



# Empowering Lives and Communities Since 1875



## GROWTH

- M** I CAN LEARN FROM MY MISTAKES
- I** I CAN IMPROVE BY WORKING HARD
- N** I WILL NEVER GIVE UP
- D** I'M DETERMINED TO DO MY BEST
- S** SELF-REFLECTION HELPS ME SUCCEED
- E** I CAN OVERCOME CHALLENGES WITH EFFORT
- T** I CAN TRAIN MY BRAIN

# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



**4,310**

People Assisted



**12,124**

Basic Needs distributed including Reentry Backpacks, IDs, Food & Clothing Vouchers, & Bus Passes



**425**

People receiving Housing Assistance



**827**

Participants completed Community Service

**8,073**

Community Service hours worked



**3,590**

Juvenile Enrichment Activities



**2,332**

Participants received assistance in Alternative in the Community Programs



**785**

Prison Arts works in all shows

**21,000**

Total views of Prison Arts works of art

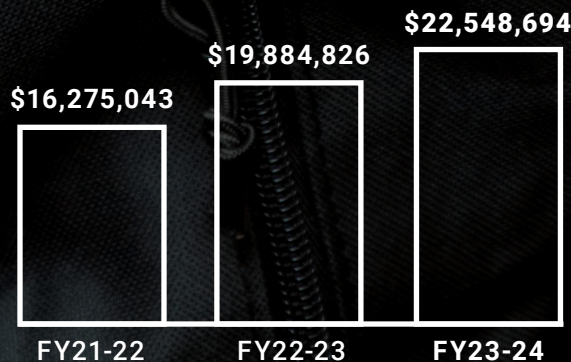
## BY THE NUMBERS

FINANCIALS AUDITED FY 23-24, ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

Community Partners in Action's partnerships with State agencies fund 91% of our services.

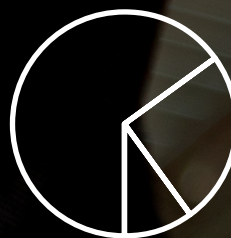
- ▶ Total Revenue: \$22,548,694
- ▶ Total Expenses: \$21,996,372
- ▶ 90% of our revenue supports direct services for participants.

### REVENUE GROWTH



### FUNDRAISING SOURCES\*

\*Excludes CT State contracts and multi-year grants



**\$796,025 GRANTS**  
**\$303,387 DONATIONS**  
**\$115,539 EVENTS**



Dear Friends,

As we approach our 150th anniversary, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable strides we have made this year at Community Partners in Action. From increased growth in our services, budget, and advocacy efforts, to the overwhelming generosity of our contributors, 2024 has truly been a year of transformation.

At the heart of this growth is our unwavering commitment to fostering a culture of **Belonging, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (BEDI)**. These values are not just principles we uphold—they are the foundation of everything we do. By centering BEDI in our work, we ensure our programs serve all individuals with dignity and respect, and that opportunities for empowerment are available to everyone in our communities.

Our achievements this year are a testament to this commitment. A key highlight was the national recognition of our **Prison Arts program**, which received a competitive grant from **ArtsHERE**, an initiative of the **National Endowment of the Arts**. This prestigious award reinforces the power of art in promoting rehabilitation and underscores the importance of equitable access to creative expression.

As we reflect on our progress in 2024, we are energized by the thousands of lives that have been impacted by our programs, and are reminded of the collective strength we gain when everyone feels they belong. Together, we are building a future where justice, opportunity, and inclusion go hand in hand.

Thank you for being a vital part of this journey. As we look ahead to 2025 and our 150th year, we remain steadfast in our mission, inspired by our ongoing evolution, and driven by the possibilities that lie ahead.

Warm regards,

*Elizabeth Hines*

Beth Hines  
Executive Director

**ABOVE:** Beth Hines and Prison Arts Program Manager Jeffrey Greene upon receiving \$130,000 ArtsHERE grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

**ON THE COVER:** (L-R) Robin Ledbetter, Joe Hlavati, and Sharon Cody at Hartford Reentry Welcome Center. Robin and Sharon are former participants who now work for CPA. Joe Hlavati is a former participant.



“CPA gave me the opportunity to change my life. Here at the Hartford Reentry Welcome Center, I was able to change my mindset, gravitate towards real recovery, and start my life over.”

Joe Hlavati speaks frequently on addiction and recovery and has his own podcast and YouTube channels.

## Reentry Services:

# Restoring Lives, Rebuilding Communities

We see reentry as an opportunity to rebuild lives and strengthen communities. Through our Reentry Welcome Centers in Hartford and Waterbury, individuals transitioning from incarceration receive vital support to start fresh.

### A LIFELINE FOR SUCCESS

Our Reentry Welcome Centers are the first stop for many reentering society. With dedicated staff on hand, we distribute basic needs to participants, help secure housing, employment, mental health services, and more. The guidance is personal and practical—offering the tools needed to navigate life beyond the justice system.

### KEY SERVICES INCLUDE:

- **Housing Support:** Helping secure safe, stable housing for a solid foundation.
- **Employment Assistance:** Job training, resume help, and connections to second-chance employers.
- **Mental Health & Substance Use Support:** Ensuring access to vital mental health care and recovery services.
- **Basic Needs:** Providing essential basic needs to help participants move forward.

Our staff are at the heart of this success, offering compassion, expertise, and a relentless commitment to support individuals coming home. Every day, they prove that with the right support, reentry leads to lasting change.

# 1,238

People provided with Reentry services

# 2,140

Basic needs items distributed including 678 backpacks filled with personal care and hygiene products

# 75

Individuals received crucial Housing assistance

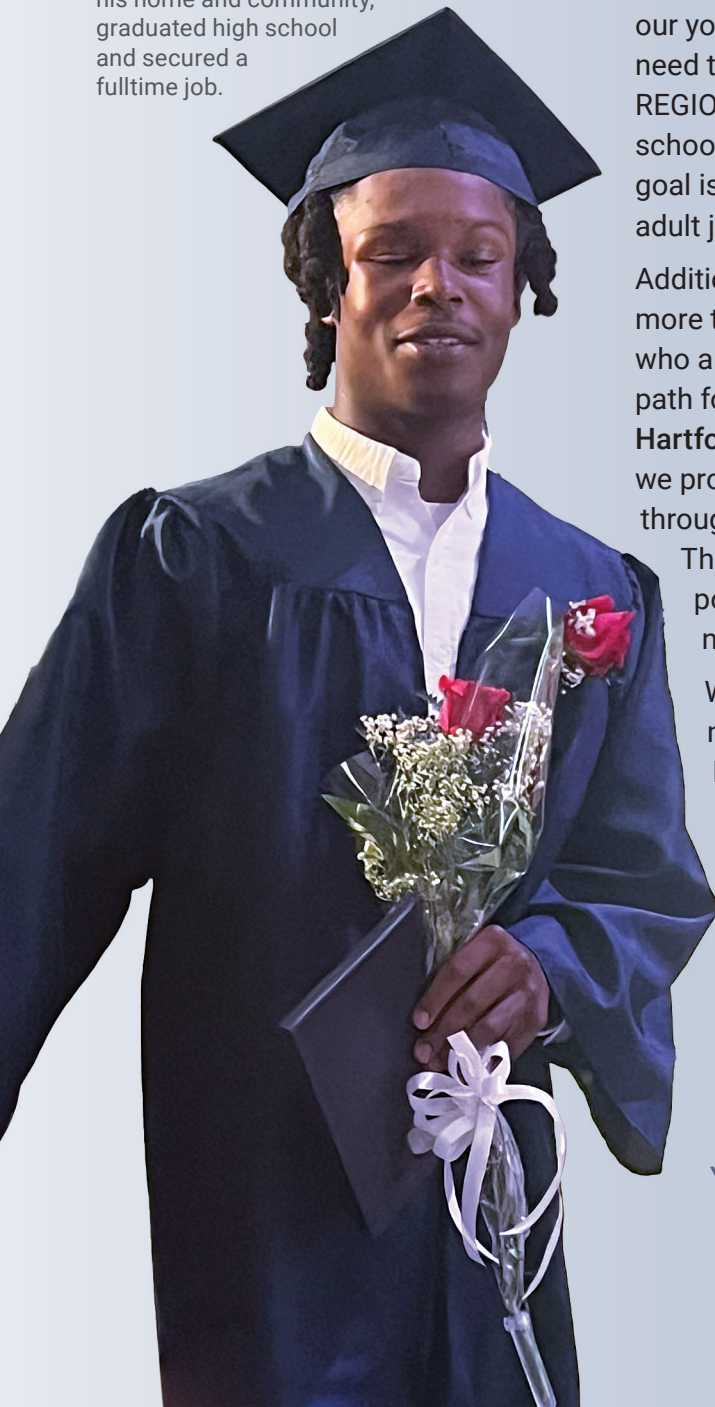
# 398

Participants helped find Employment



# Youth Programs: Transforming Futures, One Individual at a Time

A former resident at REGIONS Hamden, Jayden returned to his home and community, graduated high school and secured a fulltime job.



Watching a young person grow up, graduate from school, get a job and start their lives is something we all look forward to seeing happen. Sometimes, however, young people don't always make the best choices and are mandated by the court to one of our **REGIONS Residential Programs** in either **Hartford** or **Hamden**. Here we help our youth learn to make the right choices and get the support they need to return to their communities better prepared to succeed. Our **REGIONS** programs offer residential care in a home-like setting with school, vocational training, and therapy built into the program. The goal is simple: we empower male youth aged 14 to 18 to avoid the adult justice system and create a brighter future.

Additionally, our **Juvenile Residential Enrichment Program** offers more than just activities; it's a lifeline for young people ages 12 to 18 who are seeking a way to express their inner selves and find a new path forward. Inside the **Connecticut Juvenile Residential Centers in Hartford and Bridgeport**, as well as the **Hartford REGIONS** program, we provide an environment where youth can channel their energy through art, music, yoga, dance, pet therapy, and youth development. These programs encourage emotional expression and foster positive social skills, while also building the resilience needed to navigate life's challenges.

While there are many programmatic successes, a profound moment occurred when our young men worked together on Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata—a powerful, shared experience that symbolizes unity and emotional release. This delicate piece of music, with its quiet strength, taught them the value of patience, collaboration, and harmony, both in music and in life.

## 45

Youth in our **REGIONS** Programs received **education, life skills, clinical services and family engagement** vital for success

## 3,590

Youth **Enrichment Activities** provided in **CT Juvenile Residential Centers**

# Transitional Housing and Work-Release Programs: Building Stability and Independence

We all know that stability starts with a safe place to call home. For many, this is a lifeline. According to recent data, over 500,000 people in the U.S. experience homelessness on any given night, and formerly incarcerated individuals are 10 times more likely to experience homelessness than the general population. These numbers highlight a crisis that affects thousands in our communities.

Our **Transitional Housing Programs** provide essential support to individuals released from prison, on work-release, or awaiting court cases, offering a crucial foundation as they rebuild their lives.

**Gordon's Place**, named after former CPA Executive Director Gordon S. Bates, offers housing for up to nine men recently released from prison. With each resident having their own room and shared living spaces, this

Hartford home—funded through Opioid Settlement Funds—is more than just a shelter. It's a stepping stone where men can stabilize, save money, and work toward independent living.

**Mart's House** in Manchester, CT, provides a stable, sober environment for six women transitioning from incarceration or shelters. Since 2008, this home has been a beacon of hope, helping residents gain the confidence and skills to secure independent housing and a viable path to stability.

Cassandra Johnson (*left*), a former participant, and CPA Case Manager Amy Arroyo.



## 27%

Of people released from prison will face homelessness within their first year of freedom. **Women are particularly vulnerable**, with 60% of homeless women having been incarcerated at some point in their lives.



Pursuit Aerospace employees (L-R) Terrel, Matthew, Luis and Giovanni.

Our Work Release Program helps participants nearing the end of their sentences take the next step toward stability. By providing housing, employment assistance, and financial education, we prepare individuals for life beyond incarceration. Each participant learns to manage income, pay rent, and handle real-world responsibilities, leaving the program ready to reclaim their independence.

A great example of this is our partnership with Pursuit Aerospace and the CT Department of Correction. It all begins with a job interview between Pursuit and each participant before they leave prison, and eventually leads to competitive pay, regular promotions, a 401K plan and benefits, and the opportunity to stay long after their sentences have been completed.

Together, Community Partners in Action, CT Department of Correction and Pursuit Aerospace are making a powerful impact, demonstrating the transformative power of dedicated job training and employment opportunities for individuals striving to rebuild their lives.

**“For me, this job means a second chance. A second chance at life and a second chance to support my family, which this job has really, really helped a lot.”**

*—Luis, Flow Line Technician at Pursuit Aerospace*

**377**

Participants were served in **CPA's Adult Residential Programs**

## Alternatives to Incarceration:

# Empowering Change, Reducing Recidivism

Our Alternative in the Community (AIC) Programs in Hartford, Manchester, and Waterbury provide life-changing support for individuals who are pre-trial, on probation, or parole with comprehensive case management, employment assistance, and tailored intervention services. By focusing on behavioral change and relapse prevention, we help participants build the skills and resilience needed to break the cycle of criminal activity and achieve lasting personal growth.

Through our Community Service projects at Hartford Community Court, individuals who have committed low-level offenses contribute meaningful work to their communities, fulfilling court requirements while gaining a deeper understanding of their role as community members.

Our innovative Early Screening and Intervention Units, developed with the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, works within Hartford, New Britain, and Waterbury Superior Courts to address the root causes of criminal behavior. And, by identifying underlying issues—such as mental health or substance abuse—we connect individuals with the vital resources they need.

CPA also supports Hartford's Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI), a historic federal investment in community violence intervention programs to prevent and reduce violent crime.

Sharon Cody, a former participant, today works at CPA, helping others overcome trauma and substance abuse disorders.

“Lives are transformed here. New beginnings occur. It’s like what they say in Narcotics Anonymous, ‘Lost dreams awakened, new possibilities arise.’”

## 2,332

Participants received assistance in the community

## 2,705

Provided with 9,358 Basic Needs items

## 309

Assisted with employment training, preparation and placement



# Prison Arts: 44 Years of Unlocked Creativity

For 44 years, our Prison Arts Program has served as a beacon of hope and expression for those incarcerated, providing a powerful outlet for creativity, healing, and self-reflection. Through the transformative power of art, we have nurtured hidden talents and allowed individuals to share their personal narratives, offering a window into the experiences of those often unheard.

This year, our program expanded its reach, introducing new workshops and collaborations with local artists and educators. These partnerships have enriched our participants' skills, offering them tools to further hone their craft and share their stories in a more profound way. Our annual **Prison Arts Exhibit** continues to be a platform where the beauty and depth of their work can shine, offering the public a rare opportunity to engage with art that carries raw emotion and powerful meaning.

Danny Killion is a former participant and today owns his own art gallery in Troy, NY.

**“In prison art, there are a lot of different things used that are not common in art elsewhere... I wanted to make sculptures that were bizarre and kind of reflected the things I learned about myself and my position in the world — and the way the world works. So, I created really intricate, bizarre sculptures made from soap and cardboard and things I found around the prison.”**

**8**

Prison Arts exhibitions held throughout the year

**616**

artworks by 159 artists proudly displayed in CPA's Annual Show

# WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS

(FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024)

## FUNDERS

American Savings Foundation  
Bank of America  
Career Resources/CT Office of Workforce Strategy  
Career Resources/US Department of Labor  
City of Hartford  
City of Waterbury  
Common Sense Fund  
Community Foundation of Eastern CT\*  
CT Community Foundation  
CT Department of Correction  
CT Division of Criminal Justice  
CT Health and Education Facilities Authority  
CT Judicial Branch - Court Support Services Division  
US Department of Justice - Bureau of Justice Assistance  
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Kathleen Alleri  
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Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Kathleen Archambault  
Amy Arroyo & Eric Guzman  
Yolanda Arroyo  
Nancy Audette  
Elizabeth Bailey  
Lisa Baker & Deborah Rogala  
Shawnee Baldwin  
Nancy Ball  
Joan Barere  
Deborah & Frank Barrows  
Sara Batchelder  
Wanda Bates  
Jon Bauer  
Bear's Barbeque Smokehouse  
Benevity Community Impact Fund\*



“When you come to CPA, you’re not going to be turned away. Whether you are coming here as a new employee or someone who’s formerly incarcerated and needs services, there’s no judgment. The people here listen and support participants with the assistance they need.”

Robin Ledbetter is a peer-to-peer counselor helping individuals obtain the resources they need to successfully reenter the community.

Amy Berning	Vaughan Finn	Virginia Lewis	Alana Rosenberg
Elaine Betoncourt	First Church of Christ	John Lobon	Richard & Sally Ruef
Robert Biddleman	Congregational Church, Glastonbury	Margo Maine	Kim Sabino
Logan Bishop	First Congregational	Cathy Malloy	Kathie Sadloski
Blackbaud Giving	Church of Guilford	Dannel & Cathy Malloy	Noelymari Sanchez
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Kathye Cipes	Mary Anne & James Hubert	North Haven Congregational Church	Sally & Allan Taylor
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Common Sense Fund	Lizzette Irizarry	Karen Outerson	Joyce Thorner
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*\*Includes Funding via a Donor-advised Fund | †Includes Giving via Employee Giving Programs*

# ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN ACTION

We're one of the nation's oldest criminal justice organizations, formerly known as the CT Prison Association, and provide restorative justice services to young people and adults, so they can reenter the community and thrive. We deliver impactful services that unite People, Programs and Partnerships to empower individuals to change their lives for the better, make communities safer and stronger, and enhance the quality of life across Connecticut.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Hartford Reentry Welcome Center – *City of Hartford and Hartford Foundation for Public Giving*  
Pathway Home—*Career Resources, Inc.*  
Peer-to-Peer Reentry Case Management – *U.S. Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration and InterCommunity Health Care*  
Waterbury Reentry Welcome Center – *City of Waterbury and Waterbury Opportunities Industrialization Center*  
WE RISE Together – *Career Resources, Inc. and Capital Workforce Partners*

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