hartford Program Reports

The 2023 program reports presented in the following pages touch on the highlights of each program. We are always eager to share more about your services and the impact they have on this community and invite our readers to connect with us to find out more.

## Weekend Backpack Nutrition Program

Our Backpack Nutrition Program serves Hartford children who rely on free-of-charge school breakfasts and lunches week-days during the school year.

We send home a backpack containing two breakfasts and two lunches along with drinks and snacks (including shelf stable milk) each Friday of the school year. We also add weekly enhancements, such as community resources information, nutrition resource information, and school supplies.



We served 226 children each week in the first half of 2023, and 220 children by the end of the second half of the year. Eight Hartford schools participated in the program during 2023.

**6,590 backpacks were distributed.**

**86% of students share their Backpacks with their siblings.**  
On average, students share with 3 siblings.

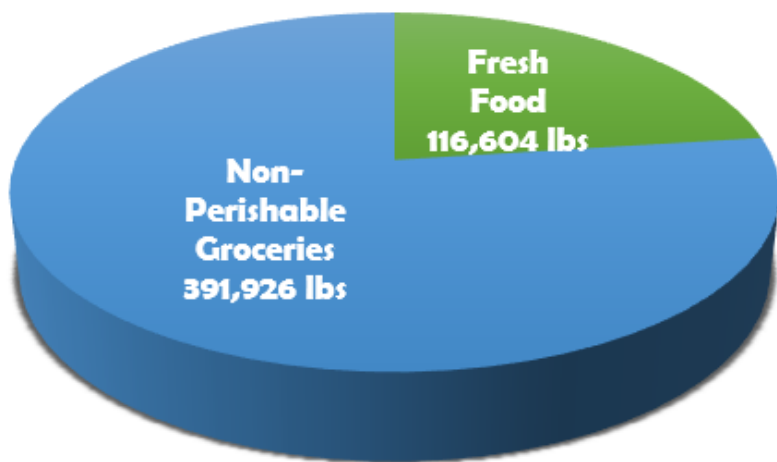
**35% of students receiving backpacks come from households that earn less than \$19,000 annually.**

# Community Pantry



Our MANNA Community Pantry, a full choice shopping model pantry, allows for our clients to choose food that will suit their families' needs and tastes, minimizing food waste and maximizing nutritional value. Groceries include non-perishable staples, along with bread, milk, eggs, fresh produce, frozen meat (including halal meat). Food is labeled based on the SWAP (Supporting Wellness At Pantries) system, rating it based on sugar, salt and saturated fat content. We also offer basic personal toiletry items and diapers.

- In 2023, the Community Pantry served the highest number of households ever experienced with an average of 871 households each month.
- Of the estimated 508,531 pounds of food distributed, 23% was fresh food!



**Total Number of Pantry Visits in 2023: 10,456**

**Average pounds of food per household per visit in 2023: 48.7 lbs**



# Day Center

**Our Day Center is open four days and one evening a week (including a free dinner), which is a welcoming place where caring staff and volunteers give emotional support and a sense of community to those who often live isolated lives, and where guests can spend the day indoors.**

**Staff trained in social work help guests stabilize their situations and take steps to move toward permanent housing and self-sufficiency, and health-checks provided weekly by the University of St. Joseph's Nursing students, a bimonthly walk-in clinic provided by Hartford Healthcare, enrichment activities, risk reduction items and help with referrals are also available.**

**This program often becomes a springboard for positive life changes, including accessing resources to help with benefits, housing, and employment.**

**People  
Received  
On-Site  
Health  
Assistance  
711 Times in  
2023**



**1,740  
Navigation  
Services Were  
Provided in  
2023**



# Gather55 Day

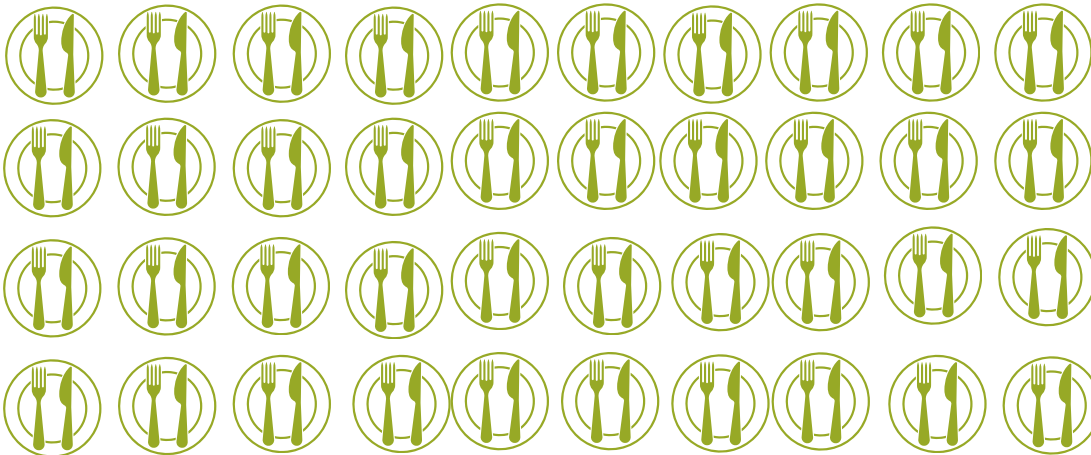


During the daytime, Our Gather55 is a “participation model” restaurant open for breakfast and lunch, Monday through Thursday, at our 55 Bartholomew Avenue location and is designed to bring communities together while ensuring low-income neighbors have access to nutritious and appetizing meals.

Patrons may pay the posted price on the menu, or a minimum of \$2. For those unable to pay, we offer the opportunity to volunteer for a ½ hour, serving coffee, clearing tables, helping in the kitchen, etc. as an alternate method of participating. And for those unable to pay or volunteer, we offer “on-the-house” vouchers for meals.

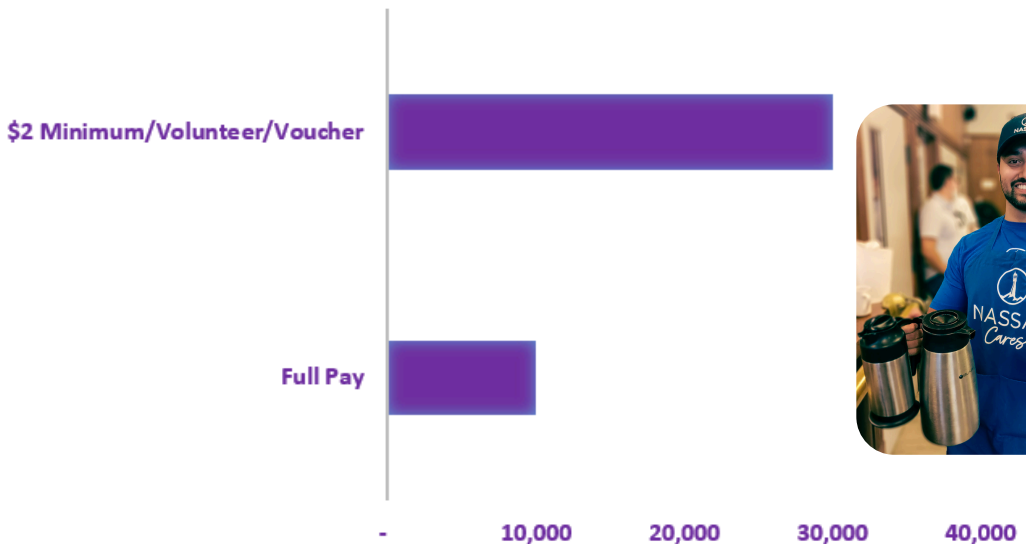


## 40,000 meals served during the day in 2023



 = 1,000 meals

## Distribution of Meals Served in 2023 by Payment Type



# Neighborhood Services

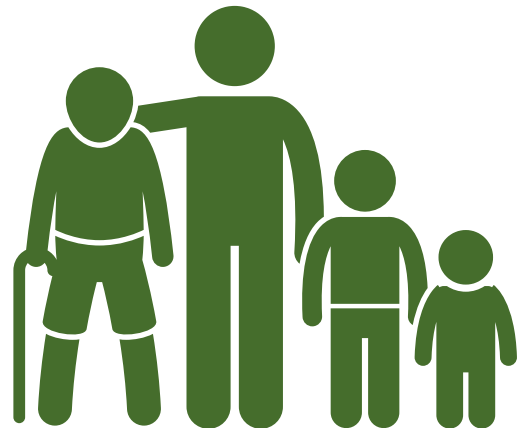
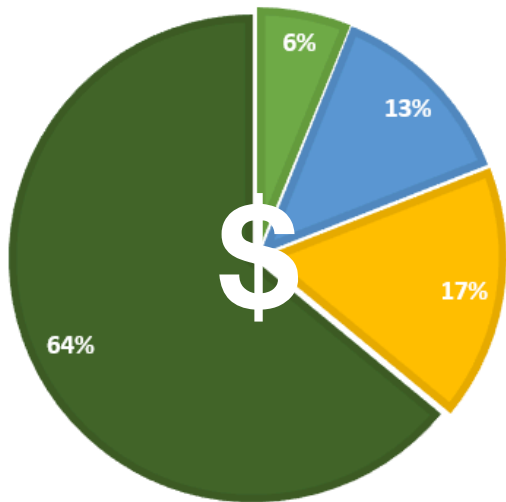
Our Homeless Prevention Program offers referrals, utility assistance through private funds and Operation Fuel, security deposit and rental assistance, training and employment opportunity financial assistance and referrals, nutrition education and health screenings to Hartford residents. Hartford Healthcare provides a walk-in primary care clinic on site at Hands On Hartford twice a month. The University of St. Joseph's nursing students also come in every week to do vital sign screenings.

We provided homeless prevention services with financial support to 285 households in 2023 totaling \$142,651.

Another 407 households were helped with Referral/Navigation Services without financial assistance. In addition to this, 63 households benefited from Dental care funding in 2023, totaling \$253,739 in benefit.

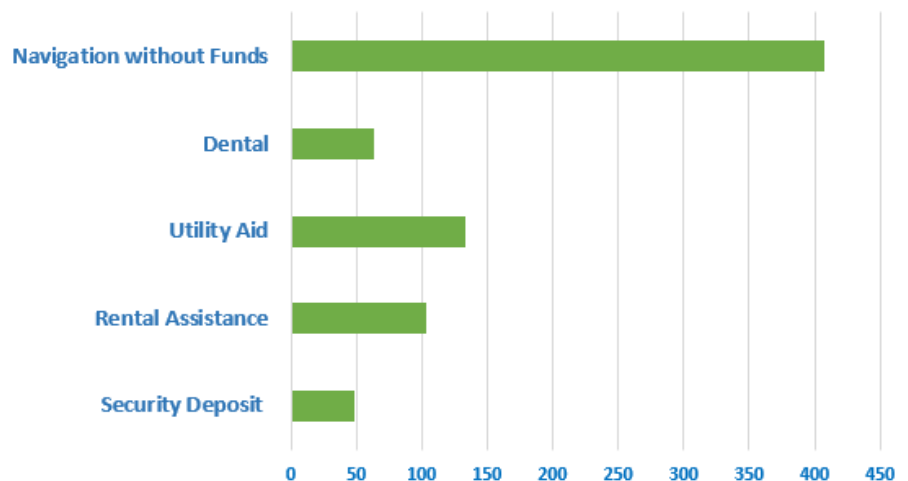
DISTRIBUTION OF AMOUNTS AWARDED BY SERVICE TYPE IN 2023

■ Security Deposit ■ Rental Assistance ■ Utility Aid ■ Dental



## 755 Households Assisted in 2023

Number of Households Served in 2023





# Homeless Outreach

## Homeless Outreach

The Homeless Outreach Program is an interdisciplinary collaboration with Journey Home and the Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance aimed at helping to get folks who are living unsheltered into permanent homes of their own. The team seeks out people who are living in tents, under bridges, in wooded areas, etc., provides them with warm clothing, snacks, beverages, and works to find them a warm place to sleep indoors. They connect them with medical and mental health assistance where needed, and work to match them to housing programs with an ultimate goal of ensuring that each person they encounter finds a safe and stable place to call home.



- **772 individuals engaged in 2023**
- **98 People Assisted to Shelter**
- **31 People Matched to Housing**

## Homeless Outreach Program for the Elderly (HOPE)

The Homeless Outreach Program for the Elderly is an interdisciplinary collaboration with the City of Hartford aimed at helping to get folks who are 60 and older who are living unsheltered into permanent homes of their own.



**359 individuals engaged in 2023.**

Number of Unhoused Neighbors in Connecticut in 2023:  
**3,015**

The Outreach Team engages the most vulnerable individuals during non-traditional hours and weekends.

# Supportive Housing

We provide safe and affordable housing and related support services for folks with serious health issues (including those living with HIV/AIDS), both onsite, and in individual's homes throughout the Greater Hartford area.

## In 2023:

At 14 apartments in a building in West Hartford dedicated to individuals and families who have struggled with homelessness and housing instability we provided supportive services.



42 individuals and their families, with limited income and serious health issues, were provided supportive services related to their complex needs.

13 one-bedroom and efficiency style apartments at Hands On Hartford offered affordable housing and supportive services to folks with serious health issues. 24/7 support is available through our Housing Services program.



At a 32-unit apartment building for individuals with limited income we provided linkage and referral case management services

24 folks with complex needs and issues living in various scattered site locations in the Hartford area were provided support services.



18 households who have members with serious health issues (including those living with HIV/AIDS), at offsite apartments in Hartford, were provided supportive services.

# Community Engagement



Our Community Engagement Program orients, trains, supports, and places volunteers with all of our direct service programs. This program also manages larger customized service projects, immersions and “Dash for a Difference” events providing service learning both at Hands On Hartford and at other partner non-profits such as schools and parks throughout Hartford.

Number of Corporate Volunteer Hours in 2023 = 1,312



In 2023, 1,488 volunteers provided 22,196 hours of service in the Hartford area.

Community Engagement also encompasses the Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau, through which speakers share their own experiences of homelessness with a range of audiences.

Faces of Homelessness speakers spoke at 28 events in 2023.

Hands **on**  
Caring in Action HARTFORD

## Volunteer Spotlight

RJ CERMOLA

RJ looked to volunteer at HOH in hopes to give back to the community that has supported him. Volunteering in such impactful ways helps RJ see the “bigger picture”. Through his volunteerism, RJ has gained compassion, patience, and perspective on what it means to be part of something bigger than himself.



RJ shared that his “heart feels full” when he volunteers at HOH. Volunteering helps him understand his role in the community.



# Gather55 Evening

Gather55's dinner service is open Wednesday through Saturday evenings. Dinner is a fine-dining experience which was previously based on a prix fixe menu, but has recently changed to an ala carte menu. A percentage of reservations per evening are reserved for folks not able to pay for their meals. This allows these diners to enjoy a special night out and furthers our mission of connecting communities. Menus are developed monthly by locally popular guest chefs and income earned through the evening service helps to offset the cost of Gather55's breakfast and lunch service. On-line ordering and delivery is now available. Reservations are preferred through Open Table, walk-ins are welcome!



**Gather55**  
NOURISH · CONNECT · GIVE

55 Bartholomew Ave.  
Hartford, CT 06106  
(860) 706-1523  
[gather55.com](http://gather55.com)



# Shared Kitchen



## Community Kitchen/Shared Use Kitchen

Hands On Hartford's Shared Kitchen is available for use by qualified food operators on a membership basis on an hourly basis. Small culinary businesses join the shared kitchen and benefit from a modern, renovated, licensed kitchen for product preparation and development, etc. We also worked in partnership with a group of community organizations to run the Culinary Collaborative, designed to support the small businesses who are members of our kitchen to strengthen and further their businesses.



**49**  
**businesses**  
**were**  
**members of**  
**our Shared**  
**Kitchen in**  
**2023.**



Shared Kitchen Member

## Spotlight

**TANYA OWENS**

Tanya sees her Shared Kitchen membership as a “stepping stone”. This program has aided her in expanding her business in ways she may not have otherwise been able to. Support from our Shared Kitchen program has connected Tanya with networking opportunities, grown her customer base, and made successful business operations more attainable.

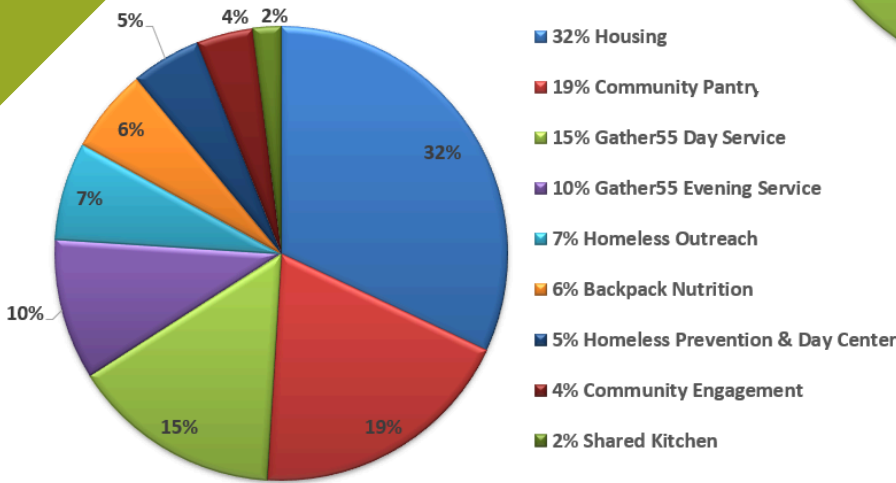


Our Gather55 restaurant partners with Tanya and features her delicious baked goods each week!

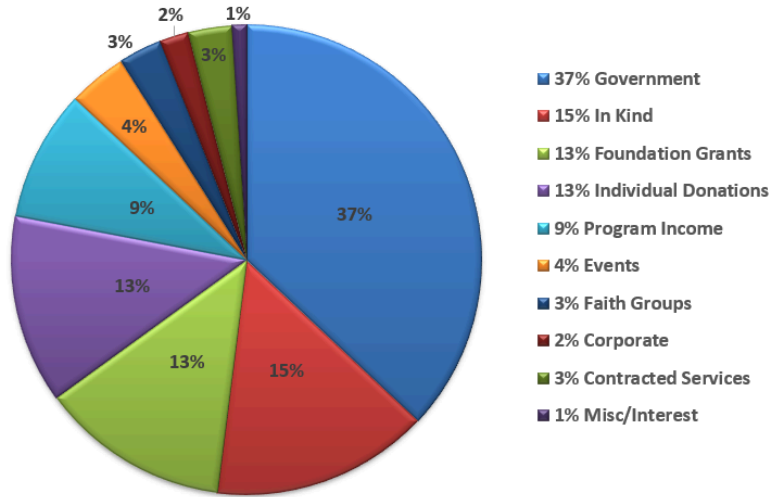
# 2023 Financial Report



## Expense



## Income



In 2023, Hands On Hartford was the steward of gifts, grants and fees in the amount of \$5,440,305 (unaudited at the time of printing of this report). This chart illustrates the sources and distribution of support. Copies of the agency's audits by Whittlesey are available on our website or by calling our office.

## In Memory Of...



Rev. Paul Douglas Bobbitt was one of the ministers who originally conceived and founded Center City Churches, now known as Hands On Hartford. He was known for forging relationships and changing lives throughout his life. Paul stayed involved with the agency and he and his wife Tina were famous for regularly visiting Gather55 where they loved the vibrancy and community. Paul passed away in May of 2023.



Rev. David Shepherd King was the first Executive Director of Center City Churches, as Hands On Hartford was known at its founding. He retired from his position here in 1977 and moved to Boston where he was a tireless advocate and leader in Boston's LGBTQ+ community. We were delighted to re-connect and welcome him back to Hartford for a celebration of Hands On Hartford's 50th anniversary in 2019. David passed away in June of 2023.



Mary Fran Libassi (shown here with her late husband) was a long-time friend and supporter of Hands On Hartford. She was instrumental in recruiting our Executive Director, Barbara A. Shaw, to come to work at Center City Churches (as it was known at the time). Together with her husband, Peter Libassi, she established the Innovation Fund for Hands On Hartford at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, with the purpose of providing support to enable the agency to pilot innovative new ideas in service. Mary Fran passed away in February of 2023.



## 2023 Financial and In Kind Support

Grant funding and donors are listed in categories based on donor characteristics. Gifts made through donor advised funds held at commercial institutions may be reported as gifts made by the fund advisors.

### Government Funders

Emergency Food and Shelter Program  
HUD Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, through the City of Hartford  
HUD Community Development Block Grant, through the City of Hartford  
HUD Continuum of Care, through Journey Home CT  
HUD Emergency Shelter Grant, through Journey Home CT  
State of Connecticut, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (direct funding, and through Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation)  
State of Connecticut, Department of Housing (direct funding, and through Journey Home CT)  
State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services  
West Hartford Housing Authority

### Foundations and Grant Funders

84VIKINGS4GOOD  
The Ahearn Family Foundation  
Aldo DeDominicis Foundation  
Auerbach Schiro Foundation  
Avangrid Foundation  
Beatrice Fox Auerbach Endowed Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Berkshire Bank Foundation, Inc.  
Ronald T. Black Memorial Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Robert & Diana Borman Family Fund  
Bright Funds Foundation  
C&S Wholesale Grocers  
Car Max Foundation

CLSJ Foundation, Inc.  
Barbara V.G. Coffin Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Coleman Family Foundations  
Community Health Network of CT Foundation  
Constellation  
CT Association of Realtors Foundation  
CT Foodshare  
CVS Health Foundation  
Hometown Fund  
End Hunger Connecticut  
Ensworth Charitable Foundation  
Eversource Energy Foundation  
Farmington Bank Community Foundation  
Stanley D. and Hinda N. Fisher Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Forge City Works, Inc.  
Harry E. Goldfarb Family Foundation Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Greater Hartford Community Foundation  
Hands On Hartford Endowment Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Hanover Insurance Group Foundation  
The Hartford's Philanthropic Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Hartford County Bar Foundation  
Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Hartford Steam Boiler  
HBRA Charitable Foundation  
The Hills Family Foundation  
Innovation Fund for Hands On Hartford at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Ion Bank Foundation  
Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford

S. A. Johnson Family Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Kelly Family Foundation  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Inc.  
John R. Lindberg Fund  
George A. and Grace L. Long Foundation  
Mae Casali Bonvicini Charitable Foundation  
The Maisie Foundation  
Marguerite Cole Foundation  
John G. Martin Foundation  
Max Cares Foundation  
McDonald Family Trust  
William and Alice Mortensen Foundation  
National Trust for Historic Preservation  
Norbert H. Hardner Foundation  
Nutmeg Foundation  
OneHope  
Owenoke Foundation  
Pledgeling Foundation  
Price Chopper's Golub Foundation  
SBM Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
Sisters of Mercy/Mercy Ministry Corporation  
Tegna Foundation  
TJX Foundation  
Town Fair Tire Foundation  
Travelers Foundation  
Trustees of the Warburton Chapel  
Herber A. Vance Jr. Charitable Fund  
Vermont Community Foundation  
VMware Foundation  
Voya Foundation  
Walker Community Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving  
Webster Bank  
Harold L. Wyman Foundation  
Yield Giving Open Call Fund

### Faith Groups

Asylum Hill Congregational Church  
Central Baptist Church - Hartford  
Christ Community Presbyterian - West Hartford  
Congregation Beth Israel - West Hartford  
Congregational Church in South Glastonbury  
Ellington Congregational Church  
Emanuel Lutheran Church - Hartford  
First Baptist Church of West Hartford  
First Church in Windsor, UCC  
First Church of Christ Congregational, Glastonbury  
First Church of Christ Congregational 1652  
First Church of Christ Congregational, West Hartford  
First Church of Christ Simsbury  
First Congregational Church Bloomfield  
First Congregational Church of South Windsor  
First Presbyterian Church - Hartford  
Flagg Road United Church of Christ  
George Affleck Trust, Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut  
Immanuel Congregational Church - Hartford  
JT Connect  
Muslim Coalition of Connecticut  
Rocky Hill Congregational Church  
South Congregational Church, East Hartford  
Southern New England Conference, UCC

St. John's Episcopal Church -  
Vernon  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
of Avon  
St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church  
Unitarian Universalist Society  
East  
Westminster Presbyterian  
Church

### **Businesses, Schools, and Community Groups**

Aero-Med  
Aetna, a CVS Health Company  
Amazon Smile  
Artisan Restaurant  
Avangrid  
Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP  
Back Relax One LLC  
Beckett Farms  
Bender Plumbing  
Big Y Supermarket  
BNY Mellon  
Brown & Joseph  
Capitol Region Education  
Council (CREC)  
CarMax  
Central Connecticut State  
University  
CGI Technologies and Solutions  
Inc.  
Clockworks of Glastonbury, LLC  
Comcast - Western New  
England Region  
ComTec Solutions LLC  
Connecticut Foodshare  
Connecticut Natural Gas Corp  
Conning  
Constitution Group of Wells  
Fargo Advisors  
Crosskey Architects LLC  
Curaleaf  
CVS Health  
Delamar Hotel  
Dell Technologies  
Farmers Insurance  
Finding Our Culture Through  
Reading  
Gengras Center  
Gengras Motor Cars, Inc.  
Gilbane Building Company  
Glastonbury High School  
Global Atlantic Financial Group  
Hamden Hall Country Day  
School  
Hartford HealthCare  
Hartford Hospital Auxiliary

Heads Up! Hartford  
Hersh & Crockett  
Hoopes Morgenthaler Rausch &  
Scaramozza LLC  
Housing Enterprises Inc.  
I.T. Resources, LLC  
Imagineers LLC  
Impact 4 Good  
Jack and Jill of America  
Jewish Federation of Greater  
Hartford  
John Q. Gale, LLC  
Key Bank  
Kripani LLC  
Le Banh Patisserie  
Local Initiatives Support  
Corporation  
LTI Mindtree  
Lumi Agency  
Mohawk Northeast, Inc.  
Nassau Financial Group  
Nhan Trang State Farm Agency  
Nutmeg Consulting LLC  
OKAY Industries  
PeoplesBank  
PNT Data Corp.  
Points of Light  
Pratt & Whitney  
Quinnipiac University  
Redefined Elegance Event  
Planners  
Regional School District No. 8  
Robinson & Cole, LLP  
Root Center for Advanced  
Recovery  
Samba Cuisine  
Shipman & Goodwin, LLP  
Smith Brothers Insurance, LLC  
Spring Health  
Stanley Black & Decker  
Stop & Shop  
Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good  
Stop & Shop Community Bag  
Program  
Swift Textile Metalizing LLC  
T.A.L.K.  
Talcott Financial Group  
The RiseUP Group, Inc.  
Thrivent Financial  
Toast Tab  
Travelers  
Trustees of the George Beach  
Apartments  
UIL Holdings Corporation  
United Way of Central and  
Northeastern CT  
University of Connecticut

University of Saint Joseph  
Virtus Investment Partners, Inc  
Windham Regional Community  
Council  
Winstanley Enterprises, LLC  
Workers' Compensation Trust  
YMCA of Greater Hartford

### **Business Matching Gifts**

AbbVie  
Amica Companies Foundation  
Arch Insurance Group  
AXA XL Insurance  
Bank of America  
Bristol-Myers Squibb  
Car Max Foundation  
Cigna  
CVS Health  
Disney Worldwide Services  
Expedia  
Farmers Insurance  
Genentech  
Google  
HBRA Charitable Foundation  
Liberty Mutual Insurance  
MassMutual Financial Group  
MasterCard  
Microsoft  
MUFJ Union Bank  
OKAY Industries  
Prudential  
Raytheon Technologies  
State Farm Insurance  
Companies  
Symetra  
Talcott Financial Group  
The Hartford  
Travelers Insurance Companies  
VOYA Financial

### **Individuals (including donor advised fund advisors and registered walkers supporting Hands On Hartford in CT Foodshare's Walk Against Hunger)**

Catherine & Ernest Abadom  
Kevin & Marsha Adams  
Paige Adams  
Michael Ader  
Melissa Agneta  
Hector Aguilar  
Myra Agwah  
Daniel Alarcon  
Philip Yeagle & Arlene Albert

Diane Albert  
Sharon Alexander  
J. Heywood Alexander  
Julianne Alice  
Jalil Alidoost  
Hind Alkandry  
Darlene & Eugene Allen  
Richard Allen  
Carol & David Allen  
Ryan Allison  
Ravi Alluri  
Harrison & Catherine  
Amadasun  
Harry Amadasun Jr.  
Paul Amato  
Laura Amenta  
Maria Andrade  
Barbara & Ray Andrews  
Gregory Andrews  
Dianne & Peter Antos  
Michael Aparo  
Daniel Archambault  
Rob & Laura Arena  
Frances Argay  
Michael Aron  
Neelam Arora  
Michelle Art  
Kandyce & Rick Aust  
Awilda Ayala  
James & Karen Bachman  
Karen Bailey-Francois  
Claudia Baio  
Andrew Bakas  
Jay Baker  
Martha Baker  
Cecile Baker  
Katherine Fagerburg & Vernon  
Baker  
Jennifer Bakes  
Denise Baktis  
Mike Balestracci  
Linda Ball  
Peter Bann  
Edward Barlow  
Jennifer Barr  
Brenda & John Barrows  
Panchal Barua  
Morven & Peter Barwick  
Sara Batchelder  
Jonathan Russell & Cindi Bates  
Wanda Bates  
Joseph Battaglia  
Jenny Bauer  
Jeanine Baxter  
Bill Baysinger  
Michael Beattie  
Dave & Bonnie Beaulieu



Ryan Bebb	Tom & Jeanne Bright	Susan & Frank Chatfield	Naomi Davidson
David & Kathleen Becker St. Germain	Chester & Glenna Brodnicki	Frank Chiaramonte	Rebecca Dawn
Patricia Beckett	Carolyn Brooks Burton	Jar Lampard & Cara Christie	Virginia de Lima
Lorie Beekley	Kevin Brower	Kysa Christie	Stephanie & James DeFilippo
Jerome & Lois Begley	Tracie & Troy Brown	Karen Christolini	Sarah DeGiovanni
Ellyn & James Behan	Jeannette Brown	Tracy & Ed Church	Joel DeJong
Irene & Paul Bellfy	Melissa Brown	Angela Church	Juliana DeLucca-Collins
Rose Beloin	Karen Brown	Jane Ciarleglio	Lucille DeVecchio
Ellen Below	Sandy Brunelle	Kristina Cimini	Jocelyn DeMaio
Peter & Catherine Benner	Valerie Bryan	Joanne Clark	Jody Denno
Diane Benner	Barbara & David Buddington	Jonathan Clark	Nancy DePalma
Judith Benton	Anne Bumbak	Edward Clark	Cortni Desir
Denise Berczik	Roger & Judith Bunker	Maureen Coffin	Lori DeStefano
Bethany Berger	Kimberly Bunton	Barbara Coffin	Laurie Devaney
Corrine Bergeron	Scott Burghoff	Christian & Nicole Coleman	Margaret Devlin
Lauren & David Bergman	Kathryn Burk	Lauren Coles	Ushani Dias
Sharon Bergman	Kathleen Burna	Patricia Colla	David Eisenthal & Sandra Dickerson
Nichole Berklas	Michael Burnham	Pete Collins	Richard DiFazio
Janet Bermudez	Meredith Burns	Andrew Colliton	Angelo & Maureen DiMatteo
Lillian Bertram	Julie Butkovic	Donna & Kenneth Colliton	Lianne Doherty
Marc Berube	Holly Williams & Leroy Butler	Sarah Colonese	Lucy & Maria Dominguez
Rosemarie Beskind	Mathew Buzzeo	Joyce Comer	Brian & Daphne Donahue
David Beskind	Karen Byrne	Ann & Dan Conable	Bill Donegan
Maura Bey	Ritchard & Mary Cable	Ellen Robinson & James Condren	Terence Donovan
Carolyn Bighinatti	Donna Cagen	Thaddeus Bennett & George Connell	Ellen Dougherty
Heidi & John Bikowski	Grace Cala	Mark Conrad	Kelly Dougherty
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Oliver Ellsworth American Inn of Court	Renzulli Academy; The Franny Reynolds	St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church	Tunxis Community College
Omaha Steaks	Molly Reynolds	St. Peter Claver Roman Catholic Church	U.S. District Court of Connecticut
Optum HouseCalls - Northern Team	Megan Ricci	St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Bloomfield	UCONN School of Dental Medicine (SNDA Chapter)
Thais Ortolaza	Joseph Riter	St. Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church	Unitarian Society of Hartford
David Ossias	Rose Rivera	St. Timothy Roman Catholic Church	United Way of Central and Northeastern CT
Mikah Outerbridge	Edwin Rivera-Pacheco	StanChem Inc.	University of Saint Joseph
P.E.O. Sisterhood - Ch. D	Riverpoint on the Connecticut	State of Connecticut Dept. of Banking	University of Saint Joseph School of Pharmacy
Eneida Palacios Hernandez	Robinson & Cole, LLP	Avery Stonewell	University of Saint Joseph Student Athlete Advisor
Panera Bread, Glastonbury	Rocky Hill Congregational Church	Stop & Shop	University of Saint Joseph Student Nurse Assn
Paradigm Properties	Rocky Hill High School Girl Up Club	William Suarez	Leah Varrell
Victoria Parisi	Rafael Rodriguez Cruz	Shane Sudyka-Paris	Marie-Louise Villar
Parker Benjamin Real Estate	Roggi's Auto Service	Stefanie Summerer	Virtus Investment Partners, Inc
Pasta Vita	Nancy Rolfe	Swanky Suds LLC	Vox Church
Reema Patel	Lucia Rome	Swift Textile Metalizing LLC	Jeff Ward
Leigh-anne Patterson	Tina Rosenthal	T.A.L.K.	Sharon & Dave Ware
Donna Peatfield	Corey Ruby	Helen Talbott	Warner Theatre
Bree Pelczar	Dawn Ruhland	Talcott Financial	Natalie Weaver
Theresa Pelham	Myra Ruparel	Talcott Mountain Collective	Webster Bank
Laura & David Pels	Sandra Russell-Gray	Tangiers International Market	WeHa Brewing and Roasting Company
Penzeys Spices	Safelite	Tavern on State	Eric & Beth Weisel
Cynthia Peoples-Hobson	Ruth Fitzgerald & David Sageman	Tecton Architects	Sandy Welch
Teresa Perkins	Salute Restaurant	The Frederick Gunn School	West Hartford Yoga LLC
Beverly Peterson	Ada Santiago	The Hartford	West Woods Upper Elementary School
Robert Phillips	Xavier Santiago	The Hills Family Foundation	Trina & Jay Williams
Photography by Rosally-Kaplan	Savvy Swap Consignment	The Little Nursery School	
Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine Center	Benjamin Schloat	The RiseUP Group, Inc.	
Elease Douglas & Sadiki Pierre	Bobbi & Phil Schmidt	The Studio CT	
Pilates by Siobhan	Shacktress Playful Acrylics	The Wise Old Dog	
Playhouse on Park	Howard & Catherine Shafer	TheaterWorks	
	Vidhi Shah		
	Barbara A. Shaw		
	Shaw-Wilgoski-Siletti-Schnieder Family		



Windsor C.A.R.E.S.  
Wings on Wheels  
Woodside Therapeutic  
Massage LLC  
World of Beer  
Sonia Worrell-Asare  
Nat Wyse  
Libia Yanez  
YWCA of the Hartford Region,  
Inc.  
Rawah Zeiad  
Farrad Zeiad  
Zephyr's Street Pizza  
Zulu Nyala Game Preserve  
Zuppardi's Apizza

#### **GIFTS IN LOVING MEMORY**

##### **In memory of Medha Alisetty**

Jalaja Alisetty

##### **In memory of Daniel A.**

###### **Arsenault**

Roderick O'Connor

##### **In memory of Licia and Mason**

###### **Beekley**

Lorie Beekley

##### **In memory of Paul Bobbitt**

Deborah and Stephen  
Moorhouse  
Kelly Family Foundation  
Alvin and Lesley Thompson  
John Macomber  
Janet Goodhart  
Cynthia Shanley-Dykstra and  
Steven Dykstra  
Michael Ader  
Betty MacNeal  
Barbara A. Shaw

##### **In memory of Leland Bradbard**

Paula Bradbard

##### **In memory of Paul Christie**

Jeannette Brown  
Cara Christie and Jar Lampard  
Kysa Christie  
Ritchard & Mary Cable

##### **In memory of Paul Christie and Alvin Burgher Jr.**

Paul Hartung

##### **In memory of Tim Cole**

Margaret Zorn

##### **In memory of James Christopher Conrad**

Mark Conrad

##### **In memory of Annie Kelleher**

###### **Goodman**

Don Goodman

##### **In memory of Eileen Griffin**

Beth Molloy

##### **In memory of Frank R Hoffman**

Jane Murray

##### **In memory of Don Labins**

Paige Adams

##### **In memory of Theresa Larsen**

Jane Cook & Chip Gough  
David Palmer  
Chuck Warinsky  
Sharon & Charles Loree

##### **In memory of Mary Fran**

###### **Libassi**

Ann Thomas & Michael  
Bonzagni  
Annemarie & Rick Riemer  
Barbara A. Shaw

##### **In memory of Lois and Edward**

###### **Maxwell**

Danielle Maxwell

##### **In memory of Joan M. McLean**

J. Alan McLean

##### **In memory of Paul William**

###### **Murray**

Kathleen Burna

##### **In memory of Deborah Nye-**

###### **Corgan**

John Corgan

##### **In memory of Dayana**

###### **Rosemarie Roehl**

James Meagher  
Karen Whalen

##### **In memory of Stanley Tabara**

Betty Szubinski

##### **In memory of Robert Weisel**

Sarah and Scott Seiler

##### **In memory of William A Williams**

Anne Madara

#### **GIFTS TO HONOR**

##### **In honor of Lauren Tatanus Baer**

Alexandra Pierlott

##### **In honor of Claudia Baio**

Matthew Gordon

##### **In honor of Cindi Bates**

Wanda Bates  
Lee Russell  
Barbara A. Shaw

##### **In honor of Lori Bauer**

Teresa Duggan

##### **In honor of Laura & Mark Beall & family**

Charlotte & Dave Kaetzal

##### **In honor of Marc Berube**

Wayne Rivera

##### **In honor of Lisa Cameron**

Rachel George

##### **In honor of Linda Carabetta**

Anne & Saul Shemkovitz

##### **In honor of Bruno Carabetta**

Anne & Saul Shemkovitz

##### **In honor of Pete Collins**

Travelers Enterprise  
Operations Leadership Team

##### **In honor of East Granby Congregational Church**

Rebecca Rafferty

##### **In honor of Joseph Dickerson**

Lynn Stoddard

##### **In honor of Kelly Dougherty**

Matthew Mocarsky  
Alex Herpst  
Jeanne Mohan  
Rose Beloin

##### **In honor of Jessica Z. Eastman**

Winona Zimmerlin

##### **In honor of Connecticut Foodshare**

The Walker Group

##### **In honor of Helen Frye**

Susan Weiler

##### **In honor of Amanda and Kawan Gordon**

Laurene Girardin

##### **In honor of Lift Every Voice and Sing Gospel Festival**

Carolyn Brooks Burton

##### **In honor of Kathleen M. and Stephen Grover**

Paige Adams

##### **In honor of James and Lois Harris**

Peter and Jennifer Harris  
Sharon Bergman

##### **In honor of Leadership Greater Hartford**

The Walker Group

##### **In honor of Paul Hartung**

Leland Tolo

##### **In honor of Hartford Foundation for Public Giving**

The Walker Group

##### **In honor of Regina Hopkins**

Cheyenne Walent

##### **In honor of Jason Jarry**

Maneesh Challapalli  
Gabe Bradford

##### **In honor of Janet Jones Bann**

Peter Bann

##### **In honor of Emily Kaas**

Glenn & Carolyn Wilkes Kaas

##### **In honor of Michael Klein**

Travelers Personal Insurance  
Leadership Team



**In honor of David Krol & Family**

Joseph & Gail Tobin

**In honor of Marcia Lada**

Mara Dresner

**In honor of Jane Lennox**

Karen Byrne  
Alexa Paoella  
Andrew and Audrey Lennox  
Claudia Storm

**In honor of Whole Life**

The Walker Group

**In honor of Tom Lips**

Podrove Family Fund

**In honor of Geoff Luxenberg**

Paula Luxenberg

**In honor of Donna Manocchio**

Kathleen Graham

**In honor of Jennifer Mazur**

Christopher Mazur

**In honor of Keith McGilvery**

Patricia Morris

**In honor of J. Alan McLean**

Katherine Fagerburg &  
Vernon Baker

**In honor of Samson Obayuwana**

Harry Amadasun

**In honor of Jaime Ortega**

John Emery Istvan

**In honor of Jane Phelan**

Andrew Greenhalgh &  
Madeleine Hexter

**In honor of Sophia Lily Studios & PianoHearts**

Sophia Cannavo-Ostroski

**In honor of Alex Pierlott**

Sonia Soto

**In honor of Michael Plouffe**

Janet Flynn

**In honor of Keith Rhoden**

Paul and Corinna Tamburini

**In honor of Mike and Nancy Rion**

Carolyn Lester

**In honor of Lindberg & Ripple**

The Walker Group

**In honor of Lou Rizoli**

Lisa Book

**In honor of Flora Rovella**

Dominique Soucy

**In honor of Bobbi Schmidt**

Kenneth and Kathie Goode

**In honor of Farmington Public Schools**

The Walker Group

**In honor of Barbara A. Shaw, Bobbi Schmidt and Cindi Bates**

Priya Morganstern

**In honor of Barbara A. Shaw**

Ron & Rosa Krom  
John Merz  
John & Kimberly Cardone  
Jim and Kristen Boucher  
Ann Thomas & Michael  
Bonzagni  
Sandy Weicher  
Allan and Sally Taylor

**In honor of Pastor Chris Solimene**

Betsy & Peter Van Loon

**In honor of Marion Stoj**

Claudia Baio

**In honor of Katie Thibault**

Michael & Suzanne Bocchini

**In honor of 3rd Floor D&I Council at Travelers**

Robert Scanlon

**In honor of Daniel Ustach**

Dick & Arline Edmonds

**In honor of Gary and Rev. Pamela Rose Vollinger**

Nina Schmid

**In honor of John Walshaw**

Mark Raymond

**In honor of Stephen and Maria Ward**

Greg Ward

**In honor of William and Sue Warner Prouty**

Frank and Jane Prouty

**In honor of Janee Woods Weber**

Laura Weber

**In honor of Carmen Yiamouyiannis**

Sheila Mason

**In honor of Mr. and Mrs. George Zeiner**

Cheryl Zeiner

**In honor of Liz and Rich Zlatkus**

Jay and Shelley Strohmaier

We make every effort to ensure the completeness and accuracy of these lists. We apologize for any mistakes, misspellings, or omissions and ask that you contact Kate Shafer at 860-706-1505 to correct any inaccuracies.





# 2023 At A Glance



### The IMPACT Awards



### Turkey Distribution 2023



### Toy Shoppe Holiday Celebration



### Hands & Hearts Together 2023



### Traveler's Van Donation Ceremony



### Walk Against Hunger 2023



### 8 Annual Holiday Meals



# 2023 Staff Listing



## 2023 Staff Listing

(as of December 31, 2023)

**Barbara A. Shaw, Executive Director**

**Janet P. Bermudez, Deputy Executive Director**

### Homeless Prevention, Outreach and Food Access

Stephanie Boyce, Director  
Tabatha Cosme  
Angel Diaz  
Rebecca Fyler  
Stache Jones  
Devon Richards  
Jennica Torres  
Dawn Tyson  
Kadijah Williams  
Nat Wyse

### Gather55 and Shared Kitchen

Rob Maffucci, Director  
Julianne Alicé  
Anna Bella D'Amico  
James Edwards  
Andrea Fleming  
Ryan Johnson  
Vin Keola  
Cristina Meza  
Raymond Ortiz  
Nick Pockoski  
Molly Reynolds  
Karl Robinson  
Angelic Smith  
Nathalie Vargas  
Hendrick Xiong-Calmes

### Finance, Administration and CQI

Pamela Fitzgerald, Director  
William Baysinger  
Carlos Cuevas  
Kimberly Joy  
Rosemary Rainey  
RaShane Sands  
Kimberly Zajac

### Partnerships & Support

Donna Colliton, Director  
Nicole Bornhorst  
Kelly Dougherty  
Kian O'Connor  
Doug Sacks  
Kate Shafer

### Supportive Housing Programs

Abbie Kelly, Director  
Juan Acevedo  
Bianca Almanzar  
Christian Brooks  
Mathew Buzzeo  
Jennifer Chamorro  
Trevonn Coleman  
Gilberto Gonzales  
Jovanie Gordon  
Deogratias Niyonkuru  
Liz Pantoja  
Pauline Thomas  
Matthew Thornton  
Brenda Washington-Rheume





## Join Us!

- Visit our website at [www.handsonhartford.org](http://www.handsonhartford.org) to find out more about volunteering, job opportunities, making in-kind and financial donations and more.



- We welcome visitors to our Center for Community. To schedule a visit or a tour (in person or virtually), contact Donna Colliton at [dcolliton@handsonhartford.org](mailto:dcolliton@handsonhartford.org) or 860-706-1538.
- To find out about volunteering, food drives, customized services projects and immersive service learning, contact [volunteering@handsonhartford.org](mailto:volunteering@handsonhartford.org) or 860-706-1520.

**Hands On Hartford**  
55 Bartholomew Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106  
860-728-3201

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

**Gather55**  
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860-706-1523

[www.gather55.com](http://www.gather55.com)

