Since opening its doors in 1972, Domus has supported 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.

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

New Initiatives

• This summer we launched Invictus, our Pre-Release Re-Entry Program serving young men 17-25 years old, six months before their release from incarceration and up to a year after to help them prepare for and gain employment.

• Domus is one of six organizations that has been selected nationally to be part of the Talent Accelerator Cohort for Project Evident to further improve our data and evidence capacity.

Highlights from 2017-18

• 100% of the youth who came before our Juvenile Review Board and completed the program, remained arrest-free during the three-month program and for at least six months afterwards.

• Stamford Academy saw a decrease of chronic absenteeism from 96% to 78% and an increase in SAT scores (12-point increase in language arts and 17-point increase in math) while the State average saw a drop of 8 points in language arts and a 4 point drop in math last year.

• Attendance at Trailblazers Academy was 96%, and chronic absenteeism was 2%, virtually eradicating chronic absenteeism.

• 71% of Domus Knights 9th grade students at Stamford High School, all of whom were disengaged from school, were promoted or within one credit of promotion to 10th grade.

• The Attendance Review Board expanded to every middle school in the Stamford Public Schools, helping youth improve their attendance.

• Domus began operating the high school in the Hartford Juvenile Detention Center.

• 100% of youth showed improved skills in their chosen business from pre- to post-assessment after completing the 12-week Work and Learn employment-readiness training program.

Our Team

We have 118 full-time and 19 part-time staff (not including seasonal part-time staff), plus more than 1,400 volunteers, including groups from corporate partners such as Diageo, Half Full Brewery, Nestle Waters, Point72, PwC, and Synchrony Financial.

Eight years ago Domus embarked on becoming a trauma-informed agency, and after a three-year process, became the first in CT to be certified in the Sanctuary Model, an evidence-supported approach to helping young people recover and heal from trauma. After recertification we have moved from being a trauma-informed organization to one that is trauma-responsive.
Message from Executive Director

I am pleased to share with you, our steadfast individual, foundation, corporate, and government partners, our 2017-18 Annual Report. This year’s report reflects the success Domus’ young people achieve. It also provides you a window into the lives of the young people we serve, who, despite the challenges and traumas they experience, achieve academic gains along with new social and emotional skills that help them deal with life’s daily stresses, in and out of school. The level of support we receive from you constantly motivates all of us who work at Domus and drives us to help our young people overcome obstacles that may be in their path. The love, compassion, and commitment you give to us makes it possible for the Domus community to thrive and succeed, especially our young people who directly benefit from your generosity.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions about our work. We are partners in this together and our gratitude for your support runs deep. Thank you for your belief in us, and we look forward to continuing to make a positive difference in the lives of young people in our area.

Peace,

Mike Duggan

“I love giving the kids at Domus an opportunity to be creative—they are eager, sweet and fantastic to work with.” –Volunteer artist

Our Programs and Number of Youth Served

Our programs respond comprehensively to support prevention and intervention.

School
Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center Summer School 87
Domus Knights at Stamford High School 56
Family Advocates at Stamford Public Schools 51*
Hartford Juvenile Detention Center High School 275
Stamford Academy High School 212*
Trailblazers Academy Middle School 149*

Out-of-School
Chester Addison Community Center 148
KT Murphy After-School Program 60
Lion’s Den After-School Program at Trailblazers Academy 149*
Turn of River After-School Program 168
Summer Camps at Chester Addison Community Center and Lockwood Site 435*

Juvenile Justice
Attendance Review Board 36
Domus House group home 16
Juvenile Review Board 94*
Project New Hope street outreach 39
Work and Learn Program 179*

Total unduplicated youth served 1702

*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.

2018 Financials (Unaudited)

We raised $13.4 million from the sources indicated below and spent it as follows:

2017-18 Sources of Revenues
29% Individuals
19% Corporations and Foundations
1% Other
51% Government

2017-18 Expenses
90% Programs
6% Managerial
4% Fundraising

Figures unaudited; estimated audit completion 12/31/2018

“The program is good at motivating and inspiring us to achieve the best in ourselves.”
–Work and Learn youth

Positive Youth Development Approach

Domus strives to provide physical and emotional space and programs that encourage young people to be who they are and become who they want to be. We engage young people in one-on-one, positive, life changing relationships and communicate our unwavering love for the youth we serve.

Our Results

Each year we assess our quality indicators to ensure our programs are delivering services that can drive the change articulated in our mission statement. Where we see quality that can be improved upon, we refine the services provided. This reflection and correction helps improve outcomes for the young people we serve. For more information including specific program models, or programmatic data stories which give a full context to the data, please contact Alison Soler, at asoler@domuskids.org.