



Community Renewal Team
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 20, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Jason Black, Strategic Communications Specialist
(860) 560-5683 or cell: (860) 230-4535

CRT's First Women's Empowerment Networking Event is May 2, 2018 in Hartford *100% of proceeds will benefit CRT's New Women's Empowerment Center*

HARTFORD — The extensive experience of the Community Renewal Team (CRT) in working with women and their families throughout Central Connecticut has prompted the agency to develop a new Women's Empowerment Center that will enable women to achieve personal economic stability, forward their careers, and better provide for themselves and their children.

“For more than 50 years, CRT has helped individuals and families to create opportunities that better their lives – now, and in the future,” said Lena Rodriguez, CEO of the Community Renewal Team. “Our new Women's Empowerment Center will focus our areas of expertise on helping women to realize their dreams.”

To support the vital work of the Women's Empowerment Center, CRT is hosting a special networking event and fundraiser on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 (from 5:30 – 8:00 pm) at the Gershon Fox Ballroom (960 Main Street) in Hartford.

The keynote speaker for the event is Cheryl McDonald, co-owner of Bear's Restaurant Group, which owns Bear's Smokehouse BBQ, Blind Pig Pizza and Chango Rosa in Hartford.

“Through the work of Bear's and our other restaurants, we are constantly striving to find new ways to help our employees make the most of every day on the job, and to grow in their own careers,” said Cheryl McDonald. “The work that CRT plans to do with its Women's Empowerment Center has perfect synergies with the work we are doing at Bear's Restaurant Group, and I'm excited to support this program.”

The host for the evening is Renee DiNino, On Air Personality at The River 105.9 FM and Director of Community Affairs & On Air Community Programming for iHeartMedia in Hartford.

Guests at the event will enjoy the opportunity for personal and business networking, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction and more.

Lead sponsors for the networking event are CENCAP Federal Credit Union and Liberty Bank.

About CRT's Women's Empowerment Center:

In 2017 Community Renewal Team helped create opportunities for more than 86,000 individuals and over 35,000 families; of those served, 59% were female, and 32% of the families served were headed by single mothers.

The Women's Empowerment Center will serve as a safe and open place for women from Hartford and Middlesex counties to access intensive mentorship, holistic case management, personal development classes, support groups, conferences, workshops and leadership training focusing on supporting financial literacy, entrepreneurship, career and workforce readiness, as well as networking opportunities.

All proceeds from this networking event will be used to support CRT's Women's Empowerment Center, addressing the challenges women face in building a successful future.

Sponsorship information, and tickets for the event are available now:

<http://www.crtct.org/en/events/crt-womens-empowerment-center-fundraiser>

###

Community Renewal Team, Inc. is the designated Community Action Agency for Middlesex and Hartford Counties and is the largest non-profit provider of human services in Connecticut. The agency's mission is Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges. The mission is achieved each day by helping people and families become self-sufficient while making sure basic needs are met. CRT's programs include Head Start, Meals on Wheels, energy assistance, supportive housing and shelters, and many others, serving people in more than 60 cities and towns in both our core catchment area and throughout Connecticut. www.crtct.org