

Out of an abundance of caution and concern for safety surrounding the ongoing pandemic, our annual Builders of Hope event has been rescheduled and is returning as a breakfast!

Mark your calendars for April 6, 2022 at Woodwinds in Branford 7:30 to 9:30 AM. We are so excited to see you and gather safely in the spring.

Keynote Speaker TBA.



The 18th Annual
BUILDERS OF HOPE
April 6, 2022
Woodwinds in Branford
Stay tuned for more info!


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Thank you to our event sponsors that redirected their sponsorship to support direct care and outpatient services after the postponement of Builders of Hope.

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Create Your Legacy Today!

A simple, life-affirming gift through your will or estate will set a lifetime course of health and wellness for a child and their family. Your decisions now can change a life - Become a legacy donor today.

Contact: Jennifer Cretella at 203-772-1270 ext. 2208 or jcretella@cliffordbeers.org



IMPACT
Fall 2021

 **clifford beers**
MOVING FORWARD



SCAN ME

Making a donation is now easier than ever! Simply open your smartphone camera to scan our QR code, leading you straight to our donation portal.

Clifford Beers
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A Note From Alice

Dear Friends,

This will be our last newsletter in 2021 and what a year it has been. We have seen so much growth but it does not come at an expense; perpetual burn out is being felt by our families, our staff, our communities, and beyond. We hope that you, and our staff, are able to indulge in some much needed respite over the holidays.

Many of our other programs have seen a large increase in intakes, back up to pre-pandemic standards. Psychiatry is back in office 5 days a week and providers are conducting appointments both via telehealth and in person. Expanded hours at our Marne Street Clinic has allowed us to offer more in-clinic behavioral health appointments, while maintaining their primary focus of serving the community. While we previously reported our SAFE-Family Recovery program (for parents/caregivers who need support in substance use recovery) having the highest referrals in the region, they now have the highest referrals in the entire state.

Farnam Neighborhood House's School Readiness program has reached student capacity; their RespeCT Hoops youth basketball clinic is back in session; and Farnam will also be running a youth lifeguard program.

Our Guilford clinic on the shoreline has also seen an exponential growth in call rates and intakes; a sign that not only are people still in need, but that we continue to need sufficient funds to serve them. We rise to the challenge of keeping up.

And as you will see in this newsletter, our Mobile Crisis team has experienced many ups and downs, but we always keep our heads high. With all of these positive changes, we are still not yet out of the dark. Much like our longest winter nights being almost behind us, we know there will be longer stretches of sunlight ahead.

We could not have weathered this time without you, and we are continuously touched by your compassion, fierce optimism, and generosity. Thank you to all who attended our virtual State of Clifford Beers "coffee chat" on November 4th - we hope to have another one soon.

Warmly,

Helping Families Every Step of the Way

Hear from one of our Family Advocates on the many ways in which Clifford Beers is making an impact this holiday season.

"A family came to us after dealing with a variety of needs and have been regularly receiving therapy services in our clinic. Outside of clinic hours, the daughter, who had just recently given birth, was exhibiting severe postpartum depressive symptoms. The family called 211, initiating an in-person response from our Mobile Crisis team. Our Mobile Crisis clinician was able to de-escalate the daughter and give the family resources and next steps for care.

Additionally, we provided this family with a Thanksgiving turkey thanks to generous turkey donations we have received. The mother said the recent stress of her daughter's depression made her unable to think about planning for the holiday. She is immensely grateful that we have been able to help her family both when serious issues arise and relieving the stress of 'smaller problems' like Thanksgiving dinner. She said Clifford Beers is always answering her prayers, no matter how big or small. I am so proud that we are able to help this family no matter what their situation is."

- Clifford Beers
Family Advocate



Operation Happy Holidays!

Want to bring the families we serve some holiday cheer? Help us by donating a \$20 gift card from Walmart, Target, or Amazon. We will be collecting donations and gift cards through December 15th.

You can also provide a whole family with much happiness through the Adopt-a-Family initiative for the Holidays.

For more details: Email Jennifer Cretella
jcpretella@cliffordbeers.org/203-772-1270 ext. 2208.

Get To Know Our Donors, Len Matteo and Billy D'Adamo

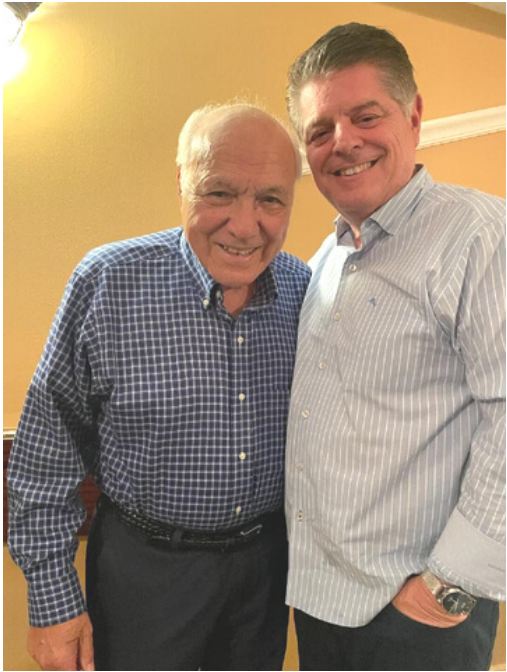
Long time donors and friends Len Matteo of Edge Technology Services and Billy D'Adamo of North Haven Ceramic Tile share their thoughts with us on life, philanthropy, and why they give to Clifford Beers.

What issues are most important to you when it comes to philanthropy?

No matter the organization, we always prioritize helping children and the elderly - they are the populations that need the most help.

What made you want to get involved with Clifford Beers so long ago?

We met through the UNITAS Club in Hamden and have been involved in raising funds for local charitable organizations for over 40 years. We heard about Clifford Beers about 20 years ago and knew it was the right fit for our group - not only do you help children but we realized donations would go a long way, helping entire families. That's also why, in addition to holding fundraisers for Clifford Beers, we also decided to donate goods for the Thanksgiving holiday - it makes an impact on a large number of people. We always want to be able to help the largest number of people as possible.



Billy (left) and Len (right)

Why do you continue to give today?

We knew Clifford Beers was a special organization the first time we came to Edwards Street. Seeing children come in with their parents and caregivers made it real for us. The work Clifford Beers does has a ripple effect; when families are in a better spot emotionally and financially, that goes on to have a positive impact on their extended family members, future generations, and their communities. Donations to CB really have a deep value.

What other boards or organizations are you involved in?

We continue to always make children and the elderly our priority, including Mary Wade Nursing Home, the Children's Center of Hamden, Yale New Haven Hospital, and Marrakech Inc.

What's one quote or saying that you live by?

Always treat people the way you like to be treated. Don't ever judge a book by its cover. Both of these sayings are all about leading with kindness, which is what we're all about.

Mobile Crisis Services by the Numbers

Our Mobile Crisis (MCIS) department is often, what some might call, "fast paced." Serving 17 towns across southern and central CT, our MCIS team has provided in-person de-escalation and crisis response services since the onset of the pandemic. Since March 2020, our MCIS program managers maintain a sense of calm and lead with resiliency. We are incredibly grateful for their commitment to Clifford Beers in these times. Check out some of their recent wins below that we definitely think are worth celebrating.

More and more families need our help. During October 2021, MCIS Clinicians and Case Managers served

134

youth and families by providing a mobile response and crisis evaluation

This is a

35%

increase from
October 2020

Our MCIS team has stayed committed and passionate throughout the pandemic despite being short staffed due to the pandemic. We now have

full time clinicians who work hard to ensure our youth in crisis are safe and connected to ongoing support services.