



MOSES/WEITZMAN Health System

Healthcare in Focus



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The rooftop garden at CHC Middletown in bloom.

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Welcome to our Spring/Summer newsletter!

You may notice it looks a little different. That's because there is so much incredible work happening at MWHS and its affiliates and programs, thanks in large part to your generosity. Inside this issue you'll read about inclusive mental and dental healthcare programming, learn more about some incredible donors, explore a new innovative initiative, and see what's been going on within your community. Your support makes healthcare progress possible, and together we're building healthier, more resilient communities.

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Ways to Give Series: Donor Advised Funds

A simple, flexible way to support the causes you love

When people think about charitable giving, they often picture making a one-time online donation or writing a check. While these are impactful ways to give, they are not the only options available. One increasingly popular and powerful tool for giving is Donor-Advised Funds, commonly known as DAFs.

Donor-Advised Funds have been around longer than many people realize. First established in the 1930s, DAFs have grown steadily in use and popularity, and today they represent the fastest-growing method of charitable giving in the United States. According to Fidelity Charitable, one of the largest grantmakers in the country, the number of donor-advised funds has tripled over the past decade. Nationwide, DAFs now account for roughly 10% of all charitable contributions!

So what exactly is a Donor-Advised Fund, and why are so many donors choosing this approach?

It is essentially an investment account created specifically for charitable giving. Individuals, families, or organizations contribute cash, securities, or appreciated assets to their DAF and receive an immediate tax benefit. Over time, they make designated gifts (technically

“grants”) from their DAF to qualified charities. The fund itself is administered by a sponsoring organization, which is typically a community foundation or a financial institution with a charitable arm such as Fidelity Charitable or The United Way.

Many donors find DAFs appealing because they combine ease with flexibility. One way to think of it is as a savings account for your charitable giving purposes – add funds when it makes sense for you financially and distribute grants to nonprofits you care about on a timeline of your choosing. With several national sponsoring organizations there is even a low- to no-entry threshold to open a DAF, making it accessible for most donor levels.

One of the biggest advantages of a Donor-Advised Fund: it’s tax efficient. When you contribute to a DAF, you can claim a charitable tax deduction in the year the DAF contribution is made, even if the funds are not distributed right away. This can be especially helpful during years with higher-than-usual income, such as after selling a business, receiving a bonus, or realizing investment gains.

DAFs also allow donors to contribute a wide range of assets, not just cash. Many people choose to donate

appreciated securities, such as stocks or mutual funds, to their DAF, thereby avoiding capital gains taxes while still receiving a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the asset. Once in the DAF, these assets can be invested and grow tax-free, increasing the donor’s amount available to support charitable organizations over time.

Another reason DAFs are gaining momentum is their convenience for giving. Donors can work with their financial advisor or sponsoring organization to support one nonprofit or multiple organizations and can adjust their giving strategy year-to-year. This flexibility makes DAFs particularly attractive to donors who want to be thoughtful and intentional about their philanthropy without the administrative burden of managing their own private foundation.

It’s important to note that DAFs are governed by specific IRS rules. Grant distributions from DAFs must be made to qualified 501(c)(3) public charities, and they cannot be used to benefit individuals. Additionally, grants may not provide benefit to the donor and cannot be used to purchase event tickets, pay membership dues, or cover personal expenses.

For nonprofits like MWHS, DAFs offer an important source of support. Many donors use DAFs to make annual gifts, fund multi-year commitments, or respond quickly when urgent needs arise. Because funds are already set aside for charitable purposes, donors can recommend grants at any time, making it easier to act on generosity when inspiration strikes. They also provide a greater opportunity for anonymity because the administrator does not have to reveal the name of the individual associated with a DAF gift, if a donor chooses.

If you already have a DAF, designating a grant to MWHS or one of the affiliates or programs is a meaningful way to make a lasting impact. If you are considering establishing a DAF, speak with your financial advisor or local community foundation to explore whether it is the right giving option for you.

Debunking DAF Myths

Myth: DAFs are for wealthy people.

Fact: Anyone can have a DAF! Many sponsoring organizations have no or low minimum contributions.

Myth: I’ll lose control of my assets

Fact: The funds you put in are irrevocable, however you have full control of how and when you make grants to the non-profits you choose. You can even establish recurring giving through your DAF!

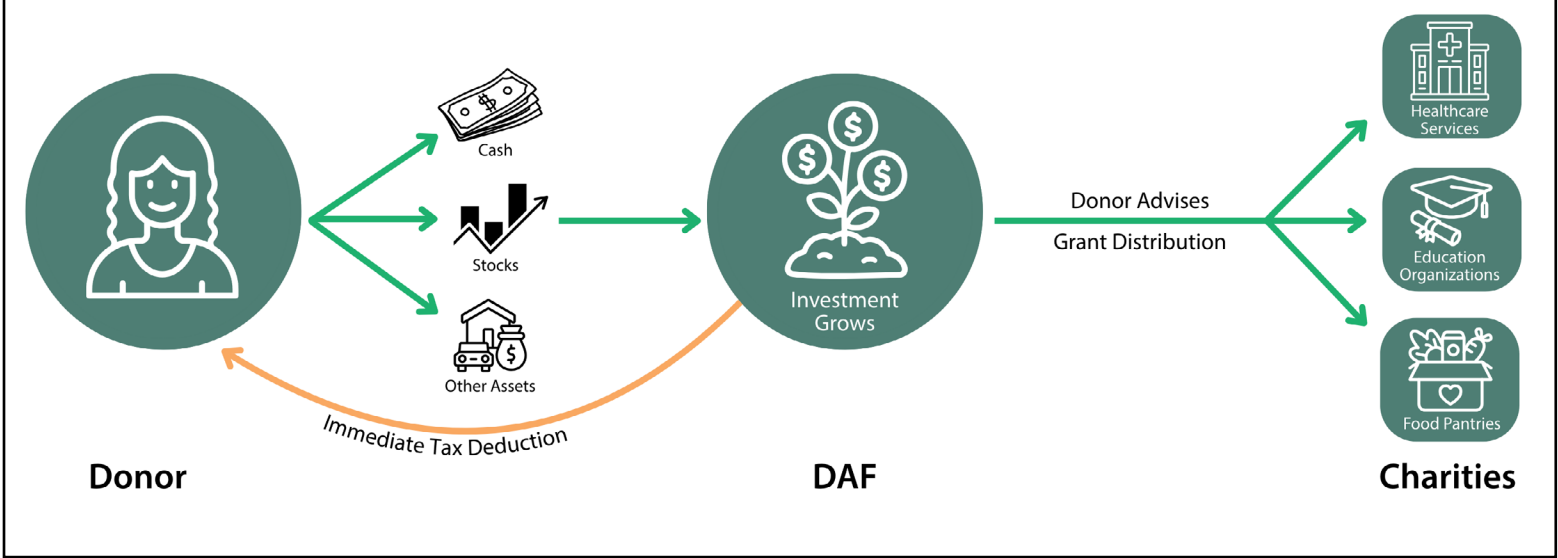
Myth: When I donate, the organization won’t know who I am.

Fact: Anonymity is a perk of having a DAF but it’s not a requirement. The majority of DAF donors include their name and contact information for proper acknowledgement and future communications.

Myth: There are too many fees.

Fact: A sponsoring organization will charge an administrative fee based on the market value of the DAF, but these fees are often *less* than processing fees when donating with a credit card.

How a Donor Advised Fund Works





Neurodivergent Affirming Care for Youth

Building belonging, understanding, and support for neurodivergent youth

From a young age, neurodivergent youth are often misunderstood. In the classroom, during activities and sports, in the community, during playdates, and even within families. These kids can be excluded, bullied, and labeled “difficult.”

When these harmful reactions emerge early in a child’s life, they can lay the groundwork for a lifetime of feeling like they don’t belong.

The Child Mind Institute, a global nonprofit focused on children’s mental health, explains that neurodiversity is the idea that there’s no single “correct” way for a brain to work. Our brains naturally vary, and those differences shape how we think, learn, and experience the world. This includes people with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), autism, and learning differences. Being neurodiverse “means having a brain that functions differently from the typical brain” which can show up in unique ways of thinking, learning, and seeing the world around us.

The increase in diagnoses of neurodivergence is primarily due to better diagnostic abilities and greater awareness of neurological differences. In recent decades,

expanded research of neurodiversity has led to a broader societal understanding of the issue, improved therapeutic treatments, and reduced negative stigma.

However, there is still a long road ahead towards full acceptance, appreciation, and accommodation—especially for children and teens.

The Child Guidance Center of Southern CT (CGC), a program of Community Health Center, Inc. (CHC), provides neurodivergent affirming care for children, teens, and young adults. CGC is the pediatric mental health specialty arm of CHC and serves an average of 2,500 primarily low-income young clients and their families a year.

Work with neurodivergent youth and families at CGC is guided by affirming practices that prioritize identity development, strengths, autonomy, and viewing neurodivergence as a natural variation in human experience. CGC’s neurodivergent affirming care efforts are led by clinicians with lived experience as neurodivergent individuals, behavioral health providers, researchers, presenters, and trainers.

The need for neurodivergent affirming care at CGC is growing and mirrors national trends:

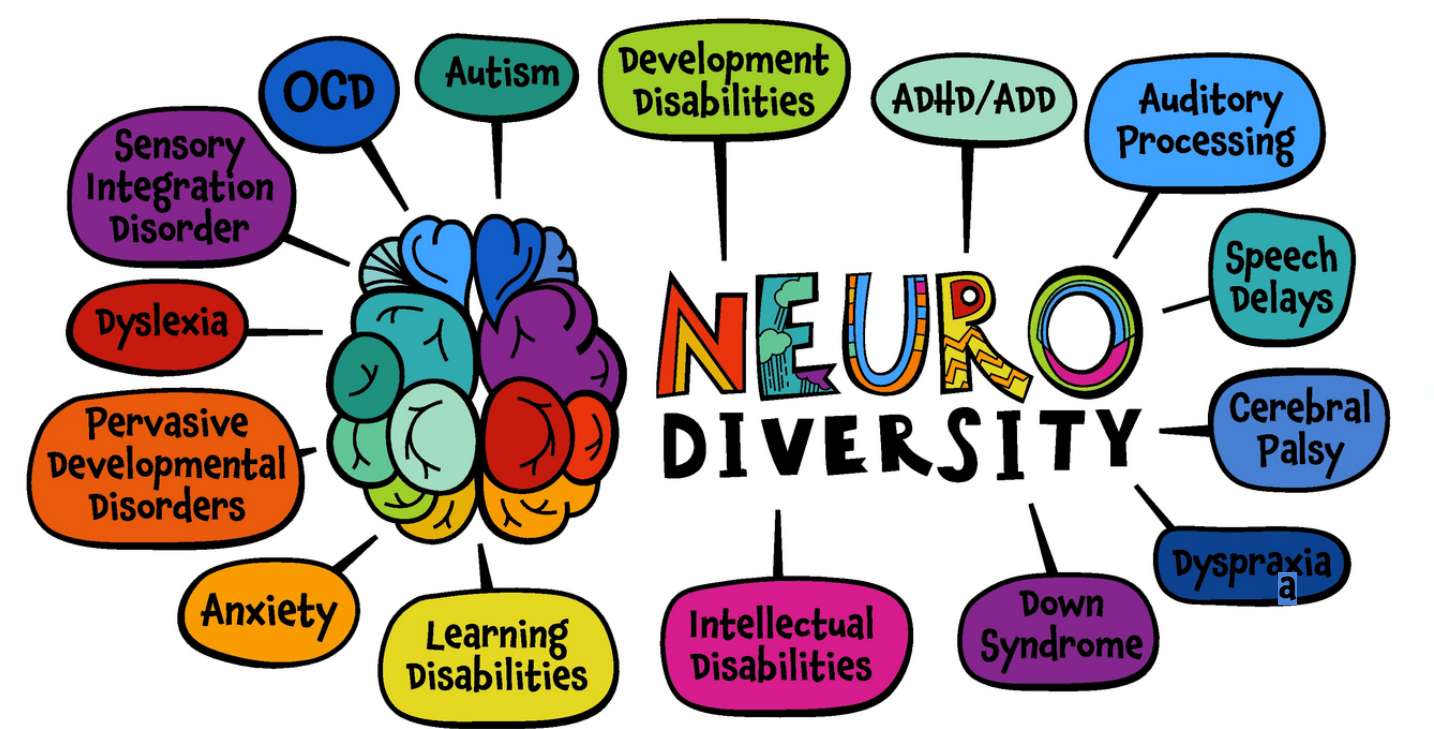
- From 2006 to 2021, the percent of children receiving special education services nearly tripled for the autism category and quadrupled for the developmental delay category. (NIH, 2023)
- In 2018, autism was 4.2 times more prevalent in boys than in girls. (U.S. CDC)
- Data from the CDC’s Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network showed the prevalence of autism among children aged 8 years has increased 70% from 2000 to 2018. (NIH, 2023)

Currently CGC’s pediatric services for neurodivergent youth include parent/caregiver support and psycho-education groups, developmental testing, and individual, group, and family therapy. During treatment, CGC’s case managers also help families identify and connect to additional community services and help them advocate for their child’s individual needs at school and beyond.

CGC’s team of neurodivergent affirming care experts are a vital source of support and guidance for youth as they navigate a world where they often feel they don’t “fit in.” As one young client recently told her CGC therapist, “you understand me, no one else understands me.”

In response to the increasing demand for this expertise, CGC continually seeks ways to fund expansions of programming. One hope is to provide additional training for all CGC clinicians to better support neurodiverse families and to bolster CGC’s capacity to conduct sensory profiling as part of neurodiversity affirming assessments. This may include expanding on the existing array of sensory elements in CGC’s new Therapeutic Garden to strengthen clinicians’ ability to use nature and all five senses in assessments and treatment.

Whether in the clinic, the Therapeutic Garden, or in the community, CGC and CHC remain committed to creating a more supportive, equitable, and inclusive environment for all children.



Donor Spotlight: Mayor Michael “Mike” Rohde

Mike Rohde, former Meriden, CT Mayor and CHC advocate and longtime employee, lived by the sage words of his father: “My dad used to always say to me...always try to leave a place better than you found it.”

With this in his mind, Mike spent his 30 years of public service improving the lives of Meriden residents and Community Health Center, Inc, (CHC) patients. CHC would not be what it is today, particularly in Meriden, without the support of Mike Rohde. A lifelong public servant and champion for accessible health care, Mike’s relationship with CHC spanned decades and left an indelible mark on both the organization and the city he loved.

When CHC first explored opening a dental clinic in Meriden, success hinged on the support of key city leaders, among them then Councilman Mike Rohde. Thanks to Mike’s advocacy and leadership, CHC Meriden opened in 1991 and has since grown into a vital resource serving the city of Meriden, as well as Wallingford, Cheshire, and Southington.

Mike’s connection to CHC began through a personal relationship with CHC Founder, President, and CEO Mark Masselli in the 1970s, when they were both starting their careers. Reflecting on those early days, Mike recalled being impressed by Mark’s leadership and drive. “His story’s remarkable. To think that he took a little storefront and turned it into an over \$150 million operation,” Mike said. “Just spectacular.”

With this history, Mike didn’t hesitate when Mark reached out for help bringing CHC to Meriden. He played a key role in strengthening relationships between CHC and the Meriden Board of Education, paving the way for school-based health, dental, and mental health services that still serve the community today.



After his term as mayor of Meriden, Mike joined CHC’s staff as Director of Community Relations, leading community engagement work for more than 13 years. In that role, he became a familiar and welcoming face, introducing new staff to Meriden through his mayor’s tours and continually building bridges between CHC and the broader community.

“We feel as though our staff members are superheroes, they do all they can to help those in need,”

Mike said during his time as Director of Community Relationships.

His admiration for CHC staff was unwavering, praising their compassion, professionalism, and generosity of spirit. “It’s a very demanding, difficult job for people working at the top of their skill level,” he said. “Mark finds these people that are willing to do that, and do that in abundance...[who are] the whole package of someone that you would want to have helping you and your family if you had an issue to deal with.”

As a donor to CHC and many other causes, Mike understood the power of meaningful giving and encouraged others to be philanthropic. When asked why it’s important for other people to donate to CHC, he succinctly replied “why is it important to support positive things in their lives?” Near the end of his life, CHC was among the organizations Mike chose to support as part of his legacy.

Mike was recently inducted into the Meriden Hall of Fame in recognition of his accomplishments. CHC is proud to have been part of his life’s work and grateful for his leadership, compassion, and generosity. Although he recently passed away, his legacy will live on in the dignified, comprehensive healthcare CHC provides to patients every day.

Weight- Inclusive Wellness in Community Health Centers Project Goals



Engage multi-professional teams from 5 participating FQHCs in a 15-month initiative to implement system-based improvements designed to improve the care of patients with obesity.



Implementation using an online toolkit providing customized companion materials and resources to help sites enhance their clinic practices for screening, diagnosing, and treating patients with obesity.



Publish case studies and supporting tools on improving obesity care to disseminate through industry and primary care publications, conferences, email newsletters.

The France Foundation Partners with Weitzman Institute

Over the past year and a half, MWHS’s Weitzman Institute has conducted a nationwide training initiative to improve how care is delivered to overweight or obese patients at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

Funded by The France Foundation (TFF), the *Weight-Inclusive Wellness in Community Health Centers* initiative focuses on enhanced care delivery and coordination through a weight-inclusive, patient-centered lens. With TFF’s support, the initiative reached providers from FQHCs and other safety-net clinics across the country through training delivered by Learning Collaboratives or online sessions with Project ECHO—30% of participants engaged in both.

A key focus of the initiative is potential replicability. Clinics received coaching to improve and standardize data collection and workflows, and several even established dedicated interdisciplinary teams to strengthen integration and to sustain patient progress. Participants emphasized the importance of patient-defined success, shifting away from weight-focused metrics to holistic measures such as emotional well-being, self-efficacy, and improved quality of life.

“This activity will enhance my ability to approach weight-based discussions with greater sensitivity and confidence, leading to more patient-centered care.”

Project ECHO participant

“The collaborative has created buy-in within our adult and family medicine practice in regard to formalizing treatment methodology for weight management,” said one Learning Collaborative participant. “This has allowed us to evaluate our current treatment strategies and come up with a plan that can be shared with our entire practice.”

With the generous support of TFF, the Weitzman Institute developed this replicable training program that fosters empathy, respect, and inclusivity while bringing about systemic change and strengthening outcomes for overweight or obese patients.

Based in Old Lyme, CT, The France Foundation is dedicated to improving patient care through continuing education for healthcare providers. Through a team of physicians, nurses, researchers, public health experts, and patient advocates, TFF aims to “provide innovative education to improve health systems, care teams, and communication pathways between healthcare professionals and the patients they care for.”

Food as Medicine

Access to fresh, affordable food is essential to good health, yet for many it remains difficult to secure. In low-income communities with limited access to grocery stores or markets, people struggle to get fresh produce and nutritious foods. These “food deserts” contribute directly to poor nutrition and health disparities.

Community Health Center, Inc.’s (CHC) Food as Medicine initiative approaches nutrition as a vital clinical tool, because long-term health begins with what we eat. For over 15 years, CHC’s registered dietitians have provided nutrition therapy including individualized food plans, counseling, and support for patients managing diet-impacted conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and obesity. Providers offer nutrition counseling, “produce prescriptions,” and dietary meal planning. By “prescribing” vouchers (or electronic benefit cards) to patients who are struggling with food insecurity, CHC staff are increasing patients’ access to fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers markets and grocery stores.

Additionally, a respectful approach to each patient ensures that discussions of healthy foods focus on understanding patients’ cultural context, daily routines, and eating habits to create personalized dietary plans that fit their lives. Rather than the pervasive restrictive diets, this approach fosters sustainable behavior change and emphasizes food’s role not just in health, but in overall quality of life.

Building on this foundation and to help address food insecurity, CHC launched a community fridge at its Norwalk site in September through a partnership with Food Rescue US, an organization that works with grocery stores, farms, and community partners to rescue food approaching its sell-by date. With support from the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation to establish three community fridges in Fairfield County, Food Rescue US chose CHC as one of three partner locations, and the only health center site.

The community fridge addresses issues CHC clinicians



CHC's Norwalk community fridge, fully stocked.

see regularly with patients. Providers hear from many patients of their struggles to afford or access healthy foods. Now they, and other community members, can get free, fresh foods including fruits, vegetables, breads, and prepared foods at the Norwalk CHC community fridge. The fridge is accessible anytime during CHC Norwalk’s open hours, with quickest access Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3pm. The community fridge is for anyone, no questions asked, and offers a safe, dignified shopping experience.

Community volunteers and donors also contributed shelving for shelf-stable foods and a freezer, allowing for longer storage and larger deliveries. Beyond community fridge users, the extended impact has been inspiring. Staff shared stories of community members helping one another, bringing food to sick neighbors, sharing meals, or preparing extra meals at home to give away, creating a ripple effect of care and support.

Existing hands-on educational programs around gardening and nutrition will expand this year with the opening this spring of CHC’s new community greenhouse in Middletown. Building on CHC’s existing community gardens at several School-Based Health Centers across CT, the greenhouse will provide food and gardening education programs and feature soil-based and hydroponic gardens. It will be a hub for Food as Medicine and serve as a model for urban gardening.

By pairing education with access, CHC helps patients navigate misconceptions about healthy food and challenges the idea that medication alone is enough.

Looking ahead, CHC hopes to expand the community fridge model to additional clinic locations and to integrate nutrition education more deeply into patient care. Funding remains critical. CHC is looking for support to purchase additional industrial-grade fridges for other locations, renovate the Norwalk location to add a waiting area that doubles as education space, and build out infrastructure at other sites. Financial support would also help pilot nutrition education programs to bring clinical expertise directly into the community.

CHC’s Food as Medicine approach demonstrates that addressing food insecurity is about more than providing meals...it is about education, access, empowerment, dignity, and community.

Kevin’s Story

“Kevin” is a 67-year-old with a history of alcohol use disorder, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), fatty liver disease, hyperlipidemia, and chronic kidney disease who was referred to a CHC registered dietitian for prediabetes and obesity. At his initial nutrition visit, Kevin expressed a desire to reduce snacking and overeating and shared that he experiences food insecurity, relying on food assistance benefits and local food pantries and soup kitchens.



Over several visits, Kevin and his dietitian focused on practical, budget-friendly strategies to support healthier eating. Together, they explored affordable grocery options, community resources, and shelf-stable foods such as canned or frozen fruits, vegetables, and legumes. Kevin learned to read nutrition labels to identify sodium and added sugars, replace sugary snacks with more nutritious alternatives, and enjoy higher-sugar or higher-fat foods in moderation. He received counseling on managing carbohydrate intake to support blood glucose control.

These changes led to meaningful results. Kevin lowered his A1C and is no longer classified as prediabetic. He committed to regular physical activity and now walks one mile daily. Kevin has expressed gratitude to his dietitian for the education and support he received, helping him make healthier food choices and improving his quality of life. He remains motivated to continue improving his health and credits his CHC care team for keeping him on track.

Sustaining Oral Health Access for Connecticut’s Seniors and Children

For many seniors and children across Connecticut, access to consistent and affordable dental care remains limited. Community Health Center, Inc. (CHC), the clinical affiliate of Moses/Weitzman Health System (MWHS), has been addressing this gap since its inception in 1972, when it began with one dental chair in Middletown. Oral health is central to CHC’s belief in comprehensive, community-based care.

Regular preventive care is the primary line of defense against costly emergency visits for pain, swelling, infection, and tooth loss. CHC provides dental services at over 150 clinical sites throughout CT, including school-based health centers, healthcare for the homeless sites, and four mobile health units.

Through federal funding, CHC has been working to remove barriers to oral healthcare for children and seniors, two often marginalized groups. Limited access due to a lack of insurance, provider availability, or other barriers is the primary reason dental health goes unaddressed for children. Among seniors, dental issues are relatively common and can lead to serious health complications and have negative impacts on self-image and quality of life if left untreated.

MWHS recently received a grant through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to advance the integration of preventive oral healthcare into primary care in an effort to make it more accessible for infants and young children. The MWHS project, *Improving Oral Health for Young Children in Connecticut Through Policy, Practice, Education, and Evaluation*, focuses on improving oral health outcomes for children at CHC ages 6 months to 5 years who have not yet seen a dentist.

Research shows that tooth decay and premature tooth loss in children can negatively impact speech and language development, eating and sleeping, self-esteem, and school readiness and attendance (Hill B, Meyer BD, Baker SD, et al. State of Little Teeth Report 2019).

The Weitzman Institute, the research and innovation program of MWHS, is using this project to educate healthcare professionals and caregivers on the importance of oral health and to promote the importance of dental services with support from state-level partners. Since launching in March 2025, 76 children have seen a dentist for the first time through this project and more than 130 upcoming appointments are scheduled.

Seniors are considered an at-risk demographic for poor oral healthcare, often due to lack of insurance coverage or low-income status. With additional grant funding from HRSA, CHC also provides CT seniors with low- or no-cost routine dental care visits, restorative treatments, and prosthetic fittings, and helps patients establish comprehensive dental treatment plans.

With shifting federal funding priorities, sustaining these dental programs requires broad support. Until now HRSA funding has enabled CHC to reliably expand dental services, but these programs require stable staffing, modern equipment, and consistent outreach to continue to meet demand in the communities served. The emerging challenge is to ensure that uninterrupted access to high-quality oral healthcare is the expectation, not the exception, for vulnerable children and seniors.



A patient receives dental care at CHC New Britain.

Adele Gordon and a Lasting Vision for Care



Dental care through CHC is the result of strong leadership and commitment, and a belief that healthcare systems should be built to last. Few individuals embody this philosophy more than the late Adele Gordon, whose vision continues to shape access to oral healthcare across Fairfield County, CT, particularly impacting Stamford.

In the early 2000s, Adele founded the Dental Center of Stamford, a community-based dental clinic serving patients with limited options. She recognized that dental care was too often separated from primary care and approached CHC to explore a partnership. In 2005, the dental clinic merged with CHC to become the Franklin Street clinic, providing integrated primary care and dental services under one roof. Together, Adele and CHC strengthened access, improved continuity of care, and affirmed that oral health is an essential part of holistic health.

Adele went on to serve as Site Director for CHC’s Fairfield County clinics and later as Assistant to the President for Strategic Development. Under her leadership, CHC expanded access to high-quality, sliding-scale care in Stamford, Norwalk, and Danbury, reaching communities where the need was greatest.

Her work was guided by CHC’s core principle—healthcare is a right, not a privilege—shaping decisions, partnerships, and investments that continue to benefit patients today. In recognition of her impact, CHC dedicated its Stamford Fifth Street facility in her honor, marking a career of service and lasting contribution to community health.

Beyond the Clinic



Center for Key Population (CKP) staff and volunteers held a Dignity Grows packing party on February 23, 2026 filling 50 bags with a month supply of menstrual products, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, hand wipes, and a toothbrush. Totes are distributed to CHC patients and partners in the community. February bags went to the Hartford Diaper Bank and 100 totes packed in January were distributed at an AmeriCorps MLK Day event at Park Central in Waterbury, CT. As a Dignity Grows chapter, CKP fundraises, packs, and distributes these tote bags. Each bag costs \$10 to supply one person for a month. If you are interested in supporting this initiative go to mwhs1.co/CKPDignityGrows



CHC's Care Coordinator Briana Sailor, New Britain Mayor Bobby Sanchez, and President of Hartford Healthcare Central Region Gina Calder at Hartford Healthcare Medical Mission in November 2025.



CHC sites in New London (staff pictured above), Middletown, Hartford, New Britain, and Stamford held community holiday parties for staff and local residents in December.



Mark Masselli, MWS Founder, President & CEO, participated in an employee food drive. When SNAP funding was in peril, CHC collected non-perishable food donations at all sites and donated the food to local foodbanks.



CHC staff and AmeriCorps Fellows attended CT Stand Down 2025 in September. Run by the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, Stand Down provides military personnel and their families easy access to government and non-profit services available to them in the state. At the annual event, CHC provides veterans with dental exams, vaccines, HIV/Hepatitis testing, and general primary care support and information.



Dancers celebrate the 25th anniversary of Vinnie's Jump and Jive dance studio in Middletown. The dance studio is a program of CHC with classes for swing, tap, jazz, line dancing, fitness, and more.



In August, children selected free backpacks filled with back-to-school essentials at the CHC Hartford pediatric site.

Happening Around MWHS

Hope Grows Here

In October we marked Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a special event, *Hope Grows Here*, to celebrate New Horizons, a CHC program and regional provider of emergency shelter and services for domestic violence victims. New Horizons' staff, advocates, and supporters were joined by former clients. The rooftop garden at CHC in Middletown was filled with an inspired audience, gathered beneath a beautiful sunset, as they listened with respect to powerful stories of resilience and hope.



Speakers included survivor Chelsea, who shared how New Horizons helped her escape abuse and rebuild her life, and longtime donor Kathleen Cameron, who spoke about her enduring commitment to supporting victims of domestic violence. The evening also honored Gary Wallace, Vice President of Programs at the CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence with the inaugural Domestic Violence Champion Award, recognizing the impact one person can make in confronting abuse and fostering hope, safety, and empowerment for survivors and their families.

New Horizons has been serving Middlesex County for over 45 years with a variety of key services to help individuals and families suffering from domestic or intimate partner violence. In 2025 they helped more than 77 adults and children find safe emergency shelter and provided crisis counseling, court advocacy, safety planning, and other essential services to thousands of individuals.

Garden Party at CGC



Save the date for The Child Guidance Center of Southern CT (CGC) Garden Party on June 11, 2026, celebrating the grand opening of the CGC Therapeutic Garden. Thanks to a multi-year grant from the S&L Marx Foundation, as well as generous support from Ruth W. Brown Foundation, James Colica, and many individuals, CGC has created a private garden for group and individual therapy, family guidance sessions, staff respite, and community outreach. The garden includes a family waiting area with an ADA compliant ramp in the upper level, then proceeds down into the calming therapeutic garden featuring comfortable benches, thoughtful

landscaping, a privacy fence, and a calming water feature.

The Garden Party will begin with a ceremonial ribbon cutting at 3:30pm, including a dedication of the therapeutic garden in memory of Kathy Hanson, followed by a reception in the garden from 4pm-6pm. The event will happen rain or shine.

Consortium Conference



MWHS's Consortium for Advanced Practice Providers' Annual Conference will take place in Denver, CO, at the Grand Hyatt Denver on July 13–14, 2026, with pre-conference workshops on July 12, 2026. The conference, with the theme of *Artificial Intelligence in Education and Clinical Practice*, will bring together a community of 250+ innovators, leaders, and emerging leaders as well as APP residents, fellows, students and external stakeholders and experts in healthcare systems and policy. This audience represents the decision-makers, educators, and future leaders shaping the APP workforce.

Building on the success of last year's conference, also in Denver, which drew 140 industry leaders from across the country and represented 60 new programs, the 2026 program will provide short but intense bursts of continuing education in evolving best practices in postgraduate training, strategies for the planning, implementation, and success of service-delivery based postgraduate training, anticipated relevant future policy developments, and health care trends related to the movement. Breakout sessions will provide opportunities for specialized focus on critical elements of curriculum, evaluation, faculty development and accreditation. Guided by participant feedback, this year also introduces new pre-conference workshops and an updated conference format designed to enhance engagement.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for those interested in supporting this high-impact event and connecting with a national audience of leaders and influencers. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the 2026 Consortium Conference, please contact Jessica Welt, Vice President of Development, at weltj@mwhs.com or scan the QR code.



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CHC AmeriCorp fellows at a MLK Day event.



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