



Pat Kral, executive director of the CDR, Ed Meyers and Unk DaRos kick off the 7th annual CDR Walkathon



Over 200 people braved cloudy skies to participate in the 7th annual Shoreline Walkathon to benefit the Community Dining Room. Families, friends, children, and dogs strolled a scenic 2-mile route through Pawson Park, lead by Grand Marshall Keith Bishop of Bishop's Orchards and his granddaughter Grace. May 8th was also declared "Children Feeding Children Day" in the Town of Branford by First Selectman Anthony "Unk" DaRos recognizing the Dining Room's commitment to providing children and families with nutritious meals. The 7th annual walk helped raised nearly \$8,000 for CDR's programs and services. For more photos and a list of our generous sponsors, please visit www.communitydiningroom.org.

We Need Your Email

We are updating our data base and would like to capture your email address to help save us precious pennies on printing and postage. Electronic communication is a quick and cost-effective form of communication. Please email your address to mbranch@communitydiningroom.org or call her at 488-0447.

**The Community Dining Room
thanks its contributors
for 25 years of support!**



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Your suggestions are welcomed. Please contact the CDR via email below.

Email pkral@communitydiningroom.org / Website communitydiningroom.org

Community Dining Room Board

Susan Barnes	Jayne Nunziant
Jean Cook	Janie Patrick
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What's Cookin' Letter from the Director

Like last year, 2010 continues to provide financial challenges to many of our family, friends and neighbors. Increasing adjustable mortgages, lost jobs, reduced work hours and increasing food prices means there are fewer dollars to stretch. As a result, we continually see new faces at the Community Dining Room (CDR) in search of assistance. In fact, we've realized an overall 6.4% increase over last year. To meet this needs, we introduced our Wednesday Night Takeout Program in which participation has tripled during the last six months. We provide upwards of 75 meals every Wednesday evening.

We're able to support programs like the Wednesday Night Takeout program through generous support from our local community, abundant volunteers and many organizations, such as the United Way/Jewish Federation Neighbor-to-Neighbor grant program; The New Haven Foundation Making a Good Gift Better matching grant program, the Feinstein Foundation matching grant program, and from NewAlliance Bank, Guilford Savings Bank and many more banks and foundations.

We particularly proud to share the CDR was recently recognized by the United Way/Jewish Community Center Neighbor-to-Neighbor program for our excellent service to the community and our response to the changing and increasing needs of the community by developing the Wednesday Takeout Program, and our willingness to expand

**COMMUNITY
DINING ROOM**



our programs – do more work, work harder – to make it happen.

The unfortunate truth is that we always need more. More volunteers, more donations to continue our mission to support families and individuals struggling during the present economic downturn; to provide them with the nutritious food, fellowship, and referrals they need to sustain their lives and the lives of their children.

The good news is that this year, our 25th year of service to the community, the CDR is in good condition. Though slightly cramped, we are able to prepare, cook and deliver upwards of 275 hot, nutritious and delicious meals in our kitchen every day.

Our success, in no small part, is due to you and your ongoing support. For that I offer a warm and heartfelt thank you.

Thank you for being a part of our caring community.

Best regards,

Patricia Kral



CDR Offers Health and Nutrition Programs to Local Community

The CDR has been offering health screenings, blood pressure and glucose tolerance tests, body fat analyses, flu shots and other health programs to the community for many years. We are organizing additional presentations on Women's health issues, breast health, nutritious eating and good food choices, Nutrition and Weight Management workshops, walking groups and more for the immediate future. Please look for this information in the newspaper and visit our webpage for updates. All programs are free and open to the public.

Volunteer Recognition Dinner

The Community Dining Room's 25th Anniversary Volunteer Recognition Dinner on April 22 at the Owenego Inn & Beach Club was a fun-filled success.

Our many volunteers were recognized for generously donating their time to the CDR – they are the key to our success. The evening also provided an opportunity to thank our major donors and elected officials, such as First Selectman, Unk DaRos.

The following volunteers were recognized at the event for 10 and 20 years' of service:

TEN YEARS

Ray D'Alessio
Tony & Ruth Pinto
Grace O'Connor
Robert Buda
Cynthia Carlson
Jim & Veronica Conklin
Terry, Ted & Hugh Elton
Susan & Rachael Grossman

TWENTY YEARS

Bob Mark
Betsy Klarman
Cristine Klarman
Nancy Lynch
Mary Sansevero
Alan Daniels
Bruce George
Betty Anne Trapasso



A great big thank you to the entire Volunteer Recognition Committee and, especially, to Jayne Nunziante, Susan Barnes and Melissa Branch who gave so much of their time to make this event a terrific success. Thank you to the Bloomquist family for providing the perfect location for our dinner, The Owenego Inn & Beach Club.

We appreciate all the work our volunteers do for the CDR on a daily basis and we look forward to celebrating with you again next year.

Anyone interested in volunteering should please contact Melissa Branch at 203-488-0447.



Free After-School Tutoring Program

The CDR is partnering with LEAD Learning Center to offer free after-school tutoring every Tuesday afternoon from 3:15 to 5:15 complete with nutritious snacks. Please contact Laura Gunneson to learn more: Leadtutoring@aol.com

Upcoming Events: 2010

ALL YEAR – 25TH ANNIVERSARY

This year is our Community Dining Room 25th Anniversary!

Watch for information about special events and celebrations.

Wish List

- Food scale
- Gas stove burner diffusers
- Gas stove lighters
- Butter cutter
- Rolling pin--large
- Cooking and poultry shears
- Dessert dishes
- Salad/soup bowls
- Scissors
- Sink strainers--mesh and approx. 4" diameter
- Pantyhose--used and clean--for scarecrow fund raiser
- Permanent markers
- Insulated styrofoam boxes-like the ones from Omaha Steaks or fruit companies
- Email addresses--please send yours
- Email us what year you began volunteering--for our records

Greg Bozzi, owner/chef of Donovan's Reef and Jayne Nunziante, fundraising director of CDR, discuss the menu for the Palm Sunday Family Style Italian dinner which was served at Donovan's Reef on March 28th to benefit the Community Dining Room. The dinner was a huge success and enjoyed by all who attended.



Many Thanks To Recent Major Financial Supporters:

Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Making a Good Gift Better program

United Way of Greater New Haven and
Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven
N2N LifeLine grant program

Swindells Foundation

Guilford Savings Bank

United Way and the Emergency Food
and Shelter program

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