

“Honestly, I feel like the program has gone above and beyond for my child. There isn't too much they haven't helped with. When my daughter was in trouble, they were there for her in court. When she was doing bad and good in school, she had someone there for her. They helped my family with Thanksgiving and Christmas, and even now during the pandemic. This program is awesome for children who need support.”



## COVID-19

When the global pandemic hit in March 2020, Domus quickly pivoted without interruption to our core programs and services. We began to remotely deliver our program models while concurrently responding to the basic and immediate needs of our young people. With the generous help of funders and donors, Domus raised nearly \$500,000 in COVID-19 relief. Examples of how Domus served our young people, their families, and our community:

### \$500 COVID RELIEF GRANTS

provided to 150 families in need

### 16 WEEKS OF WEEKLY FOOD SUPPORT

for 300 families and \$50 worth of food for 4 weeks



### 285 FAMILIES GIVEN SUPPLY BAGS

that included hand sanitizer, masks, toiletries, and cleaning supplies

Operated 2 of the busiest Stamford grab-and-go sites, under SPS partnership, serving breakfast and lunch to about

**400 YOUNG PEOPLE PER DAY**

- Created a COVID-19 pandemic resource guide (updated weekly) to point staff members and families to needed community and government resources
- Compensated our employees who continued to work onsite with extra pay and weekly gifts to show our appreciation
- Transformed one of our empty former group homes into a respite for Stamford EMS workers to keep them and their families safe
- Supported Domus families who tested positive for COVID-19 with additional resources
- Issued stipends for Justice sector young people who lost employment until unemployment benefits received
- Gifted wellness packs to all staff members and youth



[www.domuskids.org](http://www.domuskids.org)

83 Lockwood Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902

203-324-4277

[info@domuskids.org](mailto:info@domuskids.org)



## ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

### DOMUS MISSION

Domus builds loving relationships with young people facing adversity, empowering them to pursue their path to self-sufficiency.



### OUR VISION

No child shall be denied hope, love, or a fair chance in life.

Since 1972, Domus has helped thousands of young people experience success in school and in life. We support young people who are disengaged and disconnected from school or not in the workforce. Our long-term goal is that our young people are either employed, on the path to self-sufficient income, or enrolled and engaged in a post-secondary opportunity.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What a year it's been for all of us! Change and loss has been a constant theme in Domus' culture and our community. We made the intentional decision to close certain programs that did not fit our new long-term outcome model. These losses were compounded by COVID-19 and repeated racial injustices.

Domus spent much of the last year reflecting on how we could best serve young people in our community who face adversity by asking ourselves what specific long-term outcomes these youth must achieve to have success in life. We then examined what programs and services would help them achieve those outcomes. Finally, we built our slate of programs and services around ensuring every program activity was backed by research and would help a young person toward their goals. This was a tough process, and we made difficult decisions to close Stamford Academy and cease operation at Chester Addison Community Center. All this led to a newly clarified mission statement, target population, and commitment to long term outcomes for two core Domus programs-School Engagement and Workforce Development.

As a future-focused organization, we are determined to learn and grow from challenges and will continue to be a more data-driven organization that will create the environment for young people to achieve greater outcomes as they move along the path to self-sufficiency. We'll continue to approach this work through the lens of an anti-racist organization, and that will be a factor in moving our Domus community and the larger Stamford community forward in a positive way.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions about our work or our recent changes. We are grateful for your generosity and partnership. Thank you.

Peace,

Mike Duggan



## 2019-20 RESULTS

**SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT MODEL (DOMUS KNIGHTS SERVED 144):** 80% of students were promoted on time to next grade level, with student average attendance of 92% and 83% of students not suspended or excluded.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (INVICTUS AND WORK AND LEARN DAY SERVED 78):** Of the recently released program participants, 93% remained arrest free during the year, and all indicated that Invictus staff have made them feel extremely hopeful, and staff always treat them with respect.

## OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED SERVED 650+

**SPS MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY ADVOCATES:** supports students navigating social/emotional obstacles

**PROJECT NEW HOPE:** street outreach program engaging high-risk youth

**WORK & LEARN AFTERSCHOOL:** work readiness skills training for high school students

**JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD:** restorative court diversion program for first-time misdemeanor offenders

**HARTFORD JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER:** educational services for incarcerated youth

**BRIDGEPORT JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER:** summer academic enrichment program

**SUMMER CAMP:** day camp provides youth in grades k-5 with engaging summer activities and academic enrichment

**AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT SPS:** fun, safe after-school spaces for youth at KT Murphy, Toquam, and TOR

## EQUITY INSTITUTE @ DOMUS

The Equity Institute at Domus provides workshops, coaching, and acts as advisors on culture-shifting and shaping for other nonprofits, local businesses, and faith-based organizations attempting to understand the impact of implicit bias, race, and diversity. It evolved organically as an outgrowth of Domus' longstanding internal commitment to racial equity and social justice work. Education, awareness, advocacy, and action are the necessary ingredients for addressing and sustaining systemic change for racial and social justice and equity beyond the doors of Domus.

## 2019-20 FINANCIALS (UNAUDITED)

We raised \$9.8 million from the sources indicated below and spent it as follows:

### REVENUE

27.33%  
Individuals

24.05%  
Corporations  
and Foundations

8.79% Others

39.82%  
Government

### EXPENSES

87% Programs

10% Managerial  
3% Fundraising

Figures unaudited; estimated audit completion 12-31-2020

