

Our Kids

The young people we serve each have unique talents and big dreams for the future. Yet many have suffered traumas. And they are disconnected or disengaged from their schools and/or communities — or are at risk of becoming so.

2016-17 Program # Served

Community

Community center	165
After-school programs at Stamford Public Schools	240
After-school program at charter middle school	65*
Summer programs	384*
Juvenile court diversion program	64*
Youth employment training program	115*
Attendance intervention program	16
Street outreach program	100

Education

Charter middle school	151 ‡
Charter high school	220 ‡
New Haven middle school	46 ‡
Family advocates in Stamford Public Schools	54*
Detention center summer school	98

Residential

Transitional homes and supervised apartment living program	17
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Total unduplicated youth served 1378

*357 youth in these programs also participate in another Domus program; we count each young person only once for our unduplicated number served.

‡ School counts include all students who were enrolled during the school year, even if they were not enrolled for the full school year.

// You guys helped me with everything: job skills, my resume, talking about my future, and even feeding me when I was hungry."

— Work & Learn participant

LOVE LIVES HERE



As important as the work we do is how we do it. Everything at Domus is shaped by our five core principles:

- Our work is about the kids.
- We never give up on people.
- Everyone should be treated with dignity and respect.
- People should have many chances to learn and grow from their mistakes.
- Loving relationships change people.

We foster the emotional well-being of our young people by communicating the message "You belong, you are not alone, and we love you." We help youth process their experiences and figure out that their challenges do not define who they are. We build a welcoming, inclusive, and supportive culture.



DOMUS ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17



Domus supports vulnerable, high-risk young people to rise above adversity. Through more than a dozen programs, we provide academic support, social-emotional skill building, and personal and practical connections to help guide our youth through critical junctures in their lives so they may become resilient, positive contributors to their communities.

// My two best friends and I have been coming to Chester Addison since kindergarten—and now we work here while we're in college. Now we are the role models showing these kids the importance of education."

— Chester Addison youth leader

Photos by Richard Freeda

www.domuskids.org

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Our vision is that no child shall be denied hope, love, or a fair chance in life.

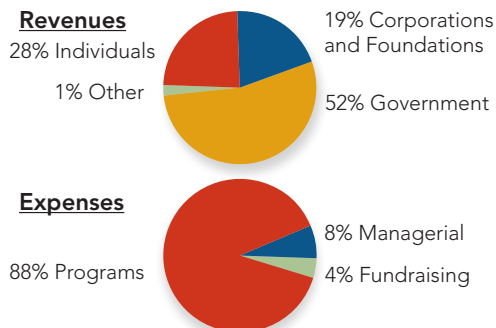
We target students who have struggled in traditional schools and offer them smaller classes, intensive remedial academics, and help resolving their non-academic challenges.

Highlights from 2016-17

- Among Trailblazers Academy students who started the year two or more grade levels behind in reading, 52% demonstrated high growth over the school year, as measured by STAR Reading assessments.
- Among Stamford Academy students who started the year two or more grade levels behind in math, 51% demonstrated high growth over the school year, as measured by STAR Math assessments.
- 45% of young people in Work & Learn found employment by the time they completed the 12-week program.
- 77% of youth who came before our Juvenile Review Board court diversion program remained arrest free during the three-month program and for at least six months afterward.
- 80% of the young people discharged from Domus House transitional living program moved to less restrictive programs.
- 57% of the youth in our summer programs successfully avoided the summer slide (the school-break loss of reading skills typical among low-income youth).
- We have been awarded a five-year grant of \$190,000 per year (tapering down in the final two years) for our Lion's Den out-of-school-time program through the 21st Century Learning Center program, which is federal money administered by the state.
- We continued to strengthen our classroom instruction through grant-funded coaching by the education consultant reDesign.

Financials

We raised \$13.3 million from the sources indicated below and spent it as follows:



Figures unaudited; estimated audit completion 12/31/2017



New Initiatives

- Domus has won a \$150,000 planning grant from the Barr Foundation to reimagine Stamford Academy alternative charter high school. We are exploring flexible school hours for students who are working or providing childcare; internships with local businesses where high school graduates can earn family-sustaining wages; and multiple pathways to graduation. We were one of nine grantees selected out of 49 applicants throughout New England.
- We have also received a two-year, \$400,000 grant from the Dalio Foundation's Connecticut Opportunity Project. This is funding a new partnership with the Stamford Public Schools. Domus staff is working with disengaged 9th grade students at Stamford High School to address attendance, behavior, and other non-academic challenges to their school success.
- Domus has launched a new street outreach program designed to engage young people who are hanging around on the streets at night and to help them avoid the draw of crime and drugs by providing employment training, mentoring, and connection to needed services.

Our Results

We have refined our program models to rigorously align the dosage of core program components with expected outcomes. This drives the key indicators we measure for each program, allowing us to assess whether the programs are being delivered as intended—and ultimately, whether they lead to successful outcomes for the youth we serve.



Our Team

We have 111 full-time and 65 part-time staff, plus more than 1,200 volunteers including groups from corporate partners such as GE, Nestle Waters, Point72, PwC, and Synchrony Financial.

All Domus staff members are trained in the Sanctuary Model, an evidence-supported approach to helping youth recover and heal from trauma.

