



St. Philip House

Not just a house. A home and a family.

Annual Report 2014 - 2015



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St. Philip House looks back on fiscal year of October 2014 – September 2015 as a year of development and growth in a period of financial austerity compounded by ever growing need. We continued to make significant steps in operating our housing program. We have served 210 individuals, family members and significant others living with HIV/AIDS since our beginning in 1989.

The number of those diagnosed with HIV continues to rise for all age groups, most notably the age group of 13-24 year olds. For over 25 years we have been proud to serve individuals between the ages of 1 and 65. Through advanced medical research, medications are being developed that promise a longer, fuller life for those living with HIV/AIDS than ever before. Although medical progress continues to be made, the number of newly diagnosed people living with HIV each remains stubbornly at roughly 50,000.

We knowingly accept the challenge of continuing to be a program that provides quality housing and hope to those HIV+ individuals who have adopted us as their family and look to us to help them regain their dignity and increase their quality of life in the midst of the chaos caused by an HIV/AIDS diagnosis. It is also our honor to continue to provide education and raise awareness to our community. Some of our clients readily and courageously speak about their experiences with HIV to local community colleges and high schools. For that, we must thank them.

It is our privilege to work with the courageous people living with HIV/AIDS. We thank those who are new supporters and those who have supported us through the years and look forward to another year full of hope, progress and possibilities.

Thank you to those who have helped us through our journey.

Richard Baraglia
Executive Director



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PROGRAM AUDIT RESULTS

Again this year, an independent audit team including representatives from the State of Connecticut Department of Housing and HOPWA, our major funding sources, reviewed St. Philip House. We were reviewed for our consistency in operation through a quality assurance process mandated and designed by the State of Connecticut and ACT (AIDS Connecticut). St. Philip House scored an impressive 97%! It should be noted, that St. Philip House served as the pilot program for the testing of the newly designed 2015 ACT audit before it was adopted as the audit tool for all the ACT programs.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

This year we continued our affiliation with area service providers. St. Philip House remains affiliated with ACT (AIDS Connecticut) as a member agency, the Bristol Mayor's Task Force on AIDS, The Substance Abuse Council, Community Mental Health Affiliates, HRA of New Britain, the Shelter Plus Program as a member of the selection committee, and also a member agency of the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) of Central Connecticut.

AIDS PREVENTION EDUCATION

An integral area of our program is our award-winning education component. We are fortunate that our educational programs have been supported through generous corporate and community grants and by private donations. This year St. Philip House residents and staff educated over 300 students through presentations in the school systems of: Plainville, Bristol, and New Britain as well as at Tunxis Community College in Farmington and Lincoln College in Southington. We also spoke at churches and civic organizations. With 50,000 new HIV cases each year in the United States alone, our educational message needs to be more widely disseminated to help stem the pandemic.

St. Philip House has 2 HIV prevention DVDs. One is focused on HIV prevention in the 16 – 24 year age group and the other is designed to provide crucial HIV prevention education and information to our senior citizen population.



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REACHING OUT TO THE GREATER HIV/AIDS COMMUNITY

- St. Philip House offers a facilitated monthly HIV support group to anyone living with HIV/AIDS in our surrounding communities. In an effort to collaborate with other service agencies, our group facilitator is from ACT (AIDS CT). The group usually draws from 10 to 15 people at each meeting.
- Through donor designated donations to the United Way, St. Philip House offers massage therapy and reflexology to anyone in the surrounding communities living with HIV/AIDS
- Working collaboratively with HRA of New Britain, St. Philip House offers free and confidential HIV testing on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND GRANT AWARDS

This year we held various fund raising events and have been designated as the recipients of various grant awards.

- We enjoyed the 3rd Annual Comedy Night, with 160 attendees. The audience for this event has almost doubled in size from the 2nd Annual Comedy Night.
- We held our 10th Annual Mad Hatter Auction, our signature fundraising event, with 180 attendees at the Aquaturf in Southington, CT. We are most grateful for the many volunteers who believe in our program by donating their time for these events and other activities. We also extend a sincere thanks to our Mad Hatter Sponsors, Beacon Pharmacy of New Britain, Gnazzo Food Center of Plainville, the CPCU Society of Hartford, Webster Bank, The Petit Family Foundation, The Barnes Group, Bui Vietnamese Cuisine, Beacon Pharmacy of Bristol, ESPN, Elaine and Jerome Appellof, and AFLAC. We also recognize two performers who donate the proceeds of their performances every year; Morgana deluxe and Marita Bonita, as well as Ovide Cadran who coordinated and hosted the event.
- St. Philip House is funded through the Connecticut Department of Housing, The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and federal funds through the HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People with ADS) that are administered through the City of Hartford.

SISTER PROGRAM

St. Philip House continues to support our sister program, La Posadita del Buen Pastor, in Lima, Peru. Our monthly donation greatly assists this home, the only one of its kind in Peru, for orphaned and abandoned children with HIV/AIDS.



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OCCUPANCY RATES AND STATISTICS

St. Philip House maintained an occupancy rate of 98% this year. We presently provide **27** units of housing to **52** individuals. Based on our monthly reporting statistics to the Department of Housing, we utilized the van to provide 750 round trips for medical appointments, meetings, counseling sessions, and to meet clients' personal needs. We also provided **4500** units of case management to our residents. We schedule at least two social events each month taking suggestions from our residents at our house meetings. Again this year, our summer picnics were well received and well attended. We continue to assist our families with emergency financial needs as well as auto repairs, college tuition, school clothing and supplies for children and holiday gifts for all to name some the ways we help our families to maintain their individual dignity.

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERSIGHT

The Board of Directors oversees the operations of St. Philip House. Each board member is elected to a three-year term. Nine individuals currently serve on our board. The board members bring an array of skills to St. Philip House such as: banking, insurance, human resources, social services, administrative and legal expertise. The Board meets at 6:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday during the months of September, October, December, February, April, and June at St. Philip House. Our residents are always welcome to attend these meetings and the Board of Directors greatly appreciates their input. To keep Board members abreast of happenings in the non-profit sector, trainings are scheduled in the non-meeting months as needed.

For more information about St. Philip House, please visit www.Stphiliphouse.org.