

# Looking forward with hope. 2022 | ANNUAL REPORT



COMMUNITY | HEALTH | CARE

# **MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIRS**

## Thank you for helping move us forward.



We've spent the past year looking forward. Forward to serving our most vulnerable citizens through innovative services. Forward to a new chapter in the City of Bristol as we start construction on our 46,000-square-foot community health center and flagship location.

Our ability to look forward is made possible through support from every corner of our community, from enthusiastic participation in our Campaign for Bristol, to generous contributions to our Basic Needs Fund, and enduring involvement in our golf classic. We truly could not do the work we do without our donors, sponsors, friends, and volunteers, and we appreciate each and every one of you.

Dabrine Tescalii, PhD, MPA

Sabrina Trocchi, PhD, MPA President and Chief Executive Officer

Because of YOU, we eagerly look forward to continued expansion of programs and the delivery of compassionate care through our community health centers, including services already launched at our newest health center at 91 Northwest Drive in Plainville, the original site of our children's outpatient services. We're also looking forward to providing new intensive outpatient and foster care services for youth in Waterbury, delivering affirming, inclusive care for members of the LGBTQ+ community and their loved ones, and so much more.

Because of YOU, we are where we are today. With the leadership of incoming Board Chair Mary Rodier, we're moving forward to a better tomorrow.

James Moylan Chair, Board of Trustees, FY22

Mary C. Rodier, CPA Chair, Board of Trustees, FY23

# CHAMPIONS OF PROGRESS

Donor support is essential to our ability to deliver compassionate, whole-person care. We are especially grateful to our many donors who help us to look forward.

Lois Aaron Marian Acker Estate of Hall Adams Allaire Elder Law Barnes Group Foundation Melissa Barton and Alexander Hoerman Christopher Beausoleil Steven and Meredith Biscoglio

Lori Ann and David Brantner Charitable Fund Brown & Brown of Lehigh Valley

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Howey Family Fund at the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain Connecticut Chapter, CPCU

Mary R. Connolly and Stephen Allaire Elaine and Richard Couture

D'Amato Construction Patricia Duclos-Miller Rebecca Eleck-Bruce, MD Executive Search Professionals

Brian Ferratto

**Figure Eight Properties** Genoa Healthcare GetzBalich Gibbs GO Agency Gawdys Grullon, MPA Charles and Karen Herbert Daniel Herens Mary and Peter Hess Lee Hoffman, MD Holcomb Farm Dennis and Mary Keenan Karl Krapek, Sr. Joanne León, PhD, LCSW The Brian and Marilyn Lindsay Foundation Tina Loarte Rodriguez, MSN, RN, CIC, CPPS, CPHRM M&T Bank Manafort Family Foundation Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation W.B. Mason Mary McDonald Cristine A. McNaney, PsyD McPhee Electric

Middlesex United Way Mitchell Auto Group Mott Corporation Jacqueline and David Mott Jim and Janet Movlan Mutual of America Kimberly Nelson, LCSW Richard Neville Martha and John O'Brien Brian O'Donnell OutFront Media Pratt & Whitney Prime Buchholz, LLC Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts **Quest Diagnostics** Todd Raymond Raytheon Technologies Pierre and Karen Richard Mary and Louis Rodier RYAN Business Systems, Inc. Sally B. Sarkissian Nicolangelo Scibelli Athena Sczcesniak, MBA Licedia Souchet John Sponauer

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## YEAR IN REVIEW ADDRESSING EMERGENT NEED



Helping to anchor the downtown Bristol Centre Square development with professional jobs and accessible health care for the entire community, Wheeler is building an approximately 46,000-square

foot community health center and administrative headquarters between North Main and Hope streets, opening in 2023. The organization also has reached 80 percent of its \$500,000 fundraising goal for the project, thanks to the support of dozens of community- and Wheeler-connected donors.



With support from State Representative Liz Linehan (D-103) and other members of the Connecticut General Assembly, we launched an intensive mental health outpatient pilot program for children and teens, part of comprehensive child mental

health legislation through which Wheeler received \$650,000 to create and offer an intensive outpatient program for children and teens through its Waterbury community health center.



Joined two other providers in an innovative civilian crisis intervention program in Hartford called the Hartford Emergency Assistance Response Team (HEARTeam), which initiative offers an alternative response to emergency 9-1-1 calls involving Hartford residents in emotional and mental health crisis. HEARTeam responders assist in situations where specialized non-law enforcement intervention is most effective.

## BREAKING GROUND, ENCOURAGING HOPE



Broke ground at One Hope Street, Bristol, to celebrate construction of an approximately 46,000-square foot community health center and administrative headquarters between

North Main and Hope streets, opening in 2023.



Hosted ribbon-cutting and rededication of Wheeler's newly renovated and expanded Family Health & Wellness Center in Plainville. The event honored the 50-year history of the center, where ground was first broken in October 1972

as a site focused on children's mental health services, and which has since expanded through the decades to now include a full continuum of care, including primary care for all ages.



Expanded services and renovated unfinished space at its New Britain community health center, allowing it to serve more medically underserved individuals and families. Changes are possible through to \$2.1 million in funding from the State of Connecticut.

## A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

Received six out of eight Community Health Quality Recognition (CHQR) badges from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) following an annual Uniform Data System (UDS) review for 2021. Tied for the most awards in the state, and awards received placed Wheler in the top one-third of centers nationally. The badges recognize quality improvement achievements in access, quality, health equity, health information technology, and COVID-19 public health emergency response. In nearly every case, the awards received by Wheeler placed it in the top one-third of centers nationally.



Earned Behavioral Health reaccreditation from The Joint Commission, the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body for providing quality, coordinated, patientcentered health care. Evaluation was based on

compliance with behavioral health standards spanning several areas, including care, treatment, and services; environment of care; leadership; emergency management; and screening procedures for the early detection of imminent harm.



Received an evaluation of 95 out of 100 and the designation of "LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Top Performer" in the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 15th anniversary edition of the Healthcare Equality Index (HEI), the nation's foremost benchmarking survey of healthcare facilities on policies and practices dedicated to the equitable treatment and inclusion of their LGBTQ+ patients, visitors, and employees.

## **INSPIRING LEADERS**



Teodoro Anderson Diaz, MS, MSW, LCSW, LADC, vice president of Health and Wellness Center Outpatient Services, received the 2022 Latino in Leadership Award at the 7th Annual National Latino Leadership Conference. The 2022 National Latino Leaders

list highlights individuals who have achieved success in their careers while paving the way for other Latinos to advance in the corporate arena.



Connecticut Clearinghouse Statewide Opioid Response (SOR) Project Coordinator, Thomas Fulton, received the 2021 Prevention Professional of the Year award from the Connecticut Association of Prevention Professionals (CAPP). Tom spearheaded the development

and implementation of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)-funded statewide awareness campaigns, including the "Change the Script" opioid awareness campaign and the "Let's Mention Prevention" alcohol misuse prevention during COVID-19 campaign.

# OUTCOMES **100%**

The 2021-2022 Northwest Village School graduation rate, compared to a statewide special education graduation rate of 69.1 percent.

# 1,146

Total number of patients with whom Wheeler interacted through direct care, telephone, and outreach activities.

# 3,097

Inquiries to Wheeler's Access Line pertaining to statewide substance use, treatment, and support resources were answered.

# 700+

Youth served through Wheeler's Access Mental Health CT program, which provides behavioral health consultation to primary care doctors in Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties.

# 2,941

Bags of fresh produce were delivered to Wheeler community health center patients through the Holcomb Farm Fresh Access program.

# 13,128

Total number of patients seen at Wheeler's five community health centers in Bristol, Hartford, New Britain, Plainville, and Waterbury.

# 54,644

Substance abuse, prevention, and mental health materials were distributed through Change the Script, a statewide opioid prevention campaign managed by Wheeler's Connecticut Clearinghouse and funded by the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

## **IMPACT OF PHILANTHROPY**

## 37th Annual Golf Classic, Presented by Mutual of America Financial Group



Golfers, sponsors, and volunteers took part in Wheeler's 37th Annual Golf Classic, presented by Mutual of America Financial Group, and the event grossed an unprecedented \$100,000 to

support individuals and families in care through Wheeler's Basic Needs Fund. The total amount raised through this event is more than \$1.3 million since its inception in 1986.

### Main Street Community Foundation Grant Supports Walk With Me Program



Wheeler received a \$5,000 grant from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation to support its Walk With Me program. The grant will be used to

support the work of a peer support specialist, and enhance and expand parent/caregiver services for LGBTQIA+ families.

#### Wheeler Mott Partnership Enters Sixth Year

Wheeler and Farmington-based Mott Corporation have entered the sixth year of an innovative corporate partnership with two

strands: local community health outreach and employee-driven volunteer engagement from Mott employees, called Mott Health Ambassadors. Since the inception of this partnership, Mott employees have donated nearly 550 hours as part of the partnership.

# Hundreds of Thanksgiving Meals for Wheeler Patients



Through the support of private donors and our community partners, Wheeler provided more than 325 Thanksgiving meals for patients in need at our Family Health & Wellness Centers in Bristol, Hartford, New Britain, Plainville, and

Waterbury this year. Gnazzo's Food Center in Plainville delivered dry grocery items for the patient holiday bags, which were supplemented by a gift card to a local grocery store to buy perishable items of their choosing, such as a turkey.

#### A Gift for Students, Patients

A \$100,000 gift, from the estate of Hall "Cap" Adams, Jr., a longtime philanthropic investor in Wheeler's work, is supporting Wheeler's campaign for a new health center in Bristol, as well as numerous programs benefiting students at Northwest Village School in Plainville. Mr. Adams passed away in Illinois in June 2020 after a notable and generous life, including a nationally recognized career in advertising. Working with his estate, two priorities quickly emerged that honored his life's legacy and passion for providing others with opportunities for good health and quality education.

#### Heartfelt Gratitude



Seven organizations and individuals were recognized by Wheeler for outstanding support of its mission at the organization's 11th Annual Hands & Hearts event, held virtually, including

## Genoa Healthcare® (Headquartered in Renton, WA)

With on-site at pharmacies in Wheeler's community health centers in Plainville, Hartford, New Britain, and Waterbury, Genoa Healthcare® is a true care partner. Committed to combatting the country's opioid crisis and epidemic, the organization plays an integral role in Wheeler's medicationassisted treatment (MAT) for addiction programs and offers NARCAN for patients and families to save lives from overdose. Over the past year, the organization provided COVID-19 vaccines through Wheeler's community health centers. For many years, Genoa Healthcare® has been a steadfast supporter of Wheeler's Annual Golf Classic and other events, and more recently, its Basic Needs Fund.

#### GO Agency (Hartford, CT and Atlanta, GA)

GO Agency, Wheeler's marketing agency of record since 2014, has been instrumental in building overall brand awareness for Wheeler and its strategic service areas. GO Agency is a steady contributor to Wheeler's major events, including the Golf Classic, Evening of Wonder Gala, Farm to Table 50th Anniversary event, and more.

#### Dennis and Mary Keenan (West Hartford, CT)

A former executive director of Wheeler for two decades, Dennis Keenan led the organization through significant growth, with a \$1.7 million budget in 1978, to \$12.5 million at the time of his retirement in 1998. Dennis started his career at Wheeler as head of Northwest Village School in 1974. He and his wife, Mary, are generous investors in Wheeler's work, supporting the Basic Needs Fund, Northwest Village School, and providing a vision for innovative ways to grow, through their own gifts and through the Main Street Community Foundation.

#### Karl J. Krapek (Avon, CT)

Year after year, Karl J. Krapek has supported the Wheeler Golf Classic, by sponsoring golfers, attending the event, and generously donating to tournament goals. His role in supporting and and shaping our state and its health care system is even greater. Karl served as president and chief operating officer of United Technologies Corporation from 1999 until his retirement in January 2002. He has been a leader at Trinity Health of New England / Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford for more than four decades. His dedication to improving the health of Connecticut is demonstrated through the Karl J. Krapek, Sr. Comprehensive Women's Health Center at the hospital. He is also a director of Northrop Grumman, Prudential Financial, Inc. and American Virtual Cloud Technologies, Inc.

## Ann E. Thomas and Michael B. Bonzagni (West Hartford, CT)

An independent non-profit consultant and former Wheeler board chair from 2007 to 2009, Ann oversaw the leadership transition between the late David Berkowitz and Wheeler's past President and Chief Executive Officer, Susan Walkama, LCSW. This past year, Ann and Michael made a significant investment in Wheeler's Basic Needs Fund, further enhancing the organization's ability to meet the basic needs of underserved individuals and families.



# **BY THE NUMBERS**

Sound, transparent business practices ensure Wheeler's ongoing financial health and allow for investment in new program development.

# TOTAL FY22 REVENUE: \$80,068,633



Facilities and Administration 1.5%

Figures unaudited.