GRATITUDE REPORT



Connections. Community. Mental Wellness.



FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends.

This marks my final message to you as the Executive Director of Prime Time House. Serving in this role for the past six years has been my absolute honor. Our members have taught me so much about the importance of acceptance and inclusion, the value of giving back, the fact that everyone has something to offer, and the need to continue to advocate against stigma. I will take these lessons with me and continue to hold them dear. I am proud of the work accomplished with your support.

With the creativity and dedication of staff, our community persevered during the pandemic and supported members during challenging times. We've invested in our facilities, making improvements to ensure that our campus will be safe, accessible, and usable for years ahead. We've introduced new holistic wellness programs to our Clubhouse and expanded case management services to support those homeless or most at risk of homelessness. We've expanded the agency's visibility and grown partnerships to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our members.

Prime Time House has always been resilient and will continue to use change as an opportunity for growth as the need for our programs continues to increase. A recent study by the U.S. Surgeon General concludes that the current epidemic of loneliness can increase the risk of premature death to levels comparable to smoking 15 cigarettes a day, highlighting the importance of our Clubhouse, which eliminates the social isolation that comes with a mental illness.

Thank you for being so dedicated to empowering our members to live productive, independent, and fulfilling lives. I promise to remain a committed advocate for Prime Time House and am grateful for your support.

With deepest gratitude,

Christina

Christina Emery, Executive Director





OUR MISSION, IMPACT & VALUES

Prime Time House is at an exciting and important juncture. Over the past few years, we weathered tough economic times, shifts in state contracts, and a global pandemic. Despite these challenges, we have invested in staff development, increased community collaborations to reach more individuals in need, and made capital improvements on our campus to ensure our facilities remain accessible and comfortable for years to come.

With the fundamentals of financials, people, and infrastructure in place, we are in a unique position to capitalize on growth opportunities to meet the increasing mental health needs of our community while continuing to support the overall well-being of our members.

After a disciplined, thoughtful approach involving input from those we serve, community partners, employees, board members, and stakeholders, we have developed a three-year plan to chart a course to a greater and sustainable impact on our community for future years.

OUR MISSION

To provide individuals in Northwestern
Connecticut with mental illness a supportive
environment that helps them lead
independent and productive lives and reach
their highest potential.

OUR VISION FOR IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

A community where those with mental illness have access to opportunities and support needed to lead independent and productive lives free of stigma and with a sense of belonging.

OUR VALUES

Dignity & Respect	Those with mental illness should be treated with dignity and
	reconcer and participate as equal partners in their recovery

respect and participate as equal partners in their recovery.

Caring & Staff are essential to the healing process of our members and compassionate must be trauma-informed, empathetic, caring, respectful, and

supportive.

Trustworthy We strive to create a safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental

environment for our current and potential members and to meet

them where they are.

Inclusive We have an inclusive approach and culture and embrace Diversity,

Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging.

Holistic All services must involve the whole person and be delivered in a

vital and culturally sensitive community.

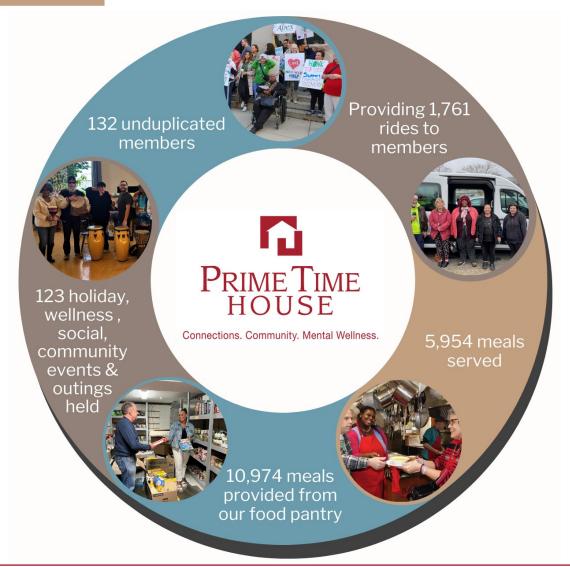
Collaborative We seek to partner effectively with other institutions and the

community to secure the best opportunities for those with mental

illness.



CLUBHOUSE



A typical day in our legacy Clubhouse includes: transporting members to and from our campus; meeting to coordinate and plan holiday events, dances, and social and recreational activities; preparing and cleaning up daily lunch; running our food pantry; conducting wellness programs including therapeutic art, yoga, and exercise classes; improving attention, memory, and problem-solving skills through our newest program Prime Minds.

All of these promote building friendships, learning new skills, meeting educational and employment goals, accessing nutritious daily meals, and having the support needed to lead independent and productive lives. Free of stigma, with a sense of belonging, confidence, and the ability to form relationships, members and staff work collaboratively toward mental wellness. This evidence-based psycho-social rehabilitation program reduces costly hospitalizations and incarceration and improves overall health.

Ranging in age from 18 to 65 plus, 50% of our members are older than 55 years of age. This aging population has chronic health issues, lack of mobility, often experience financial, housing, and food insecurity, as well as social isolation.



WELLNESS PROGRAMS

"Nesting: A Creative Journey to Health"

Support from the NW Connecticut Community Foundation (NCCF) Northwest Corner Gives allowed us to partner with the Five Points Center for the Visual Arts to offer an art program encouraging self-expression, self-discovery, and emotional growth in a non-judgmental atmosphere. The project was entitled "Nesting" because just as a bird's nest provides a protective space for growth and transformation, creativity requires a similar space of safety and security to flourish. In art therapy, the "nest" becomes a powerful metaphor for the safe and nurturing environment where creativity is born, thrives, and is free of judgment or criticism.



During a series of six-week sessions, participant engagement demonstrated how "nesting" invoked the creation of art that inspires healing, provokes challenge, and offers hope to those on the pathway to mental wellness. A public exhibit of the works at the Five Points Annex Gallery was held May 5 - May 21, 2023, in honor of Mental Health Awareness Month.

This exhibit showcased a curated selection created by those who struggle with mental health. It not only explored the benefits of artistic expression in improving mental wellness, but the impactful pieces illustrated the emotional struggle that can be experienced when living with mental health and substance use disorders. Over 42 artists contributed to this collective and collaborative art experience.

A subsequent grant from the NCCF will enable us to continue this program for our members.



Wellness in the Park Mental Health Awareness Fair

Prime Time House is committed to raising awareness to fight mental health stigma. We were pleased to organize "Wellness in the Park" to kick off a summer filled with advocacy, outreach, and collaboration. The event highlighted the variety of resources available in Northwest CT that promote mental wellness, counseling, and recovery services. Activities included music, yoga, and community art to improve the mind, body, and overall mental well-being.



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAMS

The goal of our Supportive Housing Programs is to collaborate with local housing providers to prevent and end homelessness in Northwest Connecticut, which predominately impacts individuals that struggle with mental health and/or substance abuse. Our programs consist of the following:

NEXT STEP HOUSING

This Rental Assistance Program (RAP) provides intensive case management for ten individuals with state housing vouchers. A recipient can apply for any available apartments using their voucher, which pays 70% of the rent. The remaining 30% is paid for by the tenant with income from disability benefits, or employment. Individuals using this program at Prime Time House include four with co-occurring disorders, five with chronic medical issues, and seven with substance abuse issues.

EMERGENCY HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM

This federally funded program (EHV) helps vulnerable homeless populations find and maintain housing. Thirty-seven individuals received a housing voucher and relocation support, including apartment searches, assistance with deposit funds, and connections to local resources to ensure their success. Referrals originated from local providers that collaborate to end homelessness. Funded by COVID response funds, this program ended on 12/30/2023.

HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAM

This program (HPP) strives to prevent homelessness as a result of economic conditions caused by the pandemic. Thirty-eight individuals received case management mediation and relocation assistance during the eviction process. Clients were eligible for security deposits, application fees, and rental arrears. Funded by COVID relief funds, the program ended on 6/30/2023.

HOMELESS TO HOUSING PROGRAM

This newly established DHMAS-funded program (H2H) reaches out to the homeless population to connect them with service/ support to work on solutions to successfully secure housing. Referrals are provided by Litchfield County Outreach, Coordinated Access Network (CAN), and local providers of homeless clients. The program began in early June 2023 with a base of nine clients.

Barriers to Housing in Litchfield County:

- ⇒ Lack of affordable apartments that do not exceed program fair market rates and maximum allowable rent
- ⇒ Lack of security deposit funds
- ⇒ Lack of adequate local transportation





VOCATIONAL SUPPORT

Approximately 60% of the 7.1M receiving public mental health services nationwide want to work, but less than 2% receive support. Prime Time House understands the importance of work and has innovative programs in place to help with self-worth and independence.





We have partnered with the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), a division of the Department of Aging and Disability Services, to help persons with significant physical and/or mental disabilities prepare for, find, keep or advance in a job. This program strives to create opportunities to help individuals with disabilities work

competitively throughout Litchfield County and Greater Waterbury areas. There are approximately 3-4 referrals per month to our BRS program, which currently provides vocational services to 19 individuals.

FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT & MENTAL WELLNESS



The opportunity to hold a job is essential to one's independence and self-worth. Employment provides a paycheck, a sense of purpose, the chance to be a part of the community, and opportunities for growth. We are grateful for the generosity of the Union Savings Bank Foundation and their contribution, which will empower individuals to reach their vocational goals.

Thank you to Torrington Savings Foundation for supporting programs to empower individuals with mental illness to reach independence through meaningful work. These programs include: Financial Wellness group education, Benefits Counseling to help individuals transition from public benefits to financial independence, and Prime Minds to improve attention, memory, and problem-solving skills, all needed for work.





HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Prime Time House participated in National Health Center Week's event hosted by Community Health & Wellness. Participating in the global observance of International Overdose Awareness Day, we shared information about our agency and advocated for awareness and acceptance of those in recovery.



Wellness Presentation
Who I Am
Week 2: Stress Management

Prime Time House hosted its annual Walk for Recovery, an awareness walk from Prime Time House to City Hall, where stories of recovery and hope are shared. Prime Time House offers holistic wellness activities to promote overall well-being. UCONN School of Social Work MSW interns Katie Mankowski and Rachel Harbert created a wellness series entitled "Who I Am," which promoted stress reduction activities that can be incorporated into everyday life.



MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATIONS AT PRIME TIME HOUSE

















Celebrating differences, as well as common interests, helps unite and educate us. Our clubhouse members plan many multicultural events throughout the year to help understand other's perspectives, broaden our own, and fully experience the culture in our community.



Lourdes of Litchfield Shrine Hosts Pop-up!



Father Don LaSalle and the entire Lourdes of Litchfield Shrine community welcomed our pop-up store to Pilgrim Hall. This fantastic location received generous sponsorship from Torrington Savings Bank and support from 40 businesses and individuals. The stalwart committee rose to the occasion of carefully attending to every detail - from collecting donations to unpacking, cleaning, sorting, and pricing the store's vast inventory. O&G Industries aided this year's endeavor by donating storage space on South Main Street. Berta Andrulis and her truckers brigade moved hundreds of pieces of furniture and boxes of goods from storage to Lourdes. In a mere few weeks, the hall was transformed into an enchanting gift shop of curated treasures, raising \$66,950 in support of the programs at Prime Time House.

Our heartfelt thanks to over 100 volunteers who made this store a reality through their donation of time and talents. Those who served on the planning committee are represented with an * before their name.

Bill & Carol Andrulis Rob Andrulis Berta Andrulis Mette Lance Abbott *Judi Armstrong Charlene Barbacci Tina Bernacki Martha Bernstein

Pat Bevivino Charles Beyer & Katherine Marchand-Beyer Linda Bianowicz Dean Birdsall Colette Boyd Susan Breece Susan Clarkin Breslin Jean Chanin Maureen Cleary Sandra Colangelo Tom Curran Lucy Dobson Kathy Donohue

Patricia Donovan Anne C. Dranginis Laura Dunn Beth Dupont Cara Emery

*Christina Emery Jason Emery Mark Famiglietti

Rosie Furniss Bette & Jerry Geci Eugene & Linda Geddes

*Jeff Geddes Martha Green

Wendy Healey *Luce & John Jakimetz Arlene Janssen Karen Johnson Bill & Carol Jones

Deanna Katten Patty Kral Louise Krozek Lynette Kyasky

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Nancy Newton Cathy Oneglia Katherine Oneglia

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*Kathi Weinstein Lannie Witherspoon Roberta Witty

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Jeff Geddes, Fr. Don LaSalle & Kathy Minck



Berta Andrulis & Truckers Brigade



Volunteer cashier Maggie Selby

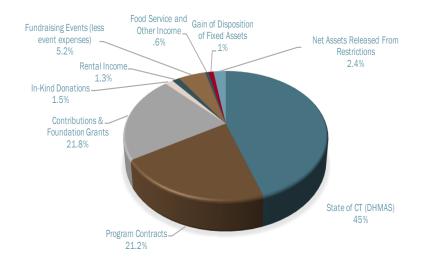


Kathi Weinstein, Jeff Geddes, Luce Jakimetz, Judi Armstrong, Pucci McGill

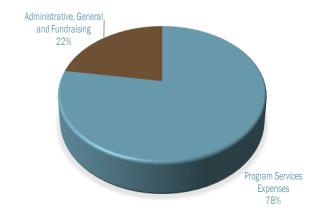


2022/2023 FINANCIAL REVIEW

SOURCE OF FUNDS



USE OF FUNDS



Source of Funds		
State of CT Contracts	577,054	
Program Contract	271,532	
Contributions & Foundation Grants	279,499	
In-Kind Donations	19,576	
Rental Income	17,700	
Fundraising Events (less event expenses)	66,830	
Food Service and Other Income	7,933	
Gain of Disposition of Fixed Assets	12,009	
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	30,191	
TOTAL	\$1,282,324	

Uses of Funds		
Program Services Expenses	1,058,959	
Administrative, General and Fundraising	306,019	
TOTAL	\$1,364,978	



The above data represents a financial statement for fiscal year 2022/23 for Prime Time House, Inc.

"I came to Torrington homeless and with mental health issues that had not been diagnosed. I started seeing people who were like myself entering into a building. There I was introduced to Prime Time House. I will not give you sob songs about recovery, because recovery comes in a lot of different ways; to learn to have peace of mind is to recover from chaos, to be accepted for who you are instead of who they want you to be, is to recover from a lot of drama; and to find love inside the walls of Prime Time, instead of institutions is a discovery, a recovery, and a gift from God."- Angelique L





\$5,000 or more

City of Torrington Connecticut Community Foundation Wayne Eisenbaum Charitable

Foundation The Herbert Gilman Family Charitable

Foundation

Northwest Community Bank

Foundation Inc.

Northwest Connecticut Community

Foundation

Northwest Gives of the Northwest CT Community Foundation Draper Foundation Fund & Northwest CT Community Foundation

Susan Ritchie

Adrian & Maggie Selby, Nolin Selby Fund of the Northwest CT

Community Foundation

Emily F. Soell

*Torrington Savings Bank Torrington Savings Foundation

The Union Savings Bank Foundation

Sally Vaun

Women & Girls Fund of the Northwest CT Community Foundation

\$2,000 to \$4,999

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Foundation

Civic Family Services, Inc.

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Fleming Fund, Don & Diane Hewat

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Foundation *Luce & John Jakimetz

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*Susan Rea

Charles & Molly Roraback

Simple Generosity

Joyce Schwartz

*Elena Simoes Katie Thomson

*Kathleen Weinstein Alice Yoakum Fund of the Berkshire

Taconic Community Foundation

\$100 to \$499

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*AFLAC

Alcoholics Anonymous Robert & Carol Aloise

Anonymous (2)

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Tracie A. Baker
John "Skip" & Judy Barber
*Barron & Company, LLP
*Barron Financial Group LLP

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*Ken & Cara Blazier

Janet Block Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

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Tina Couch Sandra Davis & Scott Ragaglia

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Doyle's Medical Supply, LLC Mike & Kim Dragan

Anne C. Dranginis

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*Emily Eisen

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*Lisa Ferris

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*Katny & Frederick Minck David & Deborah Moore William & Mary Sue Morrill John & Julia Morris Carroll Murphy & David Geiger

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Cynthia Oneglia & Dan Whalen Bob Petricone David & Tricia Poirier

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Gus & Caroline Pope Foundation of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Frank & Rachel Ramsey Clare Rashkoff *Lindsay Ann Raymond Thomas Reinhardt

Barbara Reyes John & Cindy Reznick

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Andrew Roraback & Kara Dowling *Charles E. & Louisa Roraback



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Beth Dupont

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Barbara Goodhouse & Jeffrey Curran

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Susan & Elizabeth LaGamba

Kathleen Larkin & Peter DeBisschop Lois Lenehan

Richard Lover

Adam Lytton & Karin Robinson

Stacy MacDonald Lenore Mand

Shawn & John Matel

Kerwin Mavers

McCall Center for Behavioral Health

Judith McElhone Norman Mellk Marjorie Morris David & Sue Murphy Victor Muschell Leo & Karen Nardi James Paniati Joyce & Ilana Peck Marion Perosino

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Jean Vitalis Mary Walston Amy Wynn & Eli Horowitz Susan Zapulla-Peters

* Donors who sponsored Prime Finds Home for the Holidays 2022

In Honor of

Katie Atkinson John Morris

Rena Fitzgerald Tina Couch Sumei Fitzgerald

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Susan McGowan Bill & Cynthia Goff Dan Whalan & Cynthia Oneglia

Kathy Minck Michael & Susan Eanes

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In Memory of

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Charles E. & Louisa Roraback

Taryn Roraback

Donors who contributed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 are included in our Gratitude Report. We have made every effort to list all names correctly and sincerely apologize for omissions or errors.





Where Gratitude Overflows





ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

Escaping mid-summer heat, humidity, and rain, our annual Garden Party, held in our Clubhouse dining room, honored Torrington Savings Bank and Willow Dealy for their dedication to mental wellness.

Prime Time House is very appreciative of the community spirit, partnership, and generosity of Torrington Savings Bank. They have been the presenting sponsor of our annual pop-up store. They contribute through their annual employee giving program and match the contributions of all employees, trustees, and corporators. The bank's Foundation has provided us with grants to support our programs. The bank's VP of Community Relations Jeff Geddes, serves as our Board President. On behalf of the bank, President & Chief Executive Officer Lesa Vanotti was on hand to accept the award .

Willow Dealy has been a member of Prime Time House since 1988. Then, a single mom with a young daughter, Willow had no friends, job, or family support. Prime Time House allowed her to feel accepted and included, enabling her to serve her fellow members. Willow brings her enthusiasm and spirit to the Clubhouse, where she is a great listener and gives others her undivided attention. She has helped transport her fellow members to and from the Clubhouse. In times of crisis, Willow has helped members care for their pets. She donates platelets to the American Red Cross and is a faith-filled woman who exemplifies the heart of service and giving back to her community.

THANK YOU TO OUR POP-UP VOLUNTEERS AND SPONSORS

A festive garden celebration was held on June 15 to acknowledge the many hearts and hands that contributed to the success of our 2022 pop-up store.

Operating for seven years, this endeavor has raised over \$230,450 to support the programs at Prime Time House.











In-Kind Donations

We are grateful to the following for their contributions of goods and services during the 2022/23 fiscal year to Prime Time House.

Alternative Employment, Inc. Lisa Bankoff Tina Bernacki Pat Bevivino Charles Beyer & Katherine Marchand-Beyer Linda Bianowicz Allison Blackwood Ken & Clara Blazier **Brooker Memorial** Clever Cavies, UCONN Litchfield County 4-H Club CT Food Bank **Doreen Dreary** Brenda DiCarlo Anthea Disney Cindy Fass Food Rescue US -Northwest CT Valerie Friedman Jim & Cindy Gajewski Sr. Rosemarie Greco

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Lourdes of Litchfield Shrine
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Brooke Maloney
Brian McAward
Marie McFadden

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Nan Trahair

Kathi Weinstein

Lindley Young

Craig & Sheri Yard

Ed & Sandra Zielinski



In the spirit of the holiday season, Elsie, Olivia, and Sammy Starr collected 4,062 pairs of socks, distributing them to worthy social service organizations in the area. This was an initiative of the Clever Cavies a UCONN Litchfield County 4-H Club, of which all three girls are members.



Brooke Maloney, a junior at Northwest Regional High School, raised nearly \$450 from school mates. friends, and family to purchase health and hygiene items and gift cards to give to members at Prime Time House. This support was inspired through Kindness in Motion, a program at Regional School District No. 7, which empowers students to serve others.

GENEROUSLY FEEDING OUR MEMBERS, ONE BAG AT A TIME





COMMITTED LEADERSHIP

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Jeff Geddes, President Louisa Roraback, Past President Lisa Ferris, Vice President Patricia Sullivan, Secretary Frank Ramsey, Treasurer Beth Dupont Dr. Michael Kovalchik Susan McGowan Kathy Minck Lindsay Raymond John Seagrave Willow Dealy, Member Liaison With thanks to our retiring Board Members -Elena Simoes Sandra Zielinski

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Administrative Team: Adam Lytton, Interim Associate Director Christy Tellier, Director of Operations Kathi Weinstein, Dir. of Development Vocation:

Tom Stanton, Vocational Director

Clubhouse:

Linda Bellmar, Clubhouse Director Rehabilitation Counselors -Matt Johnson

Kelly Russo Sarah Santoro

Housing:

Case Managers -Mahalia Anderson

Rob Juarez

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Pucci McGill

Jackie Miller

Jackie Willer

Cathy Oneglia

Lisa Partrick

Susan Rea

Nancy Rogers Michael Rooke, PH.D.

Turi Rostad

Brenda Sherman

Emily Soell

Oliver Taeb

Marc Trivella

Regina Wexler, Esq.

Roberta Willis

Lauren Zordan



The diverse strengths of our Board Members were represented by John Seagrave, Jeff Geddes (President), Lisa Ferris (Vice President), Frank Ramsey (Treasurer) and Christina Emery (Executive Director) at the Northwest Chamber of Commerce, Financial Reality Fair hosted by Lewis S. Mills High School in Burlington this past year.

This is the largest Financial Reality Fair in Connecticut, with over 850 students participating.

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS





A pollination garden was planted thanks to the green thumb of Jeff Geddes and a grant from the Rotary Club of Torrington/Winsted Areas.





Thanks to a grant from Torrington Savings
Foundation, new windows were installed
in the administration building at
Prime Time House.



Jeff Geddes repairs front fence.



FROM OUR MEMBERS



My Story - Rena F

In 1996, I was diagnosed with affective disorder, (and) began going to Prime Time in 1997. I remember being shy and quiet. The staff and the other members helped me come me jobs to do, which I enjoyed because it gave me a sense of accomplishment. I do a little bit serve lunch, and so on. I now have my dream job of helping others. I also have a very nice apartment and live independently. Thanks to Prime Time, I am who I am today.



Out of the Darkness, into the Light - Tracey V

Life is a roller coaster, I'm living in a nightmare walking down a lonely, twisted path full of pits.
The cold, lonely wind blows, chilling me to the bones.
I hear the creaking of my joints as I slowly move forward into the dark night, I hear the sound of spooky laughter, screaming through my head.

Up, down, up, down, I trudge up steep hills. I'm sweating, my heart hammers in my chest, I'm carrying a very heavy load.

Suddenly, I'm in a dark pool of water over my head, I cry and cry; my heart is broken.

I'm fighting my demons,

when suddenly, a pair of strong arms reach down and grab me from the deep dark pit and into a flowery green field, where the sun is shining and a gentle wind is blowing.

where the sun is shining and a gentle wind is blowing. I am free. I embrace my beautiful sons, in pure happiness, they are my treasures, and they are my life.



Continue your generous support beyond your lifetime through a legacy gift, making Prime Time House an important part of your life story. For information, contact Kathi Weinstein, Director of Development, kweinstein@primetimehouse.org.



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