

THE HOUR

Dozens of Norwalk residents to get mental health, addiction services funding

Hour Staff Reports

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Contributed photo From left to right, Laytoya Howard, Property Manager 40 South Main; Anthony DiLauro, Executive Director, Human Services Council; James Farrales, Vice President, Mental Health Services, Continuum of Care; Tracy Young, Director of Acute Services, Continuum of Care; John Labieniec, Clinical Director, Acute & Forensic Services, Continuum of Care.

NORWALK -- Dozens of Norwalk residents will be getting help to better their futures thanks to a state mental health and addiction services funding effort.

The State of Connecticut's Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and the Department of Housing (DOH) announced that Continuum of Care, Inc. received funding to deliver support services to the residents of 40 South Main St. Formerly known as New City Hotel, the 115-year-old building was once a flophouse frequented by drug addicts and prostitutes. The city acquired 40 South Main St. through

eminent domain in 1992 and later sold the property to the Human Services Council, which renovated the former hotel into a 44-unit supportive housing development.

The Human Services Council will work in partnership with Demarco Management and Continuum of Care to ensure that the residents in the building have the opportunity to reach their full potential by having quality and safe housing, job training and placement and a variety of social services available to them.

"This funding will transform the 40 South Main St. residences into supportive housing by providing the 20 occupants opportunity to receive new services: Case management, self-help/substance abuse treatment, job training and education," said Anthony DiLauro, executive director of HSC.

"In addition, the funding will provide a vehicle to transport the residents," DiLauro said.

"We are very excited that we had the opportunity to be part of helping these wonderful people lead productive lives. Thank you to Continuum of Care for their expertise in acquiring this funding and providing the residents of 40 South Main hope for success and achievement."

In addition there are eight residents receiving social services from Children and Family agency at 40 South Main Street.

For almost seven decades, the Human Services Council has identified unmet community needs and has filled in the gaps by creating and fostering programs that educate, safeguard and empower the people of our communities. Collaborating with other local agencies, the Human Services Council serves over 8,000 children, families and individuals each year.

To learn more about the Human Services Council or any of our programs please call (203) 849-1111 or visit www.hscct.org.

Hour Staff Writer Chase Wright contributed to this report.