



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Fiona Phelan
Communications Project Manager
(203) 294-7206
Phelan@chime.org

CHA to Recognize Yale New Haven Hospital with the 2018 Community Service Award

WALLINGFORD – At its 100th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health will award the 2018 *Connecticut's Hospital Community Service Award* to Yale New Haven Hospital for its medical respite care program for homeless patients.

After learning that more than 30 percent of homeless patients returned to the emergency department within 30 days of their discharge and that more than 50 percent were readmitted for inpatient care, Yale New Haven Hospital was determined to improve outcomes for those patients. Assisted by a host of community stakeholders, Yale New Haven Hospital collaborated with Columbus House, a homeless shelter, to create a medical respite care program to provide skilled medical care for chronically homeless patients while they recuperate from illness or injury. The 12-bed medical respite program includes 24-hour supervision, referrals to healthcare providers, transportation, and case management.

Compared to a pre-program, 2012 study, medical respite care has reduced 30-day readmissions by two-thirds. Additionally, medical respite patients are half as likely to return to the ED compared to all homeless patients. The hospital also estimates Medicaid savings between \$12,000 and \$25,000 per patient during the 12 months after their stay in the program. The success is largely due to the fact that patients are recovering in a safe environment and receiving intense case management; ultimately, 76% of those in Respite secure permanent housing.

“Congratulations to Yale New Haven Hospital and Columbus House on this award, which honors their partnership and shared commitment to helping the most vulnerable patients,” said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA. “Recognizing that housing is essential to recovery, Yale New Haven Hospital and Columbus House developed an innovative solution that is changing lives.”



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The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, health equity, and hospital reimbursement.