



## HISTORY OF THE AGENCY

Continuum provides an integrated approach to supportive housing for individuals with psychiatric and/or developmental disabilities. “Wrap-around” services are provided through residential case management, home healthcare, crisis and respite services, and other individualized support services. The agency has been in existence since 1966. Below is a time line.

### ❑ 1966

- The New Haven Halfway House was founded by undergraduate students from Yale University in conjunction with area mental health professionals, and what is now the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) in response to the need of deinstitutionalized psychiatric patients for community based residences.

### ❑ 1981

- The Board of Directors approved changing the name of the New Haven Halfway House, Inc. to Continuum of Care, Inc. to reflect the direction the agency was taking in addressing the needs of clients in need of supportive housing.
- Continuum of Care, Inc. established a separate property management company called Continuum Holding Company, Inc.

### ❑ 1985

- Continuum of Care, Inc. expanded its housing development and support services to include a 9 bed Supportive Apartment Program funded by DMHAS located on Howard Avenue.

### ❑ 1986

- Further supportive housing development included a 20 bed Supervised Apartment Program funded by DMHAS located on Frank Street.

### ❑ 1988

- Spring-Glen Group Home was developed in Hamden to provide the necessary 24-hour setting needed to assist in transitioning eight institutionalized individuals with mental illness while providing the maximum supervision and support services.

❑ 1989

- Continuum of Care, Inc. acquired the Housing Resource Coordination Program from DHMAS, which serves the entire Greater New Haven Area providing housing placement, security deposit loans, and bridge subsidies.
- In collaboration with the Connecticut Mental Health Center (CMHC), Continuum is awarded a 1 million dollar grant from SAMHSA. These funds support Continuum's development of a community-based Crisis Program. CMHC is funded to complete research on the efficacy of this alternative to inpatient care.

❑ 1991

- The Crisis Program is awarded full funding by DMHAS, following the end of the three-year SAMSHA Grant.

❑ 1993

- Three of the programs mentioned above; Supportive Apartment Program, Supervised Apartment Program, and Spring-Glen Group Home were merged to provide a new treatment model called a Continuous Treatment Team. This program model now known as the Extended Living Program Teams I and II operate two separate clustered sites with two case management teams.

❑ 1995

- The Frank Street Project is developed via a Supportive Housing Program grant from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) providing 24 hour transitional housing and support services to 12 homeless dually diagnosed (psychiatric/substance abuse) adults.

❑ 1996

- The addition of a four bed Respite Program enhanced community-based acute services to clients who do not meet the criteria of the more intensive services of the Crisis Program, but were in need of time away from their usual residence due to stress.

❑ 1998

- The Supported Living Program, a program developed through a contract with the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR). This supportive housing program provides services to individuals with Dual Diagnosis (developmental/psychiatric disabilities) as well as those aging out of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) system of care as part of a "special populations" initiative.
- The Jail Diversion Program is established to provide respite services for two individuals who are awaiting adjudication.

❑ **2000**

- Continuum Holding Company, Inc. changes name to Continuum Management Corp.
- Continuum develops its first DMR licensed group home, a Community Living Arrangement (CLA) in Meriden through a contract with DMR and Department of Social Services (DSS). The home was designed to meet the needs of four individuals.

❑ **2001**

- Continuum of Care develops a sister company, Continuum Home Health, Inc. (CHH), a full-service licensed Medicare-certified agency to provide medical and psychiatric home care to clients in the home setting.
- Continuum Holding Company, Inc. is renamed to Continuum Management Corp
- The Intensive Supported Living Program (ISLP) is developed and provides a twenty-four hour supervised apartment program as a step-down for seven individuals discharged from an inpatient unit.

❑ **2002**

- The Administrative Staff of Continuum of Care moves from its Orange Street office to allow for CHH Expansion at this site. A new Administrative Office is developed at 67 Trumbull Street.
- A unique collaboration with ALSO/Cornerstone, Inc. and the Housing Authority of New Haven provides tenants of Ruoppolo Manor case management services and programmatic support through Ruoppolo Supportive Services Program. Total number of individuals served by this program is 23.

❑ **2003**

- Extended Living Program Team III provides a scattered-site case management program for 15 individuals graduating from more intensive levels of services. The Community Mental Health Strategy Board of DHMAS funds this initiative.

❑ **2004**

- Collaboration between Continuum and Communicare's South Central Crisis Services streamlines Centralized Screening and Admissions to Crisis and Respite Services.

❑ **2005**

- Collaboration with Yale Emergency Department - Acute Services staff attends daily rounds to support hospital staff by identifying and facilitating potential referrals to the Crisis and Respite programs.

- Continuum developed its second DMR licensed group home, a community living arrangement in Southington through a contract with DMR and DSS. This home was designed to meet the needs of three individuals.
- New housing development includes acquisition and rehabilitation of two (2) multi-unit properties for relocation of the Crisis and Respite programs in New Haven.
- New housing development includes acquisition and substantial rehabilitation of two (2) multi-unit properties for supportive living opportunities for clients in the Extended Living and Supported Living Programs.

□ **2006**

- Continuum develops short-term transitional housing in collaboration with the Connecticut Offender Re-Entry Program (CORP), which assists clients with linkages to intensive case management, vocational, and housing prior to Department of Correction (DOC) release.
- Continuum develops its third DMR licensed group home, a community living arrangement in Southington through a contract with DMR and DSS. This home was designed to meet the needs of five individuals.
- Continuum is in the development stages of its fourth DMR licensed group home, a community living arrangement in Southington through a contract with DMR and DSS. This house is being designed to meet the needs of four individuals.
- Continuum acquires and is in the development stages of a Supported Living Program in the Meriden area to provide supportive housing to six developmental disabled individuals with varying levels of support needs.
- Another collaboration with the Housing Authority of New Haven (HANH) provides tenants of McQueeney Towers case management services and programmatic support through the McQueeney Supportive Services Program. Total number of individuals served by this program is 30.