

A Year of Hope



Shelter for the Homeless



2011 Annual Report

A Year of Hope

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Shelter for the Homeless is a safe and caring environment that serves lower Fairfield County by providing temporary housing to homeless men, striving to obtain permanent supportive housing and services for men and women tailored to meet their relevant needs, and empowering people to help themselves achieve their greatest level of self-sufficiency.

Shelter for the Homeless



A Year of Hope

Looking Back... And Ahead



The reasons for homelessness are many – poverty; isolation; mental illness; substance abuse. The recent recession has had a significant impact, as people have lost their jobs or suffered a reduction in income at the same time that state and local governments have cut budgets for many ‘safety-net’ initiatives that are designed to address these problems.

“Portraits of Homelessness in Connecticut,” a study published this year by the Connecticut Coalition to End Homeless (CCEH), reports that *emergency shelters in the state served 11,700 people last year, including more than 1,500 children; and there are approximately 3,800 men, women and children staying in Connecticut emergency shelters and transitional housing programs on any given day.* If those statistics alone aren’t alarming, the study notes that “...*half of all families and 40% of*

single adults in shelters reported that this was their first homeless experience.” And in the Stamford/Greenwich area, “*61% of adults experiencing homelessness in 2010 had a high school education or higher.*”

In the wealthiest county in one of the richest states in the country, one would expect homelessness to be non-existent. But with Census Bureau data showing a marked increase in the poverty rate in Fairfield County – increasing to 9.4% in 2010, up from 8.3% – corresponding and sustained increases in homelessness (already running 15% to 20% higher than the previous year) are likely to continue into the foreseeable future.

Beginning with development and implementation of a Strategic Plan in 2009, which serves to guide our initiatives and prioritize our projects, we are working to address the issue of homelessness – through our Emergency Shelter and Supportive Affordable Permanent Housing – and we have made a commitment to develop new units of affordable housing for those who are homeless.

As the extended recession continues to push more people into homelessness, we will aggressively pursue all available solutions to meet the growing demand by providing hope and opportunity to the men and women who come to us for assistance. And with ongoing support from the community, we will continue our work to end homelessness and improve quality of life for the larger community in which we all live.

Henry B. Satterthwaite
Board Chair

Rafael Pagan Jr.
Executive Director



Shelter for the Homeless

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Programs and Services

Emergency Shelter

The emergency overnight shelter at Pacific House is the point of entry for most SFH clients. Whether they enter the program through our outreach services or of their own accord, all clients complete a comprehensive intake assessment that leads to an individualized treatment plan. Pacific House is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. Clients at Pacific House are served a hot, nutritious meal every evening and start the day with breakfast. We offer clients the opportunity to participate in our Pathway to Housing and Recovery programs, which are transitional beds leading to permanent housing.

SFH provides client support services to men through its drop-in program. Clients meet for weekly counseling sessions, working towards goals specified in their service plan and participating in on-site and community services. The ultimate goal for each client is to become self-sufficient, maintain sobriety and obtain housing.

In addition to counseling, individualized planning, assessments, groups and referrals, the following services are provided: Independent Daily Living Skills; Drug/HIV Education, Harm Reduction and Prevention, and Mental Health. Through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing program, we also provide temporary financial assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services to people who are homeless. And as part of a collaborative effort, Optimus Health Care provides an onsite clinic.

One of our most effective, and necessary, services is provided through the Outreach Program. SFH workers visit downtown areas, parks, train stations, soup kitchens and other sites to locate homeless individuals and inform them about the programs we offer, as well as other available community resources, and encourage them to accept services.

Recovery Program

In the Recovery Program, we provide a 12-bed unit, evening groups, AA, NA, recreational activities, employment and, in collaboration with Liberation Program, clinical services.



We served over 49,600 meals to 488 men at Pacific House

564 clients received services through our Day Program

36 clients participated in the Recovery Program

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Programs and Services

Employment Program

Through the Workforce Development Project, clients gain self-sufficiency as they advance through workshops on job search, interview techniques, readiness skills and job training, and then obtain employment. And in partnership with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, we provide employment training, referrals and placement to those homeless individuals who have mental health challenges.

These programs are tailored to meet individual client's needs, which helps to ensure better and longer-term success rates. As a result of this initiative, more than 20 clients have graduated into part- and full-time jobs.

Pathway to Housing

Pathway to Housing is a 12-bed transitional housing program that facilitates the client's transition from an emergency shelter to permanent housing. This program is supported by intensive case management services that help clients with daily living skills, employment assistance, attaining benefits, medical referrals and assistance securing permanent housing. The overall goal is to move clients from the emergency shelter to housing as soon as possible, thereby maximizing the client's ability to become self-sufficient.

Residential Housing

The Shelter provides 13 units of permanent housing, eight of which are supported. The Shelter believes that the real solution for homelessness is through affordable housing. Thus, as part of our strategic plan, our goal is to expand our housing capacity to 50 units of supportive affordable housing.

18 men received services at our transitional housing facility

78 men and women were moved into permanent affordable housing

253 individuals received employment placements



Shelter for the Homeless

A Year of Hope

Accomplishments and Accolades

Chocolate, Dessert & Wine Lover's Evening

In February, more than 475 guests attended the annual Chocolate, Dessert & Wine Lover's Evening.

A much-needed break from the harsh winter weather, it also served to introduce many new people to the work that we do at SFH.

And we raised more than \$35,000 . . . 100% of which supported our programs and services.

Rays of Hope Gala

The centerpiece of our fundraising efforts is the annual Rays of Hope Gala, at which individuals and businesses are honored for their significant contributions to SFH and commitment to enhancing quality of life for all in the community.

This year, we raised over \$200,000 as we saluted the 2011 honorees

- **Rays of Hope Corporate Award: First County Bank Foundation** . . . For its ongoing support of the Shelter and other community initiatives
- **David Mond Volunteer Award: Saint Luke's Parish in Darien** . . . For the volunteers who have prepared and served dinners at Pacific House for more than 10 years
- **Rays of Hope Community Award: Thomas W. Hynes** . . . A special thank you to our colleague and friend for his lifelong dedication to ending homelessness and his efforts to ensure the long-term financial and operational stability of our agency

Coming together to commemorate achievements, we are always mindful of the fact that this annual event serves as our major fundraiser – helping to support our efforts to offer the men and women who come to us for assistance the opportunity for a life that is productive, secure and filled with dignity.

SFH Employee of the Year: Miriam Pacheco

As Mental Health Coordinator/Case Manager at SFH, Miriam Pacheco has played an important role in our efforts to address a key cause of homelessness.

For 22 years, Miriam has worked on-site and collaboratively with a psychiatric nurse from the F.S. Dubois Center to engage, assess and provide ongoing services to those SFH clients suffering from mental illness.

For her professional commitment and dedication to all who she has served, Miriam Pacheco has been recognized as the 2011 Employee of the Year.



A Year of Hope

Faces of Hope



Karma Askew: In the summer of 2010, Karma walked through the doors of Pacific House not knowing what to expect. But having set short-term goals, he decided to take advantage of all the programs that would help with the transition to his own home. And within one month's time, he was on his way to self-sufficiency thanks to the professional team of case workers and counselors that worked with him diligently, making sure that his transition went swiftly and that he was comfortable in his new setting.

After leaving Pacific House, Karma determined to give back, "because I was and am so grateful for everything they had done for me; and I knew that being part of the Pacific House family was where I needed to be."

Not only does he volunteer by working alongside the staff and helping to serve meals. Karma also works hands-on with clients through the Outreach Program. "I spend time talking to people who are homeless about the programs available to them, which can help them get a place of their own ... just as I was able to."

Karma says he is so grateful for everything that he's gained from his time at Pacific House and knows he will always volunteer to help out with the clients. "People often ask me why I still come to Pacific House; why I want to hang around a homeless shelter. I look at them, smile and simply say 'gratitude'."

Aaron Moyer: He beams quietly when talking about his past. It is a past that he does not regret. He would not be where he is today, or who he is, without it. Aaron knows that Pacific House, with its emergency shelter and recovery program, has been a constant source of hope in his years of struggle.

A Stamford native, Aaron first started using drugs at 14 and eventually drifted into life on the streets. Now 42, he has been drug-free for five years. But the years in between he was in and out of shelters.

"The people from Pacific House were always there for me with an open door." After going through the recovery program and staying drug-free for several years, Aaron applied for and received Shelter Plus Care, which provides supportive housing assistance to homeless individuals. He recently completed an environmental training program and obtained a license for asbestos removal.

Now he is working on getting his GED degree.

He always said he would like to work in social services, doing something in which he can "relate to people," especially since he understands guys in the shelter. On staff as the Workforce Development Team Leader at Shelter for the Homeless, Aaron is now making a significant contribution in the community and giving something back to those who helped him.



Shelter for the Homeless

Thank You ... At Shelter for the Homeless, we are working to eradicate homelessness over the long-term while meeting the needs of those who come to us for assistance now. We are able to do this because of the support provided by individuals, foundations, organizations, schools and businesses that volunteer, donate goods or make cash contributions.

Goods and Services

All those who gave in-kind donations

Meal-a-Month

Community Tabernacle Church
 Congregational Church of New Canaan
 Elizabeth Arden
 First Church of Round Hill
 First Presbyterian Church of Stamford
 Greater Faith Church
 Greenwich Baptist Church
 Greenwich Board of Education
 Hebrew Wizards
 Hillside Church, Greenwich
 Hynes/Patrona Families
 Juliska
 Ken Hopson
 Michael Vranos Family
 New Canaan Presbyterian
 Second Congregational Church, Greenwich (2)
 Shelter for the Homeless Board of Directors
 St. Francis Church
 St. John's Lutheran Church Stamford
 St. Luke's Darien
 St. Mary's Church Greenwich
 Stamford Church of Christ
 Trinity Emanuel
 UBS

Over \$200,000
 The Orchard Farm Foundation

Over \$50,000
 Vranos Family Foundation

Over \$25,000
 The Community Fund of Darien
 The Tudor Foundation, Inc.
 United Way of Greenwich
 United Way of Western CT

\$10,000 to \$24,999
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 First Congregational Church of Greenwich
 First County Bank Foundation
 Garden Homes Fund
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 Sherman Fairchild Foundation, Inc.
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\$5,000 to \$9,999

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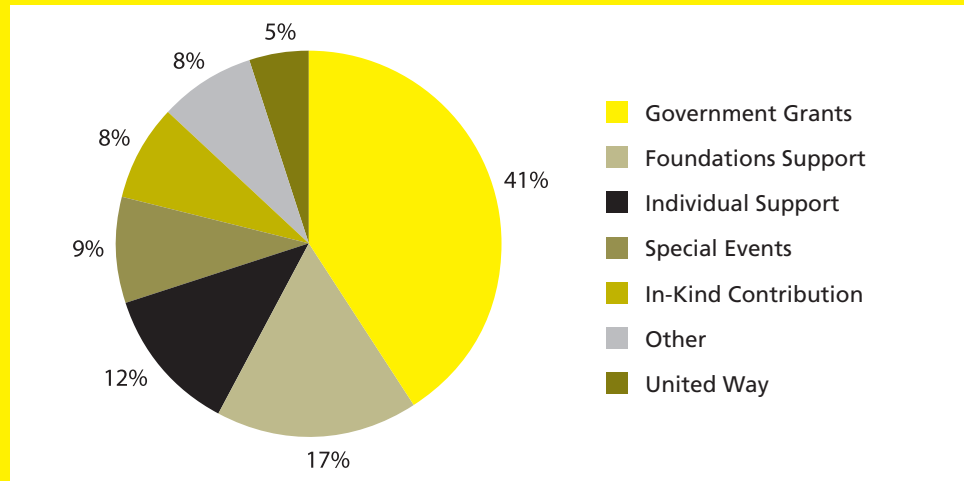
Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our lists. However, mistakes can occur. If your name has been misspelled, listed incorrectly or omitted, please accept our apology and contact Peggy Lutz at (203) 406-0017 so we can correct our records.

A Year of Hope

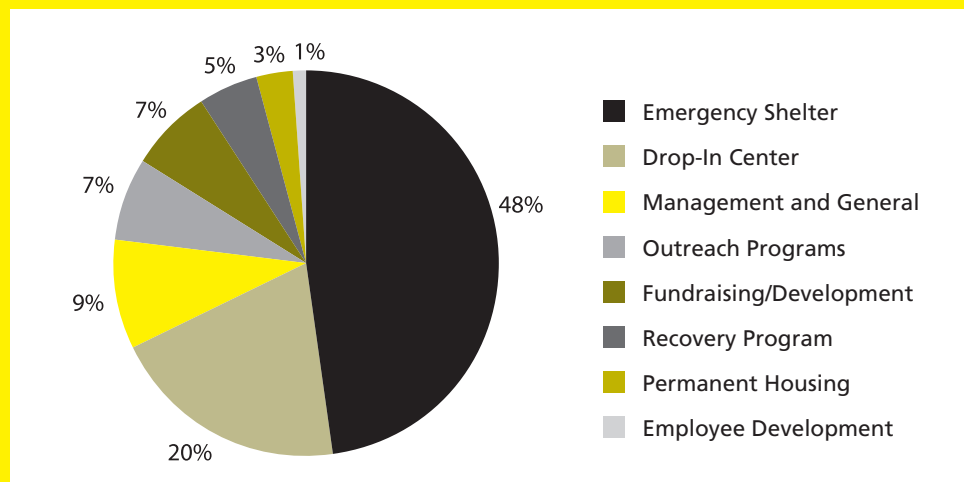
Financials

For the Year Ending June 30, 2011

Sources of Revenue



Functional Expenses



Statement of Activities

	2011	2010
Revenue	\$2,248,203	\$2,264,121
Expenses	<u>\$2,280,449</u>	<u>\$2,232,076</u>
Change in Net Assets	(\$32,246)	\$32,045

This summarized financial information is extracted from the audited annual financial statements.

A copy of the complete financial statement is available upon written request to Shelter for the Homeless, P.O. Box 1252, Stamford CT 06904-1252

Shelter for the Homeless, Inc. is a non-profit charitable agency with a 501(c)(3) tax status.



Shelter for the Homeless
a haven of hope

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A Year of Hope

Our work continues, because people in our community share our concerns about homelessness and are committed to helping us end it by giving generously of their wisdom, wealth and willingness.

Make a Contribution

Support our emergency shelter at Pacific House as well as our efforts to end homelessness through our supportive housing, recovery and workforce development programs.

Donate Food, Clothing, Sheets and Towels

Help us feed, clothe and shelter the men who come to Pacific House.

Volunteer

Make a difference in the lives of our clients by volunteering to advance our mission.

For more information about how you can help
contact Peggy Lutz, Director of Development
203 406-0017 x301 :: plutz@shelterforhomeless.org



Shelter for the Homeless :: 137 Henry Street, Suite 205 :: Stamford CT 06902
203 406-0017 :: shelterforhomeless.org