



Rebuilding older lives by restoring independence. One life at a time.

OCTOBER 2019

NEWSLETTER

VISION

Formerly homeless seniors will obtain and sustain safe, appropriate housing.

MISSION

Renewal House provides transitional housing, case management, counseling and life skills enhancement to older men and women who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless so they may be empowered to restore their lives.

GOALS

To transition displaced seniors to independent living in safe, legal, affordable housing and to support them, as needed in maintaining independence.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Empowerment • Respect • Resiliency • Client Self Advocacy & Self Determination

It's Moving Day!

Another Renewal House resident has moved on to housing.

She worked her plan and achieved her goals.

It's what Renewal House residents do.

It's what you make possible with your support.

A life has been restored.



Danbury Housing Challenges

Hourly wage needed to afford a Studio apartment: \$19.56

Hourly wage needed to afford a 1 bedroom apartment: \$24.10

Current hourly wage in CT: \$11.00

Source: National Coalition Low Income Housing



How Can You Help?

You Already Have

Your support of Renewal House has made stories like those you will read here possible

"A Peaceful Place to Lay My Head..."

Our thanks to long-time supporters Kathy, Chip and Liam Hanley for donating twin beds and a dresser to Renewal House. Our bedrooms are in need of updating and the Hanleys helped us take the first step.

If you have furniture to share, we would love to hear from you!

Celebrating 20 years of rebuilding lives

Visit our website:
renewalhousedanbury.org

Help Us Spread the Word!



Don't wait!

Check out Renewal House Danbury on facebook today!

Volunteers Make Things Happen at Renewal House



Thank you to Girl Scout Troop #40270 from New Milford with co-leaders Rebecca Wade Rancourt and Laura McGuire for planting the Renewal House vegetable garden this year!



Thanks to volunteer Jo Gabriele for offering a budget workshop for Renewal House Residents . Watch for the video on renewalhousedanbury.org later this year.



"Insurance is my business, giving back to the community is what I do. That's why I am here."

Our thanks to Elizabeth Azud of Elizabeth Azud Insurance in Danbury for giving to Renewal House.

Elizabeth has offered her services to Renewal House residents and graduates by helping to identify additional benefits for which they qualify...at no cost to them. Medical, nutrition, prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, fitness memberships, hearing and vision programs and so much more.

Thank you Elizabeth!

Leaving a Legacy

Renewal House has made great strides over the years to ensure its ability to continue to provide a safe and stable environment for its residents and graduates. In the past year alone, Renewal House has overhauled its website, created a presence on social media and developed a legacy program where individuals can bequest assets to Renewal House in their estate. Michele and I are part of that legacy program.

While we hope those donations will be made many years in the future, each year we support Renewal House with a donation of appreciated stock. Instead of selling shares and writing a check, we simply transfer a number of shares from our brokerage account to the account that Renewal House has set established for this purpose.

There are several reasons to donate appreciated stock. Fidelitycharity.com suggests four advantages:

- You can give more because you avoid paying capital gains
- You can potentially reduce future capital gains
- You can use this as an opportunity to review your portfolio
- You can make a donation with no headaches

There isn't room to discuss each point and every situation is different but we do want to emphasize how easy the process has been for us. We fill out one form with our bank, identifying the company name and number of shares we want to donate and the transfer is completed in a few days. Renewal House receives the full value of the donation and we can deduct the full value as a charitable donation on our income taxes.

Please contact Janice Wiggins, Executive Director, if you would like to get Renewal House's brokerage information or if you would like more information about how you can help Renewal House.

Chris and Michele Bader



Chris and Michele Bader

No Gift is Too Small to Change a Life

Recently we received an anonymous donation that we are sure was a very purposeful gift, one that came from the heart.

We don't know the name of the person who carefully put two \$5 bills in an envelope and sent them our way. We do know that this gift is as important as any donation we have ever received.

We are so grateful for this person with a kind and generous heart!

Thank you!



Renewal House Appreciates Recent Grants

Inner-City Foundation for Charity & Education

Lions Club of Georgetown

Town of Ridgefield



Renewal House Residents Extend Hospitality to Graduates

How many ice cream sundaes were eaten at the September Pot Luck dinner???
We're not telling!

Renewal House residents welcomed graduates to our monthly pot luck dinner...
a time for reconnecting and celebrating successes.

Residents Also Work Hard to Care for Their Home



Trimming shrubs and
cleaning the yard.



A generous Renewal House resident is staining all
porches and decks because "I want to give back."
He's working hard and we are very grateful!



A shout out to volunteers Debra Bracchiocchi and Monika Languth and to one of Renewal House's residents for a fantastic day of painting. Program Manager Maria Russo waves thanks from her newly painted office.